

ITEM 11. QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**IN-GROUND TRAFFIC LIGHT TRIAL (S129276)**

1. By Councillor Vithoukas

Question

On 25 May 2016, the NSW Government announced an advertising campaign "Towards Zero" aimed at reducing injuries and fatalities on Sydney roads. The announcement included a set of initiatives, one of which was a \$250,000 trial of in-ground traffic light technology at key city centre intersections.

Since late January 2017, the installation of in-ground traffic light technology has commenced at the intersections of Goulburn and Pitt Streets and Dixon and Hay Streets.

1. Where else in the city will it be trialled?
2. How long will the trials last?
3. What is the criteria to evaluate success or failure of the trial?

Answer by the Lord Mayor

Late last year, the NSW Government approached the City to inform of an intention to trial in-ground traffic signals at three CBD locations: Goulburn Street and Pitt Street, Dixon Street and Hay Street and Martin Place at Pitt Street.

The City was generally supportive of the trial, but raised concerns around the proposal to use Martin Place. The City advised against this location, on the grounds that it would detract from the Government's plans to install a permanent memorial for the victims of the Martin Place siege, which will feature lighting of its own, and that the lights would not fit with the heritage surrounds.

Earlier this year, the RMS progressed with the installation of the lighting at the intersections of Goulburn and Pitt Streets; and Dixon and Hay Streets. The City is unsure as to whether the RMS has any plans to include Martin Place at a later date.

The trial is being conducted by the RMS and TfNSW's Centre for Road Safety. At this time, we are unsure how long the trial is planned to last and what criteria will be used to monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of the trial.

APPOINTMENT OF CITY OF SYDNEY CAMPAIGNER AND WESTCONNEX FUNDING (S129276)

2. By Councillor Vithoukas

Question

During February 2017, the City of Sydney advertised a 12-month contract position for a Campaigner to "work closely with the Lord Mayor, informing and working with the community and business to tackle and solve threats to our sustainable, vibrant, attractive and liveable city." One element of the role involved advocacy around WestConnex.

Also, if an additional \$25,000 grant is given to the WestConnex Action Group (WAG) during February's Council meeting, the total amount received by that organisation, from the City of Sydney, will total \$70,000.

1. Will the City of Sydney Campaigner also raise awareness and campaign for the rights of small business owners negatively impacted by construction across the City of Sydney local government area?
2. Will funding be forthcoming to support organisations that would directly assist small business owners impacted by construction in the same way as WAG?

Answer by the Lord Mayor

This is a 12 month term position to coordinate efforts to get the best result possible on high priority issues for the city community, including measures to increase the supply of affordable housing and drive practical action on climate change.

The strongest calls from the community in both the election for the City of Sydney and the State election for the seat of Newtown have been for action against the destructive WestConnex toll road. NSW voters will have to pick up a massive \$16.8 billion and rising bill for WestConnex in their taxes, Western Sydney residents will pay further tolls for a motorway that delivers negligible benefits for a few years before it is at capacity once more and the tollway will have extraordinarily detrimental impacts on open space, congestion and liveability for inner-Sydney.

This position will help deliver on the election commitments made to the community. With a new Premier, the seventh while I've been here, we have a good opportunity to get things back on track.

STREET CLEANSING (S129268)

3. By Councillor Chung

Question

With respect to street bin waste collections in the City of Sydney, divided by geographic locations:

1. Please provide a map indicating the location of street waste bins.
2. How often and at what times are each street waste bin emptied and cleansed?
3. What extraordinary requests have been received to empty street waste bins by date and location for the period 2015 and 2016?
4. Please provide any waste volume data for individual street waste bins, locations or areas for the period 2015 and 2016.

With respect to street and footpath cleansing using heavy machinery (street sweeper or the like), divided by geographic location:

1. How often and at what times are individual streets and footpaths cleaned using this method?
2. What extraordinary requests have been received to cleanse individual streets by date and location for the period 2015 and 2016?

With respect to street and footpath cleansing using light equipment (such as gurney, brooms and the like), divided by geographic location:

1. How often and at what times are individual streets and footpaths cleaned using this method?
2. What extraordinary requests have been received to cleanse individual streets by date and location for the period 2015 and 2016?

Answer by the Lord Mayor

Given the detailed nature of this question, I have asked the Chief Executive Officer to meet with you.

1-5 FLINDERS STREET, DARLINGHURST (S129269)

4. By Councillor Forster

Question

On 29 February 2016, Council resolved to endorse in principle the disposal of 1-5 Flinders Street and request the Chief Executive Officer to conduct an Expression of Interest (EOI) to identify suitable proponents to acquire, refurbish and use the property at 1-5 Flinders Street, consistent with the City's objectives of urban renewal and report back to Council on the outcomes of this process and recommendations.

In an answer to a Question on Notice in May 2016, the Lord Mayor stated that it was envisaged that selection of the EOI agent would be made in mid-June 2016, with the EOI running for four weeks. The Lord Mayor also stated that it was expected that responses would not be evaluated until the end of July/early August 2016.

Can the Lord Mayor please provide an update on the progress of the February 2016 Council resolution?

Answer by the Lord Mayor

As has been previously advised, this matter is in progress. The outcomes of the Expression of Interest process and accompanying recommendations will be reported back to Council in due course.

FIG AND WATTLE STREET DEPOT SITE REMEDIATION UPDATE (S129269)

5. By Councillor Forster

Question

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

It is now February 2017. 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 2016/17 Quarter 2 Review – Delivery Program 2014-2017?

Answer by the Lord Mayor

On 29 August 2016, the City's principal environmental consultants JBS&G issued the draft Conceptual Site Model and Preliminary Human Health and Ecological Risk Assessment; and the draft Sampling, Analysis and Quality Plan to address the data gaps identified in the Preliminary Risk Assessment.

The Site Auditor, having reviewed these reports, requested additional works, including the requirement for deep drilling and vapour/landfill gas assessment on selected boundaries.

The scope of works required by the Sampling, Analysis and Quality Plan focused on installations, including 5 new groundwater wells, 20 vapour sampling points and soil samples from 25 locations and 5 targeted locations.

The installations and sampling work took place between 25 November and 14 December 2016.

These results will be used for the future Human Health and Ecological Risk Assessment and finalising the Remediation Action Plan.

JBS&G expect the Remediation Action Plan, Site Auditors Report and Part B Site Audit Statement will be completed by late May, 2017.

Remediation works are being funded from Property operational budget.

As advised on 15 August 2016, the Remediation Action Plan and Site Audit Statement will be a matter of public record as part of the planning process.

EMERGENCY SERVICES PROPERTY LEVY COSTS (S129275)

6. By Councillor Scott

Question

What costs has the City incurred in order to comply with the Emergency Services Property Levy, broken down by staff and other expenses?

Answer by the Lord Mayor

The City has already spent \$50,000 to date to contract an experienced rates professional to focus on project management, change management and land classifications in order to comply with the NSW Treasury's stipulated deadlines. This project manager will remain until October 2017 to ensure successful implementation of the new State levy.

A further \$7,000 has been spent to upgrade the City's rates modelling software, and additional costs will be incurred in software configuration and testing, updating land values, printing, mailing communications and customer service support.

NSW Treasury has committed to make the Emergency Services Property Levy a cost-neutral exercise for Council. To this end, an initial payment of \$72,500 has been received from the NSW Government towards our expenses, and we expect full reimbursement of our upfront costs over the next two years. The City also expects an ongoing annual payment to cover the recurring costs of administering the levy and acting as the State's collection agent.

CITY'S APPLICATION FOR ADDITIONAL PERMANENT RATE INCREASE (\$129275)

7. By Councillor Scott

Question

I refer to the City's application to the Office of Local Government for an additional permanent increase to the City's rate base of 1%. Has the City formally submitted the application?

Which areas of the City will be covered by this application?

What is the projected increase in revenue for the City from this application?

Answer by the Lord Mayor

The City has submitted the application for the permanent rate increase which relates to Crown Land which has now become rateable as a consequence of the Darling Harbour Live project (specifically the ICC hotel and Darling Square development). A similar application was previously made in 2013 for the Barangaroo development.

A CEO Update which provides information on the rest of this question was circulated on 10 February 2017.

DUMPED MATERIALS (\$129275)

8. By Councillor Scott

Question

How many reports of dumped materials has the City of Sydney received each year over the past four years?

What proportion of these reports were attended by City staff?

What proportion of these reports resulted in the City arranging collection of those materials?

Of those materials not collected, what were the City's reasons for non-collection?

What was the average time between a report of dumped materials being made and the City's collection of materials?

Answer by the Lord Mayor

Over the past four years, a total of 31,980 illegal dumps were reported to the City. The total number of reported illegal dumps each year was:

2013 – 6572 illegal dumps
2014 – 7117 illegal dumps
2015 – 8318 illegal dumps
2016 – 9973 illegal dumps

All reported dumps are attended to by City staff.

Almost all reported dumps are collected by City staff. Less than 0.2% of reported dumps are identified to contain a hazardous substance and, in this case, a suitably qualified contractor is arranged to collect the dumped material.

The average time between receiving a report of dumped material and the time of collection is between one to two days.

REPLACEMENT OF CITY'S WASTE BINS (S129275)

9. By Councillor Scott

Question

How often are the City's waste bins, residential, commercial and public, replaced?

How many requests has the City received each year, over the past four years, for the replacement of residential, commercial or public waste bins?

Broken down by residential, commercial and public, what proportion of these requests resulted in replacement bins being provided by the City?

What was the average time between a request being made and the provision of a replacement waste bin?

What were the City's reasons for denial of requests for replacement waste bins?

Answer by the Lord Mayor

The City is responsible for residential and street litter (public) bins. The City is not responsible for commercial waste bins.

For residential bins the following applies:

Residential bins are replaced on an as needed basis, usually for the reason that they are damaged or missing.

Over the past four years a total of 26,731 new residential bins have been issued. The total number of residential bins replaced each year was:

- 2013 – 5490 residential bins
- 2014 – 5913 residential bins
- 2015 – 7468 residential bins
- 2016 – 7860 residential bins

This includes resident requests to replace damaged or missing bins, requests to up or down size bin capacity, as well as issuing bins for new buildings.

The City responds to all requests and replaces bins which are reported as damaged or missing.

The average time between a request being made and the provision of a replacement residential bin is approximately five days. Bin deliveries are scheduled twice a week.

If bins are damaged or missing, requests for replacement bins are always fulfilled by the City. The City would only deny the request for a replacement bin if there was already a bin deemed suitable for use (for example, a dirty bin without any damage can still be used even though a resident requests a new one).

For Street Litter Bins the following applies:

Street litter bins are replaced on an as needed basis, usually where they are damaged.

Damage to street litter bins is often identified by Council staff and, in this instance, the City does not maintain records of the total number of bins replaced.

City staff replace all damaged City-owned bins. Some street litter bins are owned by JCDecaux and, if these are damaged, JCDecaux are obligated to replace these bins.

The City does not maintain records of the time taken to replace damaged street litter bins.

All damaged street litter bins are replaced unless it is no longer suited to a particular location.

GARBAGE TRUCKS (S129275)

10. By Councillor Scott

Question

How many garbage trucks has the City purchased in the last 15 years, broken down by year and type?

How many garbage trucks does the City currently operate, broken down by year and type?

When not being driven, please detail where each vehicle is stored.

Broken down by vehicle, when were the oldest trucks still in operation purchased?

When were the most recent trucks purchased?

When are the oldest trucks expected to be replaced?

How often does the City purchase new trucks? And how many trucks are purchased?

Answer by the Lord Mayor

From 2004 till current day the City has purchased 41 garbage trucks as follows:

Year	No. of garbage trucks	Truck Type
2004	1	1 x Garbage Compactor 8M
2005	3	2 x Garbage Compactor 15M, 1 x 4M
2006	2	2 x Garbage Compactor 15M
2007	2	2 x Garbage Compactor 8M
2008	5	3 x Garbage Compactor 15M, 2 x 8M
2009	3	1 x Garbage Compactor 15M, 2 x 8M
2010	3	2 x Garbage Compactor 15M, 1 x 4M
2011	4	2 x Garbage Compactor 15M, 1 x 4M, 1 x 8M
2012	2	2 x Garbage Compactor 12M
2013	3	2 x Garbage Compactor 15M, 1 x 8M
2014	5	2 x Garbage Compactor 4M, 3 x 8M
2015	5	4 x Garbage Compactor 15M, 1 x 8M
2016	3	2 x Garbage Compactor 15M, 1 x 8M
Total	41	

Note. "M" denotes cubic metre carrying capacity.

The City currently owns 18 garbage trucks (refer years 2012-2016 in the above table for further details).

Council vehicles are deployed where needed, but are normally housed at one of the following depots:

- Bay Street Depot, Ultimo
- Epsom Road Depot, Alexandria
- Marian Street Depot, Redfern
- Burke Street Depot, Woolloomooloo

The oldest garbage truck that Council owns is 4.5 years old.

The most recent garbage trucks were deployed into service in December 2016.

The four oldest trucks are due to be disposed of and replaced in 2017/2018.

Under the City's Fleet Asset Management Plan, garbage trucks are replaced after five years' service. The number of garbage trucks purchased each year depends on vehicle age and condition.

NON-RESIDENTIAL ROLL (S129275)

11. By Councillor Scott

Question

Will the City review non-residential compliance with the legal requirement to enrol on the non-residential roll? If so, when does the City expect such a review to be completed?

Will the review be publicly available?

I refer to the initial direct mail out to the 142,167 owners, occupiers and rate paying lessees beginning in October 2015. How much did this mail out cost the City?

As a result of the CEO's review of the non-residential roll, what actions will the City take in the future in relation to its administration of the non-residential roll?

Answer by the Lord Mayor

Councillors received a CEO Update on 17 February 2017 which provided detailed information on the implementation of the non-residential register. As advised in that CEO Update, Councillors will be briefed on the future methodology shortly.

RESTAURANT ASSOCIATES CONTRACT – BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT FUND (S129275)

12. By Councillor Scott

Question

I refer to the Business Development Fund (BDF) as provided for in the City's Town Hall Catering Agreement with Restaurant Associates Pty Ltd. Broken down by year, how much money has the City appropriated to the BDF since 2004?

Broken down by year, how much money from the BDF has been spent?

Broken down by year, please provide an outline of all items of expenditure from the BDF.

I refer to Item 6.3 of the meeting of Council, 12 December 2016. What is the status of the "process map to be developed to support the handling of BDF expenditure by both parties in the future"?

Answer by the Lord Mayor

The City does not contribute or devote any monies or assets to the BDF.

The terms of the current contract between the City and Restaurant Associates requires a percentage of the caterer's turnover (3% + \$60,000 per annum) be allocated to a BDF which is held and maintained by the caterer.

Under the terms of the agreement, the BDF is used for activities and projects that are agreed on a mutual basis by both parties for the specific development of catering business in the venues covered by the contract (Sydney Town Hall and the Barnet Long Room at Customs House).

The table below breaks down the BDF expenditure over the current term which commenced 1 January 2014.

An audit of the BDF transactions was completed in 2016. Note previous contract terms data is not readily available.

Table: Actual BDF Expenditure (contract/calendar years) as at 31 December 2016 ex GST

Contract year	2014	2015	2016	Total
Equipment	0	54,379.00	17 993.58	72 312.58
Advertising & Photography	13 401.56	47,896.72	15498.44	76 796.72
Trade Show Participation	38 389.23	119 079.52	56 700.32	214 169.07
Showcase, Educational & Familiarisation activities	98 463.87	267 671.79	2,915.00	369 050.66
Total	150 254.66	489 027.03	93 047.34	732 329.03

Not included in this table is the purchase of two new ovens delivered in February 2017 for a total cost of \$105,800 excluding GST. These ovens were required for the operation in the Sydney Town Hall kitchens during the Level 4 upgrade period. They will be transferred to the new Level 4 kitchen post refurbishment.

PARKING INFRINGEMENT REVENUE (\$129275)

13. By Councillor Scott

Question

I refer to the City's 2016/17 Quarter 2 Review, Delivery Program 2014-2017. Broken down by quarter over the past four years, what proportion of the Enforcement Income received by the City was in relation to parking infringements?

Broken down by quarter over the past four years, what proportion of Enforcement and Infringement Costs pertains to parking infringements?

Please outline the proportion of parking infringements by time of day and week.

Please outline the proportion of parking rangers by time of day and week.

Broken down by month and by role, how many enforcement staff vacancies were there in the years ending 31 December 2015 and 31 December 2016?

Broken down by month, what proportion of the budgeted salaries of enforcement staff was not spent?

Broken down by month, how many required hours of duty were not worked?

Answer by the Lord Mayor

Given the detailed nature of this question, I have asked the Chief Executive Officer to meet with you.

24 HOUR ACCESS TO PUBLIC TOILETS (\$129275)

14. By Councillor Scott

Question

Can the City provide an update as to the progress of its efforts to make public toilets in the local government area accessible 24 hours a day?

Are the City's public toilets now accessible 24 hours?

If not, when does the City expect its public toilets to be accessible 24 hours?

If so, does the City have any data in relation to the utilisation of these toilets broken down by time of the day?

Answer by the Lord Mayor

The City owns and manages 55 public toilets within the local government area. Of these, the City operates 17 which are accessible 24 hours a day.

About 30% of the City's public toilets, mainly those located within central Sydney and the night-time entertainment precincts, are open 24 hours per day. These include:

- 14 automated public toilets (APT) located at:
 - Fitzroy Gardens (Kings Cross);
 - Taylor Square (Oxford St);
 - Circular Quay (Alfred St);
 - Belmore Park (Hay St);
 - Wynyard Park (York St);
 - Lang Park (York St);
 - Hyde Park (Liverpool St, College St, Macquarie Street, Elizabeth Street and Park Street); and
- Three non-automated (traditional) toilets located at George Street Harbour Bridge (The Rocks); Watson Road (Millers Point); Wentworth Park, (Glebe).

The operational hours of public toilets are influenced by a range of factors, including their location, demand, pedestrian flow and public safety. As new public toilets are built, they will be assessed for their suitability to be accessible 24 hours a day.

City of Sydney public toilets located within public buildings such as libraries and public buildings are open during business hours for security reasons.

The Public Toilet Strategy (pages 8-9) includes an overview of public toilet usage and user demographics. A detailed study of usage at key facilities was undertaken in 2012. Key data indicated:

- Kings Cross 24-hour APT witnessed peak use (7-13 uses per hour) between 10pm and 2am with moderate use (5-7 uses per hour) between 6am and 6pm.
- Hyde Park (Macquarie Street) 24-hour APT witnessed moderate use (4-6 uses per hour) between 8am and 10pm.
- Sydney Park (twin unit non-automated facility located near kiosk and playground open daylight hours) – witnessed peak use (around 40 uses per hour) between 10am and 4pm with usage tapering off to less than 5 uses per hour at 6pm.

The City's Public Toilet Strategy can be viewed at:

http://www.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0007/199816/2013-460160-02-Policy-Attachment-C-Public-Toilet-Strategy-Adopted.pdf

T2 - 1-5 FLINDERS STREET, DARLINGHURST (S129275)

15. By Councillor Scott

Question

Please outline the steps taken by the City towards the sale of the T2 Building in Taylor Square.

Answer by the Lord Mayor

Please refer to my answer to Question on Notice No. 4.

PUBLIC ART (S129275)

16. By Councillor Scott

Question

Can Councillors please be provided with a copy of the research underpinning the City's public art strategy and planning amendments?

Answer by the Lord Mayor

The City's Public Art (City Art) Strategy was endorsed by Council in 2011. The Strategy provides nine guiding principles for how public art is implemented in the LGA. Implementation of public art in the LGA in public and private projects is guided by this Strategy.

All relevant documentation relating to the strategy may be accessed on the City's website.

LIVE MUSIC (S129275)

17. By Councillor Scott

Question

Can Councillors please be provided with the research commissioned from Urbis researching rates of alcohol consumption in live music and performance venues?

What was the total cost of the City's engagement of Urbis in relation to this research?

Answer by the Lord Mayor

The results of the pilot study conducted by Urbis will be provided to Councillors shortly. The cost of the Urbis study was \$59,706 (excluding GST).

CITY PROPERTIES (S129275)

18. By Councillor Scott

Question

Broken down by City-owned property, please detail each currently vacant property, the reason for this vacancy and when it is expected to be tenanted.

Answer by the Lord Mayor

Vacant property are those City-owned properties that are currently physically empty but otherwise occupiable.

This list does not include City-owned properties which are currently not occupied, leased or being put to other community and /or commercial use and have been defined as unoccupied buildings, that is, those buildings that are currently uninhabitable due to the following circumstances:

- property is a Capital Works Corporate Plan item, with significant construction activity underway/planned to commence;
- property is earmarked for imminent upgrade works, scope of such upgrades is often defined during the process of being leased with scope matching the intended end-use;
- property is listed for delivery of strategic infrastructure and/or allocated for disposal.

Property Name	Location/ Level/ Suite	Reason for Vacancy	Expected timeframe for occupation.
307 Pitt Street	Ground Floor Retail	City Convenience Store vacated the premises without notice. City making good and recharging tenant.	Targeting June 2017 to have lease terms agreed with prospective tenant.
309 Pitt Street	Level 6	Tenant defaulted on lease and vacated premises.	Targeting June 2017 to have lease terms agreed with prospective tenant.
Bandstand Café	Green Park	Lease expired. EOI undertaken in 2016. Letter of Offer signed by prospective tenant.	Targeting March 2017 for premises to be occupied.
Bellevue Cottage	Cafe - Bellevue Cottage	Reject and Negotiate (post EOI) in progress to lease to a new tenant. Letter of Offer signed.	Now leased, awaiting Lease Execution. Occupation due March 2017
Hyde Park (North)	Tram Shelter	Alternative Kiosk location during Kiosk Relocation program due to Light Rail.	Occupiers being sort via EOI. Targeting June 2017 to fill vacancy.
137 Palmer Street, Woolloomooloo	Ground	Newly created space. Lease offered to café operator.	Targeting March 2017 for occupation.
Pirrama Park Cafe & Kiosk	Kiosk	Reject and Negotiate (post EOI) in progress to lease to a new tenant. Letter of Offer subject to negotiation.	Occupation due March 2017.
15 Norman Street	Residential	Lease expired. Leasing Agent appointed, instructed and marketing premises.	Targeting March 2017 for premises to be occupied.
17 Norman Street,	Residential	Lease expired. Leasing Agent appointed, instructed and marketing premises.	Targeting March 2017 for premises to be occupied.
56-76 Oxford St	Ground, Shops 58- 64	Premises were part of Agreement to Lease to Woolworths. Shops 62 and 64 are currently under offer to boutique supermarket operator, subject to supply of adequate power, which is to be installed by City Projects July 2017. Amended lease proposal issued Feb 17. Shops 58 and 60 are currently out to market.	Subject to finalising lease negotiations and Planning approvals for fitout and completion of Sub Station installation; targeting July 2017 for occupation.

Property Name	Location/ Level/ Suite	Reason for Vacancy	Expected timeframe for occupation.
56-76 Oxford St	Level 2, Suite 4	Repairs to cracked wall being completed. Painting and carpet replacement to be completed Feb / March 2017. Leasing Agents instructed and premises being marketed for lease.	Targeting July 2017 to have lease terms agreed (subject to installation of Sub Station)
56-76 Oxford St	Level 2, Suite 5	Will be put out to lease following completion of Riser Installation Capital works.	Targeting June 2017 to have lease terms agreed.
82-106 Oxford St	Level 1, Ground and Basement Shop 82	Formerly occupied by American Apparel who went into Voluntary Administration and closed in December 2016. Leasing Agents appointed, instructed and marketing premises.	Short term activation Program February to March 2017. Leasing submission received from Beverage operator. Targeting June 2017 to have leasing terms agreed. Occupation subject to DA and Liquor Licence applications.
82-106 Oxford St	Level 2, Suites 21, 27, 27A, 28	Under offer to companies or being marketed by leasing agents	Targeting occupation date or lease term agreements, June 2017.

APPRENTICES (\$129275)

19. By Councillor Scott

Question

Broken down by year, please detail how many apprentices the City has employed over the last decade.

Answer by the Lord Mayor

The following is the calendar year by year number of apprentices employed at the City from 2007 to 2017.

Year	Total Apprentices employed during the year (persons)	Total number of Apprentice positions
2007	3	3
2008	3	3
2009	2	2

Year	Total Apprentices employed during the year (persons)	Total number of Apprentice positions
2010	3	3
2011	9*	7
2012	7	7
2013	9*	7
2014	7	7
2015	7	8
2016	7	8
2017	7	8

*In 2011 and 2013, where apprentices left or completed their apprenticeship, they were replaced with newly recruited apprentices.

Currently, the City employs 7 apprentices in the positions of Apprentice Gardner (5), Electrician (1) and Stonemason (1). There is a vacant role (1) for an apprentice vehicle mechanic in Fleet Services. An Aboriginal Employment Strategy trainee is engaged in this team with a view to transitioning this trainee to the vehicle mechanic apprenticeship in 2018.

OXFORD STREET (S129275)

20. By Councillor Scott

Question

Please provide an update on the City's plans for City-owned properties on Oxford Street.

Answer by the Lord Mayor

The Oxford Street Property Activation Strategy 2014 has progressed, with significant works being completed and others currently underway. The leasing of Shop 98 Oxford Street to Ariel Books (iconic Paddington retail operator) is a recent major sign of success for this Strategy.

Any updates to the 2014 Activation Strategy for Oxford Street will be notified to Councillors.

PANEL OF INVESTIGATORS (S129275)

21. By Councillor Scott

Question

I refer to the meeting of the Corporate, Finance, Properties and Tenders Committee on 20 February 2017, Item 22 "Tender – Panel of Investigation Service Practitioners". When did the City first appoint this panel? How long is the term of service of members of the panel?

Broken down by year, how many investigations have been undertaken by the Panel?

Answer by the Lord Mayor

The establishment of the first panel was approved by Council on 7 November 2011. The term of service of members of the panel is three years, with the option to extend for two years, which may be exercised at the discretion of the City.

Investigations undertaken by the Panel are as follows:

- 7/11/2011 to 30/6/2012 – Two
- 2012/13 – One
- 2013/14 – Two
- 2014/15 – Two
- 2015/16 – Two
- 1/7/16 to 21/2/2017 – Nil

AFFORDABLE HOUSING FUND (\$129275)

22. By Councillor Scott

Question

What new funds are proposed for the Affordable Housing Fund for the financial year 2017/18?

Answer by the Lord Mayor

From the \$10.3 million Affordable and Diverse Housing Fund, \$1.75M has been committed to projects conditional upon development consent. The total remaining funds of \$8.55M are uncommitted. The City provides information on the Affordable and Diverse Housing Fund on its website that the fund is open for applications and regularly engages with Community Housing Providers to provide information on the fund.

LIVE MUSIC AND PERFORMANCE LISTINGS (\$129275)

23. By Councillor Scott

Question

Broken down by year, since 2004, please provide the number of live music and performance listings in the City of Sydney local government area.

Answer by the Lord Mayor

Staff investigated the availability of City of Sydney local government area listing data in 2013 as part of the development of the Live Music and Performance Action Plan, and provided some preliminary, indicative results within the Action Plan itself.

As part of its work, the Taskforce commissioned a study of live music and performance listings in gig guides in the Sydney street press publication The Drum Media (now known as The Music) that showed a 61 per cent decline over a nine-year period (from 540 in a sample week in 2004 down to 213 in the same period in 2013). Although this research is indicative only, it demonstrates a downward trend in opportunities for musicians and performers in Sydney.

Since the Action Plan's adoption, staff have investigated the viability of using listing data to track industry changes in a more robust way. The investigation highlighted that listing data used by industry to promote performances to audiences was not reliable enough to justify collecting it ongoing or as an indicator on which to base policy decisions. Reasons for this include:

- there is no single or central source of live music and performance listings for the City of Sydney local government area;
- it is not possible to combine or compare data across listing services, due to the wide variety of approaches taken to collecting, collating and publishing listings;
- the changing nature of industry media and marketing platforms since 2004, including the shift from print to online and changes in editorial priorities; and
- limited access to historical online listing data.

As such, staff have focused their data collection and research efforts on the specific commitments made in the Action Plan and seeking more robust data produced by government agencies such as the Australian Bureau of Statistics and Australia Council for the Arts, or collected by industry associations such as APRA and Live Performance Australia.