

ITEM 12. QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**SPEND ON ENVIRONMENTAL MASTER PLANS (S103148)**

1. By Councillor Forster

Question

At the July 2016 meeting, I asked the Lord Mayor a Question on Notice regarding the total spend on environmental master plans to which I did not receive an answer.

I ask again: on 20 June 2016, Council approved the draft Environmental Action 2016 – 2021 Strategy and Action Plan for public exhibition. As a result, the following master plans have been superseded:

- 1) Decentralised Energy Master Plan - Renewable Energy: 2012-2030;
- 2) Decentralised Energy Master Plan - Trigeneration: 2010-2030;
- 3) Decentralised Water Master Plan: 2012-2030; and
- 4) Advanced Waste Treatment Master Plan: 2013-2030.

What was the total cost of the development, exhibition and publication of these plans, broken down by plan?

Answer by the Lord Mayor

The Environmental Masterplans have not been superseded. As stated in the report to the Environment Committee on 20 June this year, existing environmental master plans are live documents used to underpin Environment Action 2016 – 2021.

Development costs for each plan requested are listed below. The exhibition and publications costs, including advertising and community engagement are estimated at below \$60,000 each.

- 1) Decentralised Energy Master Plan - Renewable Energy: 2012-2030 (\$155,000);
- 2) Decentralised Energy Master Plan - Trigeneration: 2010-2030 (\$685,000)
- 3) Decentralised Water Master Plan: 2012-2030 (\$1,037,000)
- 4) Advanced Waste Treatment Master Plan: 2013-2030 (\$152,000)

Collectively, the development costs were \$2.27 million which is 0.2% of the capital budget from 2007-08 to 2015-16.

The development costs need to be considered in the context of the broader economic and financial benefits they have identified and are now being implemented. The Better Buildings Partnership, for example, has reduced energy use within commercial office buildings in the city by 45 per cent, saving \$36 million per year due to building upgrades. Potential savings and economic development opportunities are orders of magnitude greater than the production costs. For example, the Energy Efficiency Master Plan identified \$604 million energy bill savings for businesses and residents.

The Master Plans have identified the energy, water and greenhouse gas savings that are possible within a thriving economy. Total greenhouse gas emissions have fallen by 19 per cent since 2006 across the Local Government Area while the economy grew by 27 per cent, in part through technological and behavioural change promoted by these plans.

FIG AND WATTLE STREET DEPOT SITE REMEDIATION UPDATE (S103148)

2. By Councillor Forster

Question

In a response to my May 2016 Question on Notice about the Fig and Wattle Street Depot site remediation update, the Lord Mayor stated that the indicative timeframe for completion of the final site audit statement and site audit report of June 2016 would be delayed until July 2016 to accommodate a request for storage arising from the Light Rail Project.

It is now August. When will the Remediation Action Plan and Site Audit Statement for the Fig and Wattle Street Depot be made public?

When will the Remediation Action Plan be implemented, noting that there is no funding for this implementation in the 2015/16 Quarter 4 Review – Delivery Program 2014-2017?

Answer by the Lord Mayor

The City appointed Graeme Nyland of Rumbol Environ as the accredited EPA site auditor and Dr Greg Dasey of JBS&G continues engagement as the City's environmental consultant.

JBS&G have compiled all historical and current reports, studies, sampling and analysis is also complete for the Site Auditor's reference.

This month JBS&G is finalising the Human Health and Ecological Risk Assessment (HHERA) and has completed the Sampling Analysis and Quality Plan (SAQP) which will be submitted this month to the Site Auditor for review. Further assessment works may be required to complete a revised risk assessment and Remediation Action Plan. The accredited site auditor will review and comment on the plans and the draft Remediation Action Plan (RAP) to enable completion of the final site audit statement and report.

To accommodate a 6 month extension to 31 December period for storage arising from the Light Rail Project the indicative timeframe for completion of the final site audit statement and site audit report is revised to October 2016. As previously stated the storage of stone under short term occupancy licence is in accordance with the Site Plan of Management prepared by JBS&G and endorsed by the EPA.

The Remediation Action Plan and Site Audit Statement will be a matter of public record as part of the planning process.

The physical works to remediate in accordance with the Remediation Action Plan and Site Audit Statement will be completed as part of the builder's construction contract.

OUTDOOR DINING FEE REVENUE (S103148)

3. By Councillor Forster

Question

What was the revenue earned by the City of Sydney each financial year between 2012/13 and 2015/16 from Outdoor Dining Fees, broken down into Zones 1, 1A, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 6A, 7 and 8?

Answer by the Lord Mayor

The data requested is being extracted by staff and will be reported to Councillors via the CEO Update.

CITY OF SYDNEY NON-RESIDENTIAL ROLL COMMUNICATIONS (S103142)

4. By Councillor Scott

Question

I refer to the City of Sydney non-residential roll.

1. Has the City sent, or is it planning to send, any communications or correspondence to entities listed on the non-residential roll since the roll was finalised? If so, can the City please provide a copy of all communications sent to entities listed on the non-residential roll? Who will approve these publications? Will the Lord Mayor or Councillors feature on these communications?
2. How much was the total cost of the preparation of the roll, broken down by drafting and design, staff, and dissemination of any communications sent to entities on the non-residential roll?
3. How much has been budgeted for the financial year ending 30 June 2017, for communications sent to entities on the non-residential roll? Please provide a breakdown by staff, consultants, printing, postage, design etc. of the budget appropriated for these communications.
4. Will there be a budget for communications for the purposes of maintaining the roll in the future?

Answer by the Lord Mayor

The implementation of the Non-residential Register and Rolls is the responsibility of the CEO. The CEO has previously provided Councillors with regular updates on progress with the implementation of the Register and Rolls. The CEO has advised the next update will be provided shortly.

NEWSPAPER AND MEDIA ADVERTISING (S103142)

5. By Councillor Scott

Question

1. In the current financial year 2016/2017, to date, how many City of Sydney newspaper and media advertisements has the Lord Mayor featured in?
2. What is the total cost of the City's newspaper and media advertising that features the Lord Mayor in the current financial year to date?
3. Please provide copies of each.

Answer by the Lord Mayor

The City of Sydney has a legal obligation to inform all residents in its Local Government Area of its actions, policies and operations, the majority of which emanate from decisions of Council.

The Lord Mayor has the delegated authority to be the official spokesperson for the City of Sydney. This includes being the spokesperson for media and marketing materials.

PRINT MATERIAL (S103142)

6. By Councillor Scott

Question

1. In the current financial year 2016/2017, to date, how many printed materials has the Lord Mayor featured in?
2. Broken down by publication, what was the cost of these materials which feature the Lord Mayor in the current financial year to date?
3. Broken down by publication, how many households were they sent to, and in which suburbs?
4. Please provide copies of each.

Answer by the Lord Mayor

The City of Sydney has a legal obligation to inform all residents in its Local Government Area of its actions, policies and operations, the majority of which emanate from decisions of Council.

The Lord Mayor has the delegated authority to be the official spokesperson for the City of Sydney. This includes being the spokesperson for media and marketing materials.

RENEWABLE ENERGY TARGET (S103142)

7. By Councillor Scott

Question

1. How often does the City assess the percentage of electricity in the City of Sydney LGA generated from renewable sources?
2. When will the City next assess the percentage of electricity in the City of Sydney LGA generated from renewable sources?

Answer by the Lord Mayor

The frequency by which the City is able to assess the percentage of electricity in the City of Sydney LGA is limited by the release of data. There are two publicly available data sets.

- Ausgrid, the local electricity distribution network, reports total electricity and installed solar PV capacity by LGA annually. The most recent report is 2015. <http://www.ausgrid.com.au/Common/About-us/Corporate-information/Data-to-share/Average-electricity-use.aspx#.V6l3DxuqpBc>
- The Australian PV Association also has a map-based website which shows total installed PV by LGA or postcode, and is more frequently updated than the public Ausgrid data. The most recent data is June 2015 <http://pv-map.apvi.org.au/>
- Other renewable energy sources in the LGA, like small wind, are too negligible to make a noticeable contribution.

The end of 2016 will be the next time the City assesses renewable energy generated within the LGA.

PUBLIC TOILETS (S103142)

8. By Councillor Scott

Question

I refer to the Lord Mayor's answer to the question on notice titled "Public Toilets".

1. What proportion of the City's public toilets are open 24 hours?
2. What proportion of the City's public toilets are located on City streets?

Answer by the Lord Mayor

The Public Toilet Strategy identified 117 public toilets within the City of Sydney Council area. The City owns and manages 55 of these facilities (comprising of toilets located in parks, on streets and within public buildings that are accessible to the public).

30 per cent of the City's facilities are open 24 hours per day, seven days per week.

25 per cent of the City's facilities are located on City streets.

LGBTIQ LIGHTING AUDIT (S103142)

9. By Councillor Scott

Question

I refer to the City's audit of lighting in LGBTIQ areas around the City of Sydney.

Have the LGBTIQ organisations contacted, as part of this audit, nominated any areas of concern, or advised of any reports of LGBTIQ violence? If so, where? And how many?

Answer by the Lord Mayor

Please refer to the CEO Update dated 5 August 2016.

544 ELIZABETH STREET, REDFERN (S103142)

10. By Councillor Scott

Question

I refer to the Lord Mayor's answer to question on notice titled "544 Elizabeth Street, Redfern".

1. Has a structural engineer inspected the property?
2. If so, what was the outcome of this inspection?
3. What, if any, options are being considered for the issue of orders regarding the condition of the property?
4. On what basis does the Lord Mayor posit that "initial indications" suggest the property "remains sufficiently stable and structurally sound"?

Answer by the Lord Mayor

1. Yes, the City engaged a structural engineer to inspect the property and provided a report to City staff dated 2 June 2016.
2. The structural engineer confirmed that the structure is stable and structurally still intact to provide the required bracing for the adjacent properties. The report recommended future works to remove and replace all the first floor framing and floor boards, roof and ceiling framing. An immediate concern was identified in the front parapet wall to Elizabeth Street which has a significant crack exacerbated by vegetation growing through it.
3. The City issued Notices of Intention and subsequent Orders were served on 11 August 2016, to fence the property (to prevent any unauthorised entry to the premises) and to repair the parapet that was identified as a concern in the structural engineer's report.
4. City staff from the Health and Building Unit undertook an inspection on 8 April 2016 and confirmed at the time that the structure was sufficiently stable and structurally sound; there was no imminent public safety risk. A further inspection occurred on 30 May 2016 to facilitate access for the structural engineer to inspect the property.

LIMITED MULTIDAY VISITOR PARKING PERMITS STUDY (S103142)

11. By Councillor Scott

Question

I refer to the motion resolved by Council titled "Limited Multiday Visitor Parking Permits Study".

1. When will these permits be evaluated?
2. How will the permits be evaluated?

3. What will be measured?
4. What will be the determinate of a change in outcome?

Answer by the Lord Mayor

As has been previously advised, these matters will be progressed by the CEO in accordance with the terms of the Resolution of Council of 16 May 2016.

WASTE COLLECTION CAPACITY (S103142)

12. By Councillor Scott

Question

How often does the City review the adequacy of the City's household waste collection services in each local area?

In particular, how often does the City review the adequacy of the current capacity of the City's household waste collection bins?

When was the last time the City conducted a review of the adequacy of the capacity of the City's household waste collection bins?

If reviewed, which areas were deemed adequate? On what basis were they deemed adequate? Which areas were deemed inadequate?

Answer by the Lord Mayor

The adequacy of the City's waste collection services, including waste collection bin capacity, is monitored regularly on an ongoing basis as part of the management of the City's waste collection contract and delivery of waste and recycling services.

When assessing the adequacy of bin capacity, the City considers the following:

- number and type of bins provided fit the size of the property;
- how the property is accessed for garbage collection; and
- nature of the storage space for the bins.

CLEANING SERVICES (S103142)

13. By Councillor Scott

Question

I refer to the 2015/16 Quarter 4 Review report to the Corporate, Finance, Properties and Tenders Committee on 8 August 2016, in particular, the table under paragraph 15 in relation to "primary operating expenditure variances to the budget".

The table indicates that property related expenditure experienced a favourable variance of \$1.6M for the financial year ending 30 June 2016. This variance is attributed to the "savings on the cleaning maintenance contracts due to a change of providers".

1. How were the City's cleaning service providers able to achieve these savings?
2. Has the City in any way scaled back on the cleaning services it requires?
3. Can the City confirm that the cleaning service providers are paying Clean Start rates?

Answer by the Lord Mayor

Please refer to my answer to Question on Notice 1 dated 21 March 2016.

AFFORDABLE HOUSING IN PYRMONT (S103142)

14. By Councillor Scott

Question

In the 2015/16 Quarter 4 Review report to the Corporate, Finance, Properties and Tenders Committee on 8 August 2016, I refer to the Capital Expenditure Financial Results in Attachment C, page 93, table 8.S.1 – "Key Performance Indicators – Affordable housing – Protect existing affordable housing and facilitate new affordable housing in the City to provide for social, cultural, environmental and economic sustainability."

The table refers to "Affordable rental housing units resulting from affordable housing levy – Ultimo/Pyrmont (measured annually). Target at end of scheme (not specific date): 600."

The table indicates that none of these houses were delivered in the financial years ending 30 June 2014, 2015 and 2016.

1. I was advised at the meeting of the Committee on 8 August 2016 that 503 of these had been built. Where are the remaining 97 as per the target of 600? When does the City anticipate these remaining 97 to be delivered?
2. I was advised at the meeting of the Committee on 8 August 2016 that 58 of these units are held in "private" hands. Where is the public benefit in holding affordable housing units in private hands?

Answer by the Lord Mayor

Please refer to the Relevant To for Item 6.2 at this meeting of Council.

SWIMMING (S103142)

15. By Councillor Scott

Question

In the 2015/16 Quarter 4 Review report to the Corporate, Finance, Properties and Tenders Committee on 8 August 2016, I refer to the Capital Expenditure Financial Results referred to in Attachment C, page 81, the table titled “Community health and well-being – Provision of quality recreational facilities and open space as places to meet, socialise and to engage in passive and active recreation activities”.

The table refers to a key performance indicator of “Attendances at aquatic and leisure centres”. This KPI shows that, since the financial year ending 30 June 2014, attendances at the City’s aquatic and leisure centres have dropped from 1,568 to 1,300.

How does the City explain this decrease?

Answer by the Lord Mayor

Please refer to the Relevant To for Item 6.2 at this meeting of Council.

SPORTING FIELDS (S103142)

16. By Councillor Scott

Question

In the 2015/16 Quarter 4 Review report to the Corporate, Finance, Properties and Tenders Committee on 8 August 2016, I refer to the Capital Expenditure Financial Results referred to in Attachment C, page 81, the table titled “Community health and well-being – Provision of quality recreational facilities and open space as places to meet, socialise and to engage in passive and active recreation activities”.

The table refers to a key performance indicator of “Usage -v- capacity of sports fields (booked use) (hours used -v- hours available). This KPI shows that the City’s sporting fields and facilities are currently utilised at a rate of 98.75%.

1. Does the Lord Mayor consider this figure to be on track?
2. How much has been allocated in the 2016/17 budget to specifically expand the provision of sporting fields?

Answer by the Lord Mayor

Please refer to the Relevant To for Item 6.2 at this meeting of Council.

REDFERN / WATERLOO COMMUNITY COLLABORATION COMMITTEE (S103142)

17. By Councillor Scott

Question

I refer to the motion titled "Redfern / Waterloo Community Collaboration Committee", as carried by the Council at its meeting of 26 October 2015.

1. Can the Lord Mayor advise on the outcome of the Lord Mayor's correspondence with the Minister for Health and Minister for Family and Community Services regarding improved coordination of service delivery and the establishment of a mechanism for community consultation and representation?
2. What forms of mechanism have been raised or considered following this correspondence?
3. Have any community organisations or individuals been consulted regarding these mechanisms?

Answer by the Lord Mayor

I wrote to the Minister for Health and the Minister for Family and Community Services on 27 November 2015 seeking better coordination of service delivery and the establishment of a mechanism for community consultation and representation. The Minister for Health responded, outlining that the NSW Health Coordinated Services Meeting provides leadership in the coordination of service delivery. This group is a coalition of government agencies that meets to discuss coordination of government service delivery, with representation from Health, Education, Housing, Police, Corrective Services and City of Sydney.

Government agencies, including the City of Sydney, consult and engage with the community through a range of forums including Redfern Neighbourhood Advisory Board, Waterloo Wellness and Safety Action Group, Redfern Waterloo Events Group, Redfern Waterloo Community Drug Action Team and Redfern Local Area Command Community Safety Precinct Committee.

I regularly host public meetings to engage with local residents on issues of concern to them. Furthermore, the City meets regularly with Family and Community Services District Housing Executives and supports local residents by funding Redfern Legal Centre to an amount of \$100,000 to assist with relocation support for social housing tenants. City staff engage with the community through City-funded events such as 'Summer on the Green' at Waterloo Green and Good Neighbourhood Barbeques and continue to provide issues management and individual support services for residents.

URBAN CO-HOUSING (S103142)

18. By Councillor Scott

Question

I refer to the motion titled "Urban Co-Housing", as carried by the Council at its meeting of 10 August 2015.

1. Can the CEO update the Council on her initial findings on the possible inclusion of co-housing in the City's housing policy?
2. When does the CEO expect to deliver her findings on the inclusion of co-housing in the City's housing policy?

Answer by the Lord Mayor

This is one of a number of models being considered in the preparation of the City's draft Housing Policy and Action Plan that effectively contributes to housing supply and diversity. It is an interesting model that can deliver social and economic benefits, but co-housing has limited effectiveness in the inner city context due to the limited availability of single large sites and cost of land.

The draft Housing Policy and Action Plan is expected to be reported to Council early in the next term of Council.

SOCIAL AND AFFORDABLE HOUSING (S103142)

19. By Councillor Scott

Question

I refer to the motion titled "Social and Affordable Housing", as carried by the Council at its meeting of 28 July 2014.

1. Can the City outline all memorandums of understanding with UrbanGrowth since the passage of this motion which include the minimum commitment to the City's 2030 affordable and social housing targets?
2. Can the City confirm that the memorandums of understanding with UrbanGrowth since the passage of this motion are consistent with the City's 2030 affordable and social housing targets?

Answer by the Lord Mayor

At its 28 July 2014 meeting, Council resolved to enter into two separate memorandums with UrbanGrowth NSW regarding planning principles and governance arrangements for Major Urban Renewal Projects in the City of Sydney and the Parramatta Road Urban Renewal Program.

The City has not entered into any Memorandums of Understanding with UrbanGrowth since the 28 July 2014 resolution.

LOW COST RENTAL ACCOMMODATION – FEASIBILITY STUDY (S103142)

20. By Councillor Scott

Question

I refer to the motion titled "Low Cost Rental Accommodation – Feasibility Study", as carried by Council at its meeting of 23 June 2014.

What incentives has the City considered for owners to provide low cost rental accommodation in the City?

Answer by the Lord Mayor

I have been advised that these matters will be addressed in the draft Housing Policy and Action Plan which is expected to be reported to Council early in the next term of Council.

UNLOCKING VACANT BUILDINGS FOR AFFORDABLE HOUSING (\$103142)

21. By Councillor Scott

Question

I refer to the motion titled "Unlocking Vacant Buildings for Affordable Housing", as carried by Council at its meeting of 12 May 2014.

What have been the CEO's initial findings of her research into measures to encourage the re-use of vacant buildings or lots within the City of Sydney for residential redevelopment and affordable housing?

Answer by the Lord Mayor

The City is using all mechanisms available to unlock affordable housing in the LGA. As of April 2016, 876 new affordable units have been built and a further 528 dwellings are in the pipeline – a total of 1404 new affordable housing dwellings across the local area.

The City contributes affordable units through:

- Planning Levies
- providing Council-owned sites and selling land at discounted prices to Community Housing Providers
- amending our planning controls and negotiating Voluntary Planning Agreements and
- an Affordable Housing Fund to support future projects.

Despite the demonstrated success of affordable housing levies, the State Government has refused numerous requests to extend the levy to cover the entire City. In 2009, the NSW Labor Government rejected the City's request to apply a 4 per cent levy across the city. In the booming property market that followed - \$25 billion of development approved over the past 12 years - it is estimated this levy would have funded 2000 additional homes for essential city workers

In response to the Motion resolved by Council in May 2014, staff considered the feasibility of measures to encourage the re-use of vacant buildings or lots within the City of Sydney as part of the Housing Issues Paper. The Housing Issues Paper will be finalised and brought to Council early in the next term.

However, the assessment of staff is that measures to encourage the re-use are not viable in the City of Sydney. Firstly, an audit of vacant properties would be expensive and time-consuming for the City to conduct. Secondly, the City has no legal authority to require owners of vacant buildings or lots to develop them as residential or affordable housing. Thirdly, in the context of extraordinary growth in property values within the City of Sydney that owners could capitalise upon if they were re-develop, it is unlikely that adjusting rates would prove an effective additional financial incentive to act. Defining vacant buildings and lots would also be a complex exercise. Fourthly, in the context of a rate cap, there would be no additional revenue for the City that could be used for affordable housing.

Staff do not therefore recommend measures for vacant buildings because they are likely to be costly and there is limited prospects of additional affordable housing dwellings. The City is focused on more effective measures to increase affordable housing such as extending an affordable housing levy across the LGA.

SYDNEY GLBTI MUSEUM ARCHIVAL SPACE (S103142)

22. By Councillor Scott

Question

I refer to the motion titled "Sydney GLBTI Museum Archival Space", as carried by Council at its meeting of 12 May 2014.

1. Can the City provide an update of the CEO's efforts to work with collecting institutions, such as the State Library of NSW, the National Library, and the Australian Lesbian and Gay Archives, in determining how significant community materials can be appropriately collected, stored and available for research and exhibition purposes?
2. Which organisations or government entities has the CEO contacted as part of this process?
3. What systems of collection, storage and exhibition have been proposed and considered?

Answer by the Lord Mayor

Please refer to the CEO Update dated 18 December 2015.

PYRMONT BRIDGE (S103142)

23. By Councillor Scott

Question

I refer to the motion titled "Pyrmont Bridge", as carried by Council at its meeting of 21 March 2016.

1. When can the Council expect the CEO's feasibility study for providing shade protection along the length of Pyrmont Bridge?

2. What has been the outcome of the CEO's correspondence with the Sydney Harbour Foreshore Authority to initiate a joint feasibility study between the City and the SHFA to undertake this project?

Answer by the Lord Mayor

On 21 March 2016 Council resolved that the CEO:

- (i) write to the Sydney Harbour Foreshore Authority (SHFA) and request that they investigate options for providing shade across Pyrmont Bridge; and
- (ii) report back to Councillors via the CEO Update on SHFA's response.

The City is waiting on a response from SHFA.

GREEN SQUARE (S103142)

24. By Councillor Scott

Question

I refer to the motion titled "Green Square", as carried by Council at its meeting of 28 July 2014.

When can the Council expect the CEO's findings arising from her:

1. infrastructure audit of existing Council planning, traffic, and community services research relevant to the Lachlan, Green Square, Victoria Park, Epsom, and Mary O'Brien precinct redevelopments?
2. feasibility study on the installation of plaques that acknowledge significant historical events, people, and experiences in the Green Square, Victoria Park, Lachlan, Epsom, and Mary O'Brien precincts?

Answer by the Lord Mayor

1. The (draft) Green Square Infrastructure Strategy and Plan was reported to Council in March 2015.

The Plan provides a comprehensive overview of strategies, plans and studies that identify both the physical and the social infrastructure required to support the growth of Green Square across all Green Square neighbourhoods, including Victoria Park, Epsom Park, Lachlan and Mary O'Brien.

It was prepared by the City with input from an in-house working group made up of specialists in planning, stormwater engineering, social planning, infrastructure design and delivery, transport planning, traffic operations and community engagement, with input from the relevant NSW agencies where possible.

At the time of reporting, Council endorsed that the Plan be reviewed every 12 months. This review is nearing completion, with the main changes being:

- an update of the City's revised total population figures for Green Square (an increase from 53,000 to 63,000 people by 2030);

- providing a more accurate timeframe for delivery of the City's Community Facilities; and
- revisions to some figures in the Plan to reflect the updated population figures and timeframes for the delivery of Community Facilities.

The Plan is being used in the ongoing negotiations, particularly with NSW Government Agencies, to ensure the provision of key infrastructure as development occurs.

2. The City's History Program has developed informal guidelines to identify historically appropriate names for new streets, parks and places.

Council has endorsed a naming strategy for 43 new streets, 14 new open spaces, 12 street extensions and two park enlargements in Green Square and Ashmore. Both wayfinding signage and interpretive signage are being progressively installed as development is finalised.

New street and park names recognise local community, historical events, the multicultural and diverse communities in Sydney and eminent persons, particularly local residents, historical figures or community identities, and contributes to a sense of community identity and helps shape civic pride and awareness.

Names of Aboriginal origin were chosen for some Green Square parks and community facilities to explain the original wetland environment and the abundant water life and hunting that the wetlands provided. The historical associations of the park names will be included as the signage is rolled out to these parks

The Planning Conditions applied to a development application can require an interpretation plan for a heritage significant buildings sites or features. This plan must be submitted to, and approved by, Council's Urban Design and Heritage Manager. It must detail how information on the history and significance will be provided to the public, and make recommendations regarding public accessibility, signage and lighting.

For example, project staff have worked closely with the City Historian to provide a wide range of heritage interpretation in the former South Sydney Hospital site, including:

- landscaping – with the re-introduction of native species such as Banksia Scrub;
- the children's playground will include an interpretation of hospital instruments in the play equipment;
- park signage to explain key names like 'Matron Ruby Grant';
- heritage signage and interpretation in the Joynton Avenue Creative Centre (the former Esme Cahill Building); and
- heritage signage and interpretation in the Waranara Early Education Centre (the former Casualty building).

Further information on the City's heritage, along with other local information, is available on the City's website through the Dictionary of Sydney.

OLD ROSTER (S103141)

25. By Councillor Mandla

Question

Lord Mayor, at the Council Meeting of 24 February 2014, in answer to a question from Councillor Scott concerning Council's enforcement income, you supplied the following answer:

"A new roster was introduced on 16 November 2013 following over 18 months' consultation with staff. The new roster allows the City to more effectively respond to complaints about illegal parking and to allocate resources in areas and times of highest demand for ranger services.

There has been no significant change in revenue since the introduction of the new roster. However, parking compliance levels are increasing, which suggests the improved coverage by ranger patrols is having the desired effect of reducing illegal parking."

Lord Mayor, at the Council Meeting of 27 April 2015 I put to you the following question:

"The new roster for parking rangers commenced on 15 November 2013. What was the budget variance and change from previous year for parking control revenue for this period ending 15 November 2014?"

Lord Mayor, you supplied the following answer:

"The financial accounts record budgets to the end of each calendar month and not to individual days within those months. From 1 December 2012 to 30 November 2013 the budget variance for enforcement revenue was (\$2,430,959). From the 1 December 2013 to 30 November 2014 the budget variance for enforcement revenue was (\$2,565,682). The above figures include ordinance related revenue which represents about 0.4% of the enforcement revenue."

Could the Lord Mayor please confirm?

1. Commencing this month (August 2016), will Council's Parking Rangers be working in accordance with a renamed roster which was in operation prior to November 2013? (That is each Parking Ranger who is on the road will work an eight-and-a-half-hour day and a nine-day fortnight.)
2. Was the recently scrapped roster management's idea, and was it unpopular with the Council's Parking Rangers from day one of its introduction?
3. Has the number of penalty infringement notices issued by City of Sydney Council's Parking Rangers dropped from November 2013? Have they never recovered to this level?
4. Is the publicly available data relating to parking penalty notices issued by the City of Sydney over recent financial years correct:
 - 2013 / 2014 – penalty notices issued 288, 942
 - 2014 / 2015 – penalty notices issued 273, 572 (drop of 5.6% from previous year)
 - 2015/ 2016 – penalty notices issued 248, 237 (drop of 10.2% from previous year)

5. Is the resulting decline in parking penalty revenue largely attributable to the work roster introduced for Council's Parking Rangers?
6. Has the availability of kerbside car parking spaces for the use of residents throughout the City been adversely affected since November 2013?
7. Lord Mayor, will you now request the CEO to commission an urgent enquiry by a suitable firm of management consultants to investigate such matters as:
 - (a) Why Council's Management introduced, in November 2013, a work roster for Council's Parking Rangers which may have had unintended negative consequences for both personnel and performance?
 - (b) Why, when it became apparent that the work roster introduced in November 2013 for Council's Parking Rangers may have been having unintended negative consequences, it was not scrapped earlier?
 - (c) Given Councillor Scott's and my earlier enquiries regarding the Parking Rangers' work roster, why were Councillors not told of the reversal to the pre-November 2013 roster which will only recommence this month (August 2016)?
 - (d) Whether management completed mid-year appraisals of Council's Parking Rangers for the 2015/2016 period?
 - (e) What remedial management action, if any, may be required?

Answer by the Lord Mayor

Staff rosters and related issues are operational matters for determination by the Chief Executive Officer and relevant Director, in consultation with staff and unions as appropriate.

REPORTING OF SERIOUS MANAGEMENT MISCONDUCT (S103141)

26. By Councillor Mandla

Question

Could the Lord Mayor please answer?

1. Where any Sydney City Council staff member has reported an incident of serious management misconduct (not just in the Rangers' Unit) since the time of the handing down of the Warfield Report 2012, either to Governance, the CEO or the Lord Mayor's Office, was a full investigation undertaken by appropriate staff?
2. Has any Sydney City Council staff member who has reported serious management misconduct either to Governance, the CEO or the Lord Mayor's Office since the handing down of the Warfield Report 2012 been threatened, pressured to resign, pressured to retire, been dismissed or failed to have a contract renewed?

Answer by the Lord Mayor

The Chief Executive Officer is responsible for the day-to-day operation of the City, which includes ensuring appropriate cultures, processes and policies are in place to support the reporting of the type of matters referred to in your question. For further information please refer to my answers to Question on Notice 5 and 6 dated 23 February 2015.

EX GRATIA PAYMENTS (S103141)

27. By Councillor Mandla

Question

Lord Mayor, at the Council Meeting of 27 April 2015, I asked you the following question:

“Will the Lord Mayor give an assurance that, between now and the next Local Government Elections in September 2016, staff ceasing employment with the presently constituted City of Sydney Council will not receive any form of ex gratia payment, what is commonly known as a “golden handshake,” “golden parachute”, “payout of contract” or “gardening leave”?”

Lord Mayor, you supplied the following answer:

“The Chief Executive Officer is responsible for the employment of staff. The Chief Executive Officer has provided the following information:

Employees ceasing employment with the City of Sydney will be managed in accordance with their employment contract and the City’s employment policies and procedures.

In relation to senior staff, the Local Government Act requires Ministerial approval for certain termination payments. Section 354A states:

- (1) A Council must not make a payment to the general manager or other senior staff member of the Council in relation to his or her termination of employment (including termination on the ground of redundancy) without first obtaining the Minister’s approval to the payment.”*

Could the Lord Mayor please answer?

1. Whether any senior staff member or members who left Council’s employment this year has received or is receiving a “golden handshake” or “golden parachute” or payment of untaken sick leave?
2. Whether an application has been made to the Minister for Local Government or will be made to the Minister for Local Government for approval to pay any senior staff member or members a “golden handshake” or “golden parachute” or payment of untaken sick leave?

Answer by the Lord Mayor

As I have previously advised the Chief Executive Officer is responsible for the employment of staff. The Chief Executive Officer has confirmed to me that:

- employees ceasing employment with the City will be managed in accordance with their employment contract and the City's employment policies and procedures; and
- no application has been made to the Minister for Local Government for approval to pay any senior staff member a "golden handshake" or "golden parachute" or payment of untaken sick leave.