

Council

Meeting No 3

Monday 3 April 2023

Notice No 3/1651

Notice Date 30 March 2023

minutes

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Present

The Right Hon The Lord Mayor - Councillor Clover Moore (Chair)

Members Deputy Lord Mayor - Councillor Sylvie Ellsmore, Councillor HY William Chan, Councillor (Waskam) Emelda Davis, Councillor Lyndon Gannon, Councillor Shauna Jarrett, Councillor Robert Kok, Councillor Linda Scott, Councillor Jess Scully and Councillor Yvonne Weldon.

At the commencement of business at 5.01pm, those present were:

The Lord Mayor, Councillors Chan, Davis, Ellsmore, Gannon, Jarrett, Kok, Scott, Scully and Weldon.

The Chief Executive Officer, Chief Operating Officer, Chief Financial Officer, Director People, Performance and Technology, Director City Planning, Development and Transport, Acting Director Legal and Governance, Director City Life, Director Strategic Development and Engagement and Director City Services were also present.

Acknowledgement of Country and Opening Prayer

The Lord Mayor opened the meeting with an acknowledgement of country and a prayer.

Webcasting Statement

The Chair (the Lord Mayor) advised that in accordance with the City of Sydney Code of Meeting Practice, Council meetings are audio visually recorded and webcast live on the City of Sydney website. The Chair (the Lord Mayor) asked that courtesy and respect be observed throughout the meeting and advised those in attendance to refrain from making defamatory statements.

Minute's Silence

Following the sad news of Indigenous leader Dr Yunupingu's passing, the Chair (the Lord Mayor) requested that Council observe a minute silence at the commencement of the meeting.

Note – all Councillors, staff and members of the public present stood in silence for one minute as a mark of respect to Dr Yunupingu.

Item 1 Confirmation of Minutes

Moved by the Chair (the Lord Mayor), seconded by Councillor Scully –

That the Minutes of the meeting of Council of Monday, 13 March 2023, as circulated to Councillors, be confirmed.

Carried unanimously.

Item 2 Statement of Ethical Obligations and Disclosures of Interest

Statement of Ethical Obligations

In accordance with section 233A of the Local Government Act 1993, the Lord Mayor and Councillors are bound by the Oath or Affirmation of Office made at the start of the Council term to undertake their civic duties in the best interests of the people of the City of Sydney and the City of Sydney Council and to faithfully and impartially carry out the functions, powers, authorities and discretions vested in them under the Local Government Act 1993 or any other Act, to the best of their ability and judgement.

Disclosures of Interest

The Lord Mayor, Councillor Clover Moore, disclosed a less than significant, non-pecuniary interest in Item 10.5 on the agenda, in that she is a patron of the Jessie Street Library.

The Deputy Lord Mayor, Councillor Sylvie Ellsmore, disclosed a less than significant, non-pecuniary interest in Item 7.4 on the agenda, in that the policy includes political advertising, which impacts political parties. She is an elected member of The Greens NSW.

Councillor Ellsmore considers that this non-pecuniary conflict of interest is not significant and does not require further action in the circumstances because the policy applies to all political parties and political candidates equally. Changes to the policy in relation to political advertising would not provide a specific benefit or detriment which would require her to exempt herself from debate of voting on this item.

Councillor HY William Chan disclosed a less than significant, non-pecuniary interest in Item 10.10 on the agenda, in that he previously worked on Transport for NSW's Sydney Metro West urban design and master planning, including for Pymont Station.

Councillor Chan considers that this non-pecuniary conflict of interest is not significant and does not require further action in the circumstances because he has not been involved in the aforementioned Sydney Metro station projects since 2020.

Councillor Linda Scott made the following disclosures:

- a less than significant, non-pecuniary interest in Item 6.5 on the agenda, in that she is the Council-nominated member of the Southern Sydney Regional Organisation of Councils (SSROC), which has conducted the joint tender. Councillor Scott considers that this non-pecuniary conflict of interest is not significant and does not require further action in the circumstances because she represents the council on SSROC in order to make decisions in the public interest.
- a less than significant, non-pecuniary interest in Item 7.4 on the agenda, in that she is a member of the NSW Labor Party which has, from time-to-time, used bill posters and other public signs during election campaign periods. Councillor Scott considers that this non-pecuniary conflict of interest is not significant and does not require further action in the circumstances because she considers this policy in order to make decisions in the public interest in her role as a Councillor.

- a less than significant, non-pecuniary interest in Item 10.2 on the agenda, in that she is the President of the Australian Local Government Association (ALGA). Councillor Scott considers that this non-pecuniary conflict of interest is not significant and does not require further action in the circumstances because the City of Sydney is one of the 537 Councils represented by ALGA, all of which are treated the same.
- a less than significant, non-pecuniary interest in Item 10.5 on the agenda, in that she is a member of Jessie Street Library that Jozefa Sobski was the Board Chair of. Councillor Scott considers that this non-pecuniary conflict of interest is not significant and does not require further action in the circumstances because the motion does not request any significant or pecuniary action from the City.

No other Councillors disclosed any pecuniary or non-pecuniary interests in any matter on the agenda for this meeting of Council.

Item 3 Minutes by the Lord Mayor

Item 3.1 Vale Elinor Wrobel OAM

Minute by the Lord Mayor

To Council:

I wish to inform Council about the passing of Elinor Dawn Wrobel OAM, curator, art collector, benefactor and advocate, on 12 March 2023.

Elinor Ring was born on 24 August 1933 in Sydney. A fifth generation Australian, her paternal family arrived in Australia in 1840.

Elinor's artistic interests emerged at a young age. Her aunt, a trained haute couture seamstress, taught her to sew. Elinor helped her make gas mantles out of silk for gaslights which she would sell for pocket money.

In 1952, Elinor enrolled in nursing at Sydney Hospital, becoming acting sister-in-charge of the Worrall and Emergency operating theatres. After graduation she became involved in experimental surgery. Her sewing skills were put to good use, constructing and sewing fabric aorta sections for use in heart surgery.

In 1949, Frederick Wroblewski arrived in Sydney on a cattle ship, speaking no English, having survived the Nazi occupation of Poland.

Frederick enrolled himself in a night-time English class, a jewellery making class at East Sydney Tech and later, an advanced bookkeeping class. He befriended some amateur yachtsmen which began a lifelong passion for boats and boating. He also met Elinor, who shared his passions.

In July 1957, Elinor and Frederick were married. In October that same year, Frederick formally changed his name to Fred Wrobel.

Elinor and Fred shared a passion for art. They began collecting, attending auctions and searching in old wares shops, buying works that others had ignored. Fred would repair and reframe them to decorate their Double Bay home.

One such work, bought for next-to-nothing, was revealed to be a painting by George W. Lambert of fellow artist, Thea Proctor. By the 1970s, their home earned the description "a wonderland of art" by the art historian Joanna Mendelsohn.

Fred and Elinor began befriending the artists whose works they had collected. Among them was the artist, John Passmore. Passmore had been a major figure in Australian art as a painter, teacher and mentor of younger artists. After suffering a heart attack in the early 1960s, he withdrew from the artworld. Becoming increasingly convinced his work was unloved, he threatened to destroy it. Elinor fortunately dissuaded him. When he died, he left Elinor his remaining artworks, some 270 paintings and the contents of his studio and made her sole trustee of the Passmore Trust.

In the early 1970s, Elinor began her career as a consultant curator, conservator and cataloguer specialising in costume, textiles, art, ethnographic material and memorabilia. Between 1981 and 1999 Elinor was consultant curator for the Percy Grainger Museum at the University of Melbourne, arranging annual exhibitions and being responsible for the conservation of the Grainger costumes and textiles.

In 1983, Fred and Elinor established the Woolloomooloo Gallery where Elinor curated many of the exhibitions featuring work by established and younger artists. They also shared their collection, which had grown to over 1,000 works of art from the 1840s to contemporary pieces.

From 1978, they loaned work to the Historic Houses Trust and major public galleries in every Australian state. In 1995, the Penrith Regional Art Gallery's exhibition 'Australian Women Artists of the 20th Century' was comprised of works drawn entirely from the Wrobel collection.

After the Gallery closed in 1995, Elinor continued with her consultancy work. In 2000, Elinor attended the Nursing Graduates Association meeting where she learned of plans for a museum at Sydney Hospital. She secured the job of establishing it. It opened in 2001 in the Nightingale Wing, the oldest remaining building on the hospital site. She later admitted it had become "an obsession".

"I have now established a museum which records the history not only of the nursing profession but also the medical staff, related professions. It is a vast repository of archives and objects - a resource and study centre for scholars and historians. For over 100 years, many held a dream for a Sydney Hospital museum. I have made it a reality."

In 2009, the museum was threatened with plans to convert its premises into offices and disperse its collection. This included its histopathology and anatomy collection which Elinor had sourced and restored. Elinor campaigned against the plans, even threatening to go on a hunger strike. Through newspaper article and radio interviews she gained support from historians, the medical profession and members of parliament. The museum survived.

Elinor's commitment to Sydney Hospital's past continued beyond the museum. In 2015, she published "Caps and Veils": The Nursing History of the Sydney Hospital Matrons and its Nurses by Valerie Griffiths, Jingzhe Li.

In 2003, Fred and Elinor purchased the Merryfield Hotel, an 1874 Romanesque Revival building in Woolloomooloo. It became their new home and a living gallery. They established the John Passmore Gallery on the ground floor and the upper two floors became their home, along with the rest of their collection, which they continued to share. In later years, they made significant donations to the National Gallery of Australia and NSW regional galleries.

In 2020, five years after Fred's death, Elinor donated her personal archive to the National Art Archive which documented her long and diverse career as curator, collector and gallerist.

Stephen Miller, described it as a "rich gift" noting that Elinor had established three important galleries and museums in Sydney: the Woolloomooloo Gallery, the John Passmore Museum (2003-); and the award-winning Lucy Osborne-Nightingale Museum at Sydney Hospital, and that the art collection she had acquired with Fred was considered to be "one of the most important historic survey collections of Australian art in private hands".

Joanna Mendelssohn has written that Elinor's and Fred's legacy reminds us "that works of art are personal both to the artist and their viewer, and connections between those who make art and those who appreciate beauty can be as meaningful as the work of art itself ... the ongoing value of their collection is a salutary reminder that the significance of an individual work of art does not depend on the current reputation of the artist. Art is indeed longer than life."

Recommendation

It is resolved that:

- (A) all persons attending this meeting of Council observe one minute's silence to mark the life of Elinor Wrobel and her outstanding contribution to the cultural life of Sydney as a curator, gallerist and philanthropist;
- (B) Council express its condolences to Ms Wrobel's family; and
- (C) the Lord Mayor be requested to convey Council's sincere condolences to Ms Wrobel's family.

COUNCILLOR CLOVER MOORE

Lord Mayor

Moved by the Chair (the Lord Mayor), seconded by Councillor Scully –

That the Minute by the Lord Mayor be endorsed and adopted.

Carried unanimously.

Note – All Councillors, staff and members of the public present stood in silence for one minute as a mark of respect to Elinor Wrobel.

S051491

Item 3.2 Resignation of Councillor Jess Scully

Minute by the Lord Mayor

To Council:

I wish to inform Council that Councillor Jess Scully is intending to resign as a Councillor on 4 April 2023. Wonderfully, Councillor Scully is pregnant with her second child. She is happy and healthy, and her husband Patrick and daughter Elinor are also excited to welcome a new member of the family.

Councillor Scully was elected on 10 September 2016 as a member of the Clover Moore Independent Team and re-elected on 4 December 2021.

During her six years on Council, Councillor Scully served as Deputy Lord Mayor for three years. She has been an effective Deputy Chair of the Corporate, Finance, Properties and Tenders Committee; a member of the Central Sydney Planning Committee and Audit, Risk and Compliance Committee; and Co-Chair of the City of Sydney's Nightlife and Creative Sector Advisory Panel, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Advisory Panel and Housing For All Working Group.

I first came to know about Jess as a creative talent who had been a founding director of Vivid Ideas. I approached her and asked her to join our independent City team for the 2016 Local Government Election and contribute to our great work at the City, and I was delighted she agreed.

Under the leadership of our Independent Team, Council has worked to address some of the important challenges facing our city and Jess has played an important role in that work – whether it be to find new ways to revitalise our high streets and strengthen our night-time economy; to explore new models to address the housing crisis or take effective action to reduce our emissions and the impact of climate change.

Specifically, Councillor Scully:

- Helped to establish Abbie House transitional housing in collaboration with Women's Community Shelters (WCS), SCAPE student housing and City West in 2021 which delivers affordable housing, with wraparound support and an exit pathway for women escaping violence.
- Worked with former Councillor Philip Thalys to initiate the City's Alternative Housing Ideas Challenge. That resulted in entries from around the world for new housing models to increase affordable housing supply across our city and reduce housing stress.
- Secured free access to early childhood care and education for families seeking asylum from July 2022.
- Advocated for the "map of fun" approach to rebuilding a thriving nightlife and creative ecosystem across the City and together with former Councillor Jess Miller supported:
 - Streamlining and extending our Late Night Trading Development Control Plan to include the establishment of the North Alexandria Entertainment Precinct.
 - New Open and Creative Planning Reforms.

- Requested the Chief Executive Officer to investigate the principles of community wealth building and establishing a local preference policy. This resulted in a draft discussion paper on Community Wealth Building (CWB) which will guide thinking as the City develops a new Economic Development Strategy.
- Championed the Laneway Commons and community-led greening of our city by asking the City to develop a dedicated laneway gardens guideline to enable more citizen-led greening initiatives, turning grey laneways into green oases – this was a key idea included in Sustainable Sydney 2030-2050: Continuing the Vision.
- Advocated for a “Cities for Play” framework to be incorporated into our long-term strategic work, to make the City more welcoming to families with kids, to create more opportunities for play and to build dwellings which accommodate family life.
- Requested the City to work with key government agencies to investigate a process for simplified street closures for community events.
- Facilitated a meeting between the Australian Parents for Climate Action (AP4CA) network and the Minister for Education to work through the obstacles that schools face in getting support for renewable energy initiatives, which has the potential to significantly reduce energy costs and their carbon footprints.
- Launched a parliamentary petition garnering over 12,000 signatures which resulted in Service NSW creating the Micro-Business Support Covid-19 Support Grant, to ensure that small business operators and sole traders would receive the same support as their larger counterparts, and to ensure they would survive the lockdown period.
- Enabled sustainable and energy efficient infrastructure in Heritage Conservation Areas through a motion which asked the City to remove planning control restrictions on solar panels, water tanks and other house-level modifications for sustainability.
- Proposed a motion for the Local Government NSW conference that called on the NSW Government to fund Aerial Bundled Cabling for councils across NSW, that would reduce the over-pruning of trees around powerlines, make our streets cooler and our electricity infrastructure more resilient against fires and storms.

Councillor Scully supported:

- a Covid-19 response package and community recovery plan;
- the Alfresco Dining program;
- the Oxford Street creative and cultural precinct planning controls;
- the Bathurst Street Creative Spaces;
- the City using participatory democracy models to draw in a more diverse range of voices in the development of Sustainable Sydney 2030-2050. The City worked with the Democracy Foundation to establish a Citizens Jury of 50 people who live, work and play in the City;
- Sydney becoming a fossil fuel ad free zone;
- state-wide standards for pedestrian and child safety around childcare centres, in keeping with the City of Sydney’s policy of 40km/h across our local government area to save lives on our streets;

- the establishment of an AIDS Memorial in Green Park, supported by a community campaign which generated over 1200 signatures calling for a lasting memorial to a tragic period in Sydney's history; and
- age-appropriate housing and priority social housing for older people in support of the Housing for the Aged Action Group.

In 2020, Councillor Scully published *Glimpses of Utopia: Real Ideas for a Fairer World*, which was shortlisted in the Australian Book Industry Awards in 2021.

Described by the *Canberra Times* as bristling and bustling with ideas, the book draws on the experience of people across the globe who reimagine work and care, finance and government, urban planning and communication, to make a better and fairer world for all. The international diplomat, Christiana Figueres, described *Glimpses of Utopia* as “the kind of compelling vision we need.”

I think that in 2023, it is appalling that Councillors aren't eligible for parental leave, sick leave, compassionate leave, or carer's leave, or even payment beyond a minor stipend when they have to make important decisions for their communities and spend serious time on their council responsibilities. Because of that, there are fundamental barriers to public service for many in our community, because it's necessary to earn a living and contribute to family needs.

If we want diverse representation in local government -- to have younger people, people in caring stages of their lives, parents, people from diverse backgrounds, people with disabilities -- we have to ensure that structures are in place to support people like Councillor Scully with caring responsibilities.

I invite you to join me in commending Councillor Scully on her significant contribution to the City of Sydney and to wish her well in her future endeavours.

Following Councillor Scully's resignation, the Electoral Commission will complete a “countback election” to select her replacement, which is expected will be the next person on the Clover Moore Independent Team ticket. At the last election, we ran with a strong independent ticket of talented candidates – and Adam Worling was next on our ticket.

Adam has been a resident of the City for 35 years, training as a chef before moving into public relations, where he has worked for Sydney retail and fashion brands, and he has played a key role in arts and charity organisations. I'm delighted Adam will nominate for the countback election as he will be great advocate for City communities.

Recommendation

It is resolved that Council:

- (A) commend Councillor Jess Scully on her significant contribution to the City of Sydney communities and to Council and wish her well in her future endeavours; and
- (B) note that a countback election will be held by the NSW Electoral Commission in accordance with the Resolution of Council adopted on 23 December 2021.

COUNCILLOR CLOVER MOORE

Lord Mayor

Moved by the Chair (the Lord Mayor), seconded by Councillor Kok –

That the Minute by the Lord Mayor be endorsed and adopted.

Carried unanimously.

Note – following discussion and voting on this item, the Chair (the Lord Mayor), all Councillors, staff and members of the public present acknowledged Councillor Scully's achievements with a standing ovation.

S051491

Item 3.3 The Future of Our Community Centres

Minute by the Lord Mayor

To Council:

The City of Sydney is committed to building an inclusive and vibrant city in which we all come together to improve our individual and collective wellbeing. Our community facilities are vital to this endeavour.

Our community centres, creative centres and venues for hire promote lifelong learning, healthy lifestyles and artistic expression. In addition, our libraries run community programs and provide rooms for the community to run their own activities. We also take our services to people's homes, including Meals on Wheels and the Home Library Service.

Along with the community, our caring and passionate staff work hard to respond to community need and create spaces that are welcoming and build social cohesion.

Support for our community centres

Since 2004, the City has invested almost half a billion dollars in our community and recreation facilities. This includes nine new community facilities and three new recreation facilities, with another two new community facilities under construction. In addition, we have undertaken major upgrades of three community facilities and three recreation facilities, with another community centre upgrade underway and another planned and committed.

Support for our most vulnerable community members during Covid

When our community facilities closed during Covid, City staff quickly moved to deliver our activities online to ensure we could continue to connect people and prevent social isolation. In addition, City staff made daily calls to vulnerable visitors to provide them with personalised support and referrals where necessary. We also offered our community spaces free of charge for use as vaccination and testing locations, support centres for vulnerable communities, and food distribution centres.

Post Covid Recovery

As we emerged from Covid lockdowns in 2022, the City took action to encourage people to return to our community facilities, especially those feeling lonely and isolated.

Additional staff

Following my Lord Mayoral Minute, we increased funding for community facilities by 20 per cent in last year's budget (i.e. 2022/23). In recognition of the important role frontline staff play in bringing the community together, this extra \$1.2 million was used to add 9.6 new staff positions to our community centres.

One staff member was allocated to St Helen's Community Centre in Glebe, and another to our Aboriginal knowledge and cultural centre at 119 Redfern Street. Yet another was allocated to the Community Venues Team to help people who need extra support to book our venues, make enquiries or request fee waivers.

The other 6.6 additional staff positions are working across our community facilities, organising additional classes, including cooking, art and fitness classes. We now run over 70 programs across our community facilities each week.

Enhanced facilities

When the site was no longer needed as a vaccination clinic, the renovation of 119 Redfern Street began in April 2022. With a new lift and refurbished interior, the centre will provide a beautiful new space for our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community when it opens later this year. In this year's budget (i.e. 2023/24), staff will request another full-time position to work with the community at this site.

Construction on our major upgrade of Pymont Community Centre began in September, with a new lift, community room, foyer, bathroom and play area due for completion in early 2024.

During this time, the air conditioning upgrades at Ultimo and Redfern Community Centres commenced, as did our project to enhance Wi-Fi access across our facilities. And we continued working with the Department of Education to deliver community spaces at Green Square Public School.

Improved access

Following the Council resolution to waive fees for community groups, the City raised awareness among grassroots advocates and organisations about our fee waiver.

In addition, we set about simplifying our community insurance policy so that – should Council approve it in this year's budget – there will be one fee under the City's community insurance policy for hiring our community facilities, rather than three, with the fee waiver still available to eligible community groups.

We also introduced a monthly email newsletter for every community centre, and we display printed versions of our upcoming activities in our facilities for people who are unable to access this information online.

In November and December, we held Community Centre Open Days across the City, encouraging people to sample the services and activities, which was reassuring for people who may have been reluctant to return because of Covid.

Community survey results

In line with our record of effective, open and equitable consultation, late last year we conducted a survey across the City asking people what they wanted from our community centres. I asked the Chief Executive Officer for an update on the results of this survey to include in this Lord Mayoral Minute.

We received almost 800 responses, half of which were from people over 50 and one third of which were in Chinese. Eleven per cent of respondents said they had no internet at home, eight per cent of respondents identified as having a disability, and eight per cent identified as having a mental health condition.

The top 10 facilities visited by respondents were Green Square Library, Customs House Library, Ron Williams Community Centre, Darling Square Library, Ultimo Community Centre, Glebe Library, Surry Hills Library, Ultimo Library, Newtown Library and Waterloo Library.

When asked what they like about our centres, respondents said they liked being able to learn something new, connect with people, participate in our activities and use our services (including our study spaces and computers). One person described their centre as "a bridge to meet friends", and another person said our centres "create spaces for people to gather, to get to know others, to read, to learn, to be safe, to be warm on a cold day".

When asked how we could improve our community centres, almost half of the respondents said they like what we do but they want more of it.

Generally, our facilities are open on the days and times people want to attend, however, six per cent of people requested longer operating hours, particularly at our libraries. While 17 per cent of respondents wanted us to improve our facilities, only six per cent identified specific improvements, such as more computers, seats and books.

Investing in the future

To ensure our community facilities continue to meet the needs of our community now and into the future, I would like to see the following improvements.

Increased access to facilities

The City has two types of community centres - large multipurpose community centres like Ultimo Community Centre, and smaller local community centres like Cliff Noble Community Centre. Of the City's five large multipurpose community centres, Juanita Nielsen Community Centre, Ultimo Community Centre, Pyrmont Community Centre and King George V Recreation Centre are in the north, with just Redfern Community Centre in the south.

We need to increase access to facilities and activities as requested by survey respondents, and we need to distribute them equitably. I would like staff to investigate ways to enhance access to community facilities in the southern part of the city. This could include through partnerships with the NSW Government.

Increased hours and activities

I would like staff to review opening hours in certain centres, as well as the type and number of activities offered, with a view to increasing them in line with the survey responses. People told us they want more creative and cultural activities, and activities for young people and older people. Suggestions for activities over and above those we already offer included indoor bowls, bridge classes, woodworking and lithography classes, as well as book clubs in our libraries.

Streamlined booking system

City staff have been supporting community members to navigate our current booking system. The City has been working towards developing a new streamlined online booking system that enhances access to our facilities. I would like staff to ensure sufficient resources are allocated to this IT upgrade in this year's budget, and thereby secure its completion by the end of next year.

More community participation in managing our Community Centres

The community want a more robust process for receiving updates and providing feedback to staff on our various community facilities and activities. I asked the City to develop a new process to embed community participation into the management of our community facilities and deliver a more robust process for responding to local community needs. The City will invite the local community, including resident action group representatives, to meet with centre staff and management twice a year to enable local community feedback, collaboration and information sharing.

This improved collaboration model may be refined over the next 12 months, and will help City staff with their planning and ensure resources are shared equitably across our Local Government Area.

Recommendation

It is resolved that:

(A) Council note:

- (i) since 2004, the City has invested almost half a billion dollars in its community and recreation facilities;
- (ii) throughout Covid, the City's community facilities and staff played an important role in supporting our most vulnerable communities;
- (iii) in last year's budget, the City increased funding for community facilities by 20 per cent, with the additional \$1.2 million used to create another 9.6 staff positions across our community facilities;
- (iv) in addition, the City enhanced a number of its community facilities, including the refurbishment of 119 Redfern Street and the major upgrade of Pymont Community Centre;
- (v) further, the City increased access to its community facilities by raising awareness of its fee waiver for eligible community groups, developing a simplified insurance fee structure, introducing newsletters for every centre, and hosting open days; and
- (vi) at the end of 2022, almost 800 people participated in the City's survey on our community facilities, with the majority of respondents stating they enjoy our facilities and activities and want more of them, and some respondents providing useful suggestions for how we could make our community facilities even better; and

(B) the Chief Executive Officer be requested to:

- (i) investigate options for increasing access to community facilities, especially in the southern part of the Local Government Area, including through partnerships with the NSW Government and in consultation with communities through an improved collaboration model;
- (ii) investigate what resources are needed to increase opening hours and the number and types of activities in our community facilities, in line with the community survey results;
- (iii) include sufficient resources in this year's budget to ensure the streamlined online booking system for community facilities is operational by the end of next year; and
- (iv) embed community participation into the management of our community centres by inviting the community to meet with centre staff and management twice a year to enable local community feedback, collaboration and information sharing.

COUNCILLOR CLOVER MOORE

Lord Mayor

Moved by the Chair (the Lord Mayor), seconded by Councillor Davis –

That the Minute by the Lord Mayor be endorsed and adopted.

Amendment. Moved by Councillor Scott, seconded by the Chair (the Lord Mayor) -

That the Minute be amended by the addition of clause (B)(i) to read as follows –

(B) the Chief Executive Officer be requested to:

- (i) ensure that all community centres and facilities are appropriately staffed to operate the facilities effectively;
- (ii) investigate options for increasing access to community facilities, especially in the southern part of the Local Government Area, including through partnerships with the NSW Government and in consultation with communities through an improved collaboration model;
- (iii) investigate what resources are needed to increase opening hours and the number and types of activities in our community facilities, in line with the community survey results;
- (iv) include sufficient resources in this year's budget to ensure the streamlined online booking system for community facilities is operational by the end of next year; and
- (v) embed community participation into the management of our community centres by inviting the community to meet with centre staff and management twice a year to enable local community feedback, collaboration and information sharing.

Amendment carried unanimously.

The amended Minute was carried unanimously.

S051491

Item 4 Memoranda by the Chief Executive Officer

Item 4.1 Appointment of New Attorneys and Revocation of Prior Powers of Attorney

Memorandum by the Chief Executive Officer

To Council:

A Resolution of Council is sought to:

1. revoke a number of existing power of attorney instruments; and
2. grant a new power of attorney to each person occupying a role in the Executive of the Council from time to time.

Background

Historically Council has granted powers of attorney to certain senior staff to give effect to the decisions of Council.

Previously, individual powers of attorney have been granted by the Council to the Chief Executive Officer and certain Directors by name. This approach is cumbersome because each power of attorney needs to be revoked when there is a change in identity of relevant Director occupying the relevant role.

The form of power of attorney used is also outdated, comprising of one long paragraph that is difficult for non-lawyers to understand.

On 12 December 2022, Council noted:

- (A) *the recommendation to revoke each current Power of Attorney and grant a new Power of Attorney to each permanent Director role at the City of Sydney;*
- (B) *that a further report to Council to revoke each current power of attorney and grant a new power of attorney to each permanent Director role will be provided to Council for approval in 2023;*
- (C) *that each current Power of Attorney will remain in full force and effect until Council makes a resolution to revoke each Power of Attorney;*

To address the issues identified above, staff have prepared a new form of power of attorney, pursuant to which the Council appoints as attorney

1. each person employed by the Council whose title includes the term "Director"; and
2. the Chief Operating Officer, Chief Financial Officer and Chief Executive Officer,

from time to time.

Following the adoption of the new power of attorney by Council resolution the Lord Mayor will also need to issue a letter that can be updated as the members of the Executive change, as evidence of

the identity of Council's Executive from time to time. The letter will be provided as evidence that the specific person using the power of attorney has the power to bind the Council.

The power of attorney will apply to each Director as appointed and the letter will be updated each time there is a change of Director.

It will also be necessary to revoke the following powers of attorney:

1. power of attorney granted to Kirsten Tara Morrin dated 2 December 2019;
2. power of attorney granted to William Ross Carter dated 7 November 2016;
3. power of attorney granted to Kim Philip Woodbury dated 7 November 2016; and
4. power of attorney granted to Patricia Monica Barone dated 29 June 2009.

Recommendation

It is resolved that:

Revocation of Power of Attorney Instruments

- (A) the power of attorney granted to William Ross Carter be revoked in the form shown at Attachment C to the subject memorandum, which is to be executed under the Common Seal of Council;
- (B) the power of attorney granted to Patricia Monica Barone be revoked in the form shown at Attachment D to the subject memorandum, which is to be executed under the Common Seal of Council;
- (C) the power of attorney granted to Kirsten Tara Morrin be revoked in the form shown at Attachment E to the subject memorandum, which is to be executed under the Common Seal of Council; and
- (D) the power of attorney granted to Kim Philip Woodbury be revoked in the form shown at Attachment F to the subject memorandum, which is to be executed under the Common Seal of Council;

Appointment of New Power of Attorney and Attorney List

- (E) a new power of attorney be granted to each person occupying a role in the Executive of Council from time to time, in the form shown at Attachment A to the subject memorandum, which is to be executed under the Common Seal of Council;
- (F) the attorney list (setting out the current members of the Executive) as shown at Attachment B to the subject memorandum be signed by the Lord Mayor; and
- (G) authority be delegated to the Lord Mayor to sign and issue further versions of the attorney list when necessary due to change in the identity of people occupying a role in the Executive of Council or due to the elapsing of time.

MONICA BARONE

Chief Executive Officer

Attachments

Attachment A. New Power of Attorney

Attachment B. Power of Attorney List

Attachment C. Revocation of Power of Attorney - William Ross Carter

Attachment D. Revocation of Power of Attorney - Patricia Monica Barone

Attachment E. Revocation of Power of Attorney - Kirsten Tara Morrin

Attachment F. Revocation of Power of Attorney - Kim Philip Woodbury

Moved by the Chair (the Lord Mayor), seconded by Councillor Kok –

It is resolved that:

- (A) the power of attorney granted to William Ross Carter be revoked in the form shown at Attachment C to the subject memorandum, which is to be executed under the Common Seal of Council;
- (B) the power of attorney granted to Patricia Monica Barone be revoked in the form shown at Attachment D to the subject memorandum, which is to be executed under the Common Seal of Council;
- (C) the power of attorney granted to Kirsten Tara Morrin be revoked in the form shown at Attachment E to the subject memorandum, which is to be executed under the Common Seal of Council;
- (D) the power of attorney granted to Kim Philip Woodbury be revoked in the form shown at Attachment F to the subject memorandum, which is to be executed under the Common Seal of Council;
- (E) a new power of attorney be granted to each person occupying a role in the Executive of Council from time to time, in the form shown at Attachment A to the subject memorandum, which is to be executed under the Common Seal of Council;
- (F) the attorney list (setting out the current members of the Executive) as shown at Attachment B to the subject memorandum be signed by the Lord Mayor; and
- (G) authority be delegated to the Lord Mayor to sign and issue further versions of the attorney list when necessary due to change in the identity of people occupying a role in the Executive of Council or due to the elapsing of time.

Carried unanimously.

X095048

Item 5 Matters for Tabling**5.1 Disclosures of Interest**

Moved by the Chair (the Lord Mayor), seconded by Councillor Scully –

It is resolved that the Disclosures of Interest returns be received and noted.

Carried unanimously.

Item 6 Report of the Corporate, Finance, Properties and Tenders Committee

PRESENT

The Lord Mayor Councillor Clover Moore

(Chair)

Councillor Jess Scully

(Deputy Chair)

Deputy Lord Mayor Councillor Sylvie Ellsmore, Councillors HY William Chan, (Waskam) Emelda Davis, Lyndon Gannon, Shauna Jarrett, Robert Kok, Linda Scott and Yvonne Weldon.

At the commencement of business at 2.02pm those present were -

The Lord Mayor, Councillors Chan, Davis, Ellsmore, Gannon, Jarrett, Kok, Scott, Scully and Weldon.

The meeting of the Corporate, Finance, Properties and Tenders Committee concluded at 2.14pm.

Report of the Corporate, Finance, Properties and Tenders Committee

Moved by Councillor Scully, seconded by Councillor Kok –

That the report of the Corporate, Finance, Properties and Tenders Committee of its meeting of 27 March 2023 be received, with Items 6.1 and 6.2 being noted, and the recommendations set out below for Items 6.3 to 6.5 inclusive being adopted in globo.

Carried unanimously.

Item 6.1

Confirmation of Minutes

Moved by Councillor Scully, seconded by Councillor Kok –

That the Minutes of the meeting of the Corporate, Finance, Properties and Tenders Committee of Monday 6 March 2023, as circulated to Councillors, be confirmed.

Carried unanimously.

Item 6.2**Statement of Ethical Obligations and Disclosures of Interest**

Councillor Linda Scott disclosed a less than significant, non-pecuniary interest in Item 6.5 on the agenda, in that she is a Council-nominated member of SSROC, which has conducted the joint tender.

Councillor Scott considers that this non-pecuniary conflict of interest is not significant and does not require further action in the circumstances because she represents the council on SSROC, in order to make decisions in the public interest.

No other Councillors disclosed any pecuniary or non-pecuniary interests in any matters on the agenda for this meeting of the Corporate, Finance, Properties and Tenders Committee.

The Corporate, Finance, Properties and Tenders Committee recommended the following:-

Item 6.3**Public Exhibition - Naming Proposal - Mount Carmel Place, Waterloo**

It is resolved that Council:

- (A) provide in-principle approval to name the road "Mount Carmel Place" and that the name be placed in public exhibition for community comment for a minimum period of 28 days; and
- (B) note that a further report will be submitted to Council, detailing the results of the public consultation process.

Carried unanimously.

X084997

Item 6.4**Tender - T-2021-611 - Town Hall House Façade Remediation**

It is resolved that:

- (A) Council accept the tender offer of Tenderer D for the Town Hall Façade Remediation Project for the price and contingency outlined in Confidential Attachment A to the subject report;
- (B) Council note that the total contract sum and contingency for the Town Hall House Façade Remediation project is outlined in Confidential Attachment A to the subject report; and
- (C) authority be delegated to the Chief Executive Officer to finalise, execute, and administer the contracts relating to the tender.

Carried unanimously.

X008580.001

Item 6.5

Exemption from Tender and Contract Variation - Mattress Collection and Processing Services

It is resolved that:

- (A) Council approve an exemption from tender in accordance with section 55(3)(i) of the Local Government Act 1993 for Mattress Collection and Processing Services to extend the term of the existing contract of two additional terms of 12 months each;
- (B) Council note that a satisfactory result would not be achieved by inviting tenders because:
 - (i) the current supplier, approved by Council on 13 August 2018, is one of the two companies that specialise in mattress collection and processing services that are already on the SSROC panel of suppliers and currently there are no additional suppliers; and
 - (ii) SSROC has received information from other councils who have invited tenders and received submissions that were significantly higher in price than SSROCS's contract, meaning that SSROC's contract provides the best value for money service for Council;
- (C) Council approve a contract variation for Mattress Collection and Processing Services to extend the term of the existing contract for two additional terms of 12 months each;
- (D) Council note the total contract sum and contingency for Mattress Collection and Processing Services outlined in Confidential Attachment A to the subject report; and
- (E) authority be delegated to the Chief Executive Officer to finalise, execute, administer the variation to the contract and enter into any necessary documentation with the current supplier to give effect to the resolutions above.

Carried unanimously.

X011995.005

Item 7 Report of the Transport, Heritage, Environment and Planning Committee**PRESENT**

The Lord Mayor Councillor Clover Moore

(Chair)

Councillor HY William Chan

(Deputy Chair)

Deputy Lord Mayor Councillor Sylvie Ellsmore, Councillors (Waskam) Emelda Davis, Lyndon Gannon, Shauna Jarrett, Robert Kok, Linda Scott, Jess Scully and Yvonne Weldon.

At the commencement of business at 2.15pm those present were -

The Lord Mayor, Councillors Chan, Davis, Ellsmore, Gannon, Jarrett, Kok, Scott, Scully and Weldon.

The meeting of the Transport, Heritage, Environment and Planning Committee concluded at 2.44pm.

Report of the Transport, Heritage, Environment and Planning Committee

Moved by Councillor Chan, seconded by Councillor Kok –

That the report of the Transport, Heritage, Environment and Planning Committee of its meeting of 27 March 2023 be received, with Items 7.1 and 7.2 being noted, the recommendations set out below for Items 7.3 and 7.5 being adopted in globo, and Item 7.4 being dealt with as shown immediately following those items.

Carried unanimously.

Item 7.1**Confirmation of Minutes**

Moved by Councillor Chan, seconded by Councillor Scully –

That the Minutes of the meeting of the Transport, Heritage, Environment and Planning Committee of Monday 6 March 2023, as circulated to Councillors, be confirmed.

Carried unanimously.

Item 7.2

Statement of Ethical Obligations and Disclosures of Interest

Councillor Sylvie Ellsmore disclosed a less than significant, non-pecuniary interest in Item 7.4 on the agenda, in that the policy includes political advertising, which impacts political parties. She is an elected member of The Greens NSW.

Councillor Ellsmore considers that this non-pecuniary conflict of interest is not significant and does not require further action in the circumstances because the policy applies to all political parties and political candidates equally. Changes to the policy in relation to political advertising would not provide a specific benefit or detriment which would require her to exempt herself from debate or voting on this item.

Councillor Linda Scott disclosed a less than significant, non-pecuniary interest in Item 7.4 on the agenda, in that she is a member of the NSW Labour Party, which has from time to time, used bill posters and other public signs during election campaign periods.

Councillor Scott considers that this non-pecuniary conflict of interest is not significant and does not require further action in the circumstances because she considers this policy in order to make decisions in the public interest in her role as a Councillor.

No other Councillors disclosed any pecuniary or non-pecuniary interests in any matters on the agenda for this meeting of the Transport, Heritage, Environment and Planning Committee.

Item 7.3

Project Scope - Crown Street Upgrade

Note - The Transport, Heritage, Environment and Planning Committee decided that consideration of this matter shall be deferred to the meeting of Council on 3 April 2023.

At the meeting of Council, the Officer's Recommendation was moved by Councillor Chan, seconded by Councillor Kok -

It is resolved that Council:

- (A) endorse the project scope for the Crown Street Upgrade, as described in the subject report and as generally indicated at Attachment A to the subject report, for progression to detailed design, documentation and construction of works;
- (B) note the financial implications as outlined in Confidential Attachment D to the subject report; and
- (C) approve the additional funds required to deliver the project as outlined in Confidential Attachment D to the subject report.

Carried unanimously.

X082236

Speaker

Julie Hamblin addressed the meeting of the Transport, Heritage, Environment and Planning Committee on Item 7.3.

The Transport, Heritage, Environment and Planning Committee recommended the following:

Item 7.4

Post Exhibition - Graffiti Management Policy

Moved by Councillor Chan, seconded by Councillor Ellsmore -

It is resolved that:

- (A) Council note the submissions received from the community on the exhibited draft Graffiti Management Policy, as shown in Attachment A to the subject report;
- (B) Council adopt the Graffiti Management Policy as shown at Attachment B to the subject report; and
- (C) authority be delegated to the Chief Executive Officer to make amendments to the Graffiti Management Policy in order to correct any minor drafting errors and finalise design, artwork and accessible formats for publication.

Amendment. Moved by Councillor Ellsmore, seconded by Councillor Chan –

It is resolved that:

- (A) Council note the submissions received from the community on the exhibited draft Graffiti Management Policy, as shown in Attachment A to the subject report;
- (B) Council adopt the Graffiti Management Policy as shown at Attachment B to the subject report;
- (C) Council receive advice via the CEO Update about potential locations for additional poster pillars and 'character precincts' (where community posters and notices are allowed for extended display), particularly in the south of the Local Government Area; and
- (D) authority be delegated to the Chief Executive Officer to make amendments to the Graffiti Management Policy in order to correct any minor drafting errors and finalise design, artwork and accessible formats for publication

Amendment carried unanimously.

Amended motion carried unanimously.

X027344.007

Item 7.5

Fire Safety Reports

It is resolved that Council:

- (A) note the contents of the Fire Safety Reports Summary Sheet, as shown at Attachment A to the subject report;
- (B) note the inspection reports by Fire and Rescue NSW, as shown at Attachments B to D of the subject report;
- (C) note the contents of Attachment B and not exercise its power under the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 to issue a Fire Safety Order at 100 Broadway, Chippendale at this time;
- (D) note the contents of Attachment C and that City officers have exercised their power to issue a Notice of Intention under the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 to issue a Fire Safety Order at 18-20 Allen Street, Pyrmont; and
- (E) note the contents of Attachment D and not exercise its power under the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 to issue a Fire Safety Order at 1 Dixon Street, Sydney at this time.

Carried unanimously.

S105001.002

Procedural Motion

At this stage of the meeting, it was moved by Councillor Scott, seconded by Councillor Weldon –

That a motion without notice 'Alexandra Hospital for Children Plaque' be considered by the meeting.

Carried unanimously.

The Chair (the Lord Mayor) ruled the motion without notice 'Alexandra Hospital for Children Plaque', to be of great urgency in accordance with clause 8.3(b) of the Code of Meeting Practice, and advised that this item would be dealt with after Item 10.14.

Item 8 Questions on Notice

1. Greenhouse Tech Hub

By Councillor Jarrett

Question

The City of Sydney has committed \$29 million in support of the new Greenhouse Tech Hub which had its official unveiling on 15 March 2023.

What is the policy justification behind the committal of \$22 million out of the \$29 million being put towards negotiated rent abatement?

X086666

Answer by the Chief Executive Officer

Council approved this Accommodation Grant in accordance with the City's Grants and Sponsorship Policy at Item 11 - [George Street Business Innovation Space – Award of Accommodation Grant and Recommended Operator](#) of the 28 June 2021 Council meeting.

The relevant resolutions of Council are –

- (C) *Council approve an Accommodation Grant to Innovillage Pty Ltd for the Property:*
- (i) *at 100 per cent subsidy (as detailed in Confidential Attachment B to the subject report) for a four (4) year period subject to a four per cent annual increase, commencing on the completion of fit-out construction works and at a 50 per cent subsidy (valued at 50 per cent of the market rental to be determined at the commencement of year five of the sublease and subject to a four per cent annual increase) for a further six (6) year period;*
- (D) *authority be delegated to the Chief Executive Officer to negotiate, execute and administer relevant agreements with the operation of the innovation space in accordance with the Grants and Sponsorship Policy, include a Heads of Agreement and sublease.*

The rental subsidies as approved by Council were calculated based on market value and equate to \$22M over 10 years. \$7M was provided by Lendlease towards fitout costs.

2. Placement of Communication Pylons and Street Furniture

By Councillor Jarrett

Question

The City has committed to carrying out an external review of communication pylons and street furniture to identify those which negatively impact the public domain and pedestrian amenity.

1. What is the mechanism available to the public to provide submissions whilst the review is being conducted?
2. Will residents and businesses be able to comment on the review's recommendations/report once finalised?
3. Who conducted the review and how much did it cost?

X086666

Answer by the Chief Executive Officer

The City is currently carrying out a review which is being undertaken by external experts. It has incorporated community feedback received to date. Given the City's contractual obligations, once the review is completed and options considered we need to determine the best way to communicate and implement the findings. Until we understand the impact we are not certain of the best way to do this.

3. Soft Plastic Recycling Service

By Councillor Scott

Question

The City's former soft plastic recycling provider was RecycleSmart, however a recent Council decision appointed a new provider.

1. How long did the City contract RecycleSmart for?
2. How many City of Sydney residents and others signed up to RecycleSmart via the City of Sydney?
3. How much did the City pay RecycleSmart in total? Broken down by year?
4. How many unique email addresses signed up via the City of Sydney continue to be customers of RecycleSmart? Outside the City's contract with RecycleSmart, what revenue did RecycleSmart earn from people signed up via the City?
5. How has the City captured data from RecycleSmart to migrate to the new provider? What protections did the City seek about this in the former contract?
6. What has RecycleSmart communicated to City residents since they are no longer working with the City? What protections did the City seek about this?
7. How much soft plastic did RecycleSmart collect for the City? Broken down by year?

8. What was produced with the soft plastic RecycleSmart collected? How much profit did they generate from this? How many jobs did this create?
9. How many residents have remained customers of the new service and how many have left?
10. What were the criteria for consideration when the City tendered for a new service?
11. Does the new provider collect soft plastics? If so, how much soft plastic has the new provider collected for the City? If not, why not?
12. What is allocated in the City's 2023/24 budget for soft plastic recycling?
13. How is the City of Sydney informing residents of the new service?
14. What is the City telling residents to do with soft plastic?

X086668

Answer by the Chief Executive Officer

1. From November 2020 to February 2023.
2. 2,470 City of Sydney residents used the Doorstep Recycling Service when RecycleSmart was the Service Provider. City of Sydney residents signed up directly with RecycleSmart.
- 3.

Year	Amount (excl GST)
2020	\$ 10,000
2021	\$ 60,000
2022	\$ 60,000
2023	\$ 10,000
Total	\$ 140,000

4. The City doesn't have this information. This information is held by RecycleSmart.
5. RecycleSmart provided the City with monthly service reports that included number of bookings per suburb per day, number of bags collected and amount of different materials collected. This data was provided to the new service provider to assist them to plan their collection runs.
6. The City is aware that RecycleSmart emailed their customers who live in the City of Sydney on 16 February 2023 about the change in service providers.
7. RecycleSmart reported on the volume of soft plastics that were collected from each household. They reported that an estimated 54 per cent of the total volume of the bags they collected were soft plastics.

8. The soft plastics were processed through an arrangement that the City had with a local processor to recycle the soft plastics into granular pellets that are then turned into new products like plastic furniture, signage and road base. RecycleSmart did not have an arrangement with a soft plastics recycler when they were the City's Service Provider, they just collected the soft plastics and delivered them to a City of Sydney depot.
9. This is unknown as the new Service Provider is still transitioning into providing the service and customers are still joining the service.
10. Organisational ability to carry out the work under the contract terms including service delivery and program methodology including bookings, collections, sorting and transportation.

Company experience and managerial capability, qualifications and experience of personnel including Indigenous and sub-contractor involvement.

Demonstrated capacity to meet the requirements outlined for communications and marketing including customer interaction and innovation.

Demonstrated commitment to environmental management and quality assurance.

Items proposed to be collected and ability to meet data collection and reporting requirements.

Work, Health and Safety Policy including a Covid-19 safety plan; and

Financial and commercial integrity including insurances.

The schedule of rates and economies of scale.

11. Not currently as the City has not been able to find a suitable soft plastics processor to recycle the collected soft plastics from the service. The City manages the processing arrangements for each stream collected from the service, including soft plastics. The City is looking into available processors that may be available to recycle soft plastics from residents.
12. This amount is part of the overall processing budget in the Cleansing and Waste operational budget, with costs to be known following a tender process,
13. The City have informed residents through the below methods:
 - City of Sydney [website](#) and doorsteprecycling.com.au
 - [City of Sydney news announcement](#)
 - City of Sydney news digest - 14 March 2023
 - City of Sydney waste and recycling electronic direct mail (EDM) – scheduled for 6 April 2023
 - Email to building managers
 - Letters and flyers sent to customers that have used the service previously.
 - Paid Facebook ads
 - Paid Google Ads
 - Media release
 - Posters and flyers

- Face to face promotion at waste outreach stalls x 10 at libraries community centres, Wentworth Park and Ian Thorpe Aquatic Centre
14. The City of Sydney will continue to advocate for improvements to the industry so soft plastics can be recycled in the future and will keep the community updated with any new recycling options for residents. In the meantime, residents will need to dispose of them in their red lid bin.

4. Use and Hire of Council Community Centres, Halls, Meeting Rooms and Other Community Facilities

By Councillor Ellsmore

Question

1. What are the names and locations of the Council-run indoor spaces that are available for community hire, including community centres, halls, meeting rooms (including library meeting rooms)?

Please list the name and address of each indoor community space for hire (for example Redfern Town Hall, 73 Pitt Street Redfern).

2. Where is the list of Council indoor community spaces for hire currently found on the City of Sydney Council website? If found in more than one location, please provide details.
3. What other indoor spaces Council are available for hire by the community, including:
- (a) Council-owned venues which are currently leased to another organisation to manage?
 - (b) Non-Council venues with whom Council has a lease or licence arrangement, which enables or facilitates community hire and use?

Please include the name, address and current organisation managing each venue.

4. Of the Council indoor community spaces for hire (at question 1), which of these spaces are for specific activities (for example, rooms with specific art equipment or music equipment)?
5. Of the Council indoor community spaces for hire (at question 1), which are staffed with local City of Sydney Council staff, based at the venue?
6. Of the Council indoor community spaces for hire (at question 1), which are available for hire:
- (a) At any time period, including evenings and weekends and
 - (b) For specific hours only (for example during opening hours)?
7. How does Council track and report on the use of its indoor community spaces (at question 1)? Please include details of:
- (a) Any public reports (and where the public can access these), and
 - (b) Any key internal or administrative reports.
8. How does Council track and report on the use of:
- (a) Council-owned indoor spaces which are managed by other organisations; and

- (b) Non-Council venues with whom Council has a lease or licence arrangement, which enables or facilitates community hire and use?

Please provide details.

9. What are the visitor or usage statistics for Council's indoor community spaces, in total, for the following financial years:
 - (a) 2019/2020
 - (b) 2020/2021
 - (c) 2021/2022
 - (d) 2022/2023 so far?
10. Is a breakdown of these figures available by venue? If yes please provide details, or advice about where this information is available in a Council document.
11. How many bookings were made to hire Council indoor community spaces, in total, for the following financial years:
 - (a) 2019/2020
 - (b) 2020/2021
 - (c) 2021/2022
 - (d) 2022/2023 so far?
12. Is a breakdown of these figures available by venue? If yes please provide details, or advice about where this information is available in a Council document.
13. Of the total number of hire bookings of indoor community venues by the public (question 11), how many bookings were made by:
 - (a) Incorporated community groups
 - (b) Unincorporated community groups
 - (c) Not for profit organisations
 - (d) For profit organisations and
 - (e) Social enterprises?

Please provide a breakdown by financial year.

14. Of the total number of hire bookings of indoor community venues by the public (question 11), how many were provided a discount or fee waiver on the hire fees?

Please provide a breakdown by financial year:

 - (a) 2019/2020
 - (b) 2020/2021
 - (c) 2021/2022?

15. In the 2022-2023 budget, Council agreed that the fee for community hire of community spaces would be waived upon application, where a group resides in or provides services largely to communities in the City of Sydney. This includes incorporated associations and unincorporated associations whose membership base and purpose is within the City of Sydney Local Government Area.

To date in 2022/2023:

- (a) How many full waivers of fees have been provided?
 - (b) How many discounts or partial fee waivers have been provided?
 - (c) How many insurance waivers, or access to the City of Sydney Council's insurance, have been provided?
16. The City of Sydney's Community Strategy Plan includes a target that by 2050 community cohesion and social interaction will have increased. This is based on at least 75 per cent of the local resident population feeling part of the community, agreeing most people can be trusted and believing that they can get help from their neighbours (Target 10).

What specific targets or actions are included in the City of Sydney's Community Strategy Plan and related documents (including the Delivery Program and Operational Plan) regarding use and access of Council's community facilities?

17. An outcome under Strategic Direction 7 of the City of Sydney's Community Strategy Plan is that everyone has equitable and affordable access to community and cultural facilities and programs, supporting social connection and wellbeing (Outcome 7.2).

What specific actions has the City established to achieve this outcome? What specific actions has the City established in relation to usage of community facilities?

X086664

Answer by the Chief Executive Officer

Refer to the City's website <https://www.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au/places> for details.

Spaces are also available via Accommodation Grant Recipients. Council receives an annual report reviewing the Accommodation Grant Program and all leases. This was last reported to Council in June 2022 and available here -

<https://meetings.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au/ieListDocuments.aspx?CIId=133&MIId=3966&Ver=4>

Usage is reported biannually through Operational Plan reports (Q2 and Q4) via Council Committees and via the Annual Report - <https://www.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au/surveys-case-studies-reports/annual-report>

Fee waiver information is reported quarterly (Supplementary Report) via Council Committees and via the Annual Report - <https://www.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au/surveys-case-studies-reports/annual-report>

Refer to Operational Plan reports (Q2 and Q4) via Council Committees for actions, targets and reporting information.

5. Costs Associated with the Fee Waiver of Community Centres and Venues for Community Groups

By Councillor Ellsmore

Question

1. What is the actual - or if this is not known the estimated - income for Council from hire of its indoor community venues by all groups, for the following financial years:
 - (a) 2019/2020
 - (b) 2020/2021
 - (c) 2021/2022
 - (d) 2022/2023?

2. What is the actual - or if this is not known the estimated - income for Council from hire of its indoor community venues by not for profit groups specifically, for the following financial years:
 - (a) 2019/2020
 - (b) 2020/2021
 - (c) 2021/2022
 - (d) 2022/2023?

3. What is the actual - or if this is not known the estimated – cost for Council from hire of its indoor community venues by all groups, for the following financial years:
 - (a) 2019/2020
 - (b) 2020/2021
 - (c) 2021/2022
 - (d) 2022/2023?

4. What is the actual - or if this is not known the estimated –cost for Council from hire of its indoor community venues by not for profit groups specifically, for the following financial years:
 - (a) 2019/2020
 - (b) 2020/2021
 - (c) 2021/2022
 - (d) 2022/2023?

5. For the 2022/23 financial year, what is the estimated total loss of revenue or for the City of Sydney Council resulting from the waiver for community groups to book community centres and venues?

6. What is the budget for providing support (including facilities hire) for community centres and other community venues, for the following financial years:
 - (a) 2019/2020
 - (b) 2020/2021
 - (c) 2021/2022
 - (d) 2022/2023?
7. What is the budget for staffing community centres and other community venues, for the following financial years:
 - (a) 2019/2020
 - (b) 2020/2021
 - (c) 2021/2022
 - (d) 2022/2023?
8. What areas of the Council are responsible for:
 - (a) Providing support for community venue hire by not for profit groups
 - (b) Staffing for community centres and other community venues
 - (c) Maintenance of existing community venues
 - (d) Development of new community venues?
9. What line items in the 2022/2023 Council budget outline the income and costs for:
 - (a) Providing support for community venue hire by not for profit groups
 - (b) Staffing for community centres and other community venues
 - (c) Maintenance of existing community venues
 - (d) Development of new community venues?
10. What is the breakdown of the budget for key activities in relation to community centres and other venues in the 2022/2023 Council budget? Please provide details by number and staff cost, key areas of activity and program costs.

X086664

Answer by the Chief Executive Officer

Refer to relevant Operational Plans <https://www.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au/strategies-action-plans/operational-plan> and Annual Reports <https://www.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au/surveys-case-studies-reports/annual-report>

Fee waiver information is also reported quarterly (Supplementary Report) via Council Committees.

The Operational Plan (budget) generally provides a breakdown by business unit.

Quarterly reports review the operating and capital results against budget for each financial year, and progress against the performance measures identified within the Operational Plan within the broader Delivery Program 2022-2026.

6. Access, Promotion and Staffing of Community Centres and Venues

By Councillor Ellsmore

Question

1. In relation to the Integrated Planning and Reporting Program and Budget 2022/23, Council resolved to, "Demonstrate Council's commitment to proactively encourage increased use of its community venues by community groups in 2022/23, including where possible through reducing hire paperwork, immediate booking over the phone or online, and expanded promotions targeting community groups".

What changes have been implemented to the booking process to facilitate the streamlined booking of community facilities for community groups?
2. What changes, if any, are planned but are yet to be implemented?
3. What is the expected timeline for completion and costs associated with the City's online booking system for the purpose of booking community centres and venues?
4. In what ways has Council proactively encouraged increased use of its community venues by community groups?
5. How has Council expanded the promotion of the free use of community centres to community groups, since the June 2022 Council decision? Please provide details.
6. Have any staff been employed for the purpose of increasing access to community spaces? If yes, please provide details.
7. In an Answer to a Question on Notice of 16 May 2022, it was reported that the 2022/2023 budget included a 20 per cent increase in staffing and programming for community centres and venues, representing 9.6 additional FTE staff and a budget increase of \$1.2 million. This included 3.62 FTE staff for community centres.
 - (a) Where and in what capacity have the additional staff been employed?
 - (b) Specifically in relation to the additional 3.62 FTE staff for community centres: when were staff employed, where are they located, and what activities are they tasked to carry out?
8. What needs analysis or research was used to determine the location and focus of the additional staffing arising from the 20 per cent budget increase in the 2022/23 budget?

9. What consultation was undertaken to determine the location of the additional staffing arising from the 20 per cent budget increase in the 2022/23 budget?
10. Council undertook a community centre survey between 1 November and 15 December 2022. When will the engagement report be released?
11. What other community engagement activities, consultations or other actions does the City implement with the community to ensure community facilities are fit-for-purpose and are responsive to local needs? Please provide details.

X086664

Answer by the Chief Executive Officer

A staff member has been allocated to the Community Venues Team to help people who need extra support to book our venues, make enquiries or request fee waivers.

The City has been working towards developing a new streamlined online booking system that enhances access to our facilities and the project is expected to be completed in mid to late 2024.

Following the Council resolution to waive fees for community groups, the City raised awareness among grassroots advocates and organisations about the fee waiver.

One staff member was allocated to St Helen's Community Centre in Glebe, and another to our Aboriginal knowledge and cultural centre at 119 Redfern Street. Yet another was allocated to the Community Venues Team to help people who need extra support to book our venues, make enquiries or request fee waivers.

The other 6.6 additional staff positions are working across our community facilities, organising additional classes, including cooking, art and fitness classes. We now run over 70 programs across our community facilities each week.

As we reopened our centres after the Covid pandemic we wanted to hear from community what had changed for them, and how we could and should change the programs and services we offer as a result to provide the best possible support – particularly for our most vulnerable community members. To do this, we developed a community survey for all residents, workers and visitors. The survey was open between 1 November and 15 December 2022 and was intended to assist us to understand what people value and to identify opportunities and gaps.

The survey was available in English and Chinese. It was posted on the City's "Your Say" website, and was advertised through e-newsletters, via posters in community centres, word of mouth, direct email and promoted through social media. Paper versions of the survey in English and Chinese were also available in centres.

Survey results were provided to Councillors via the CEO Update on 31 March 2023.

We also introduced a monthly email newsletter for every community centre, and we display printed versions of our upcoming activities in our facilities for people who are unable to access this information online.

In November and December 2022, we held Community Centre Open Days across the City, encouraging people to sample the services and activities, which was reassuring for people who may have been reluctant to return because of Covid. We continue to hold these Open Days.

The City will invite the local community, including resident action group representatives, to meet with centre staff and management twice a year to enable local community feedback, collaboration and information sharing.

This improved collaboration model may be refined over the next 12 months and will help City staff with their planning and ensure resources are shared equitably across our Local Government Area.

7. Maintenance, Improvement and Management of Community Facilities and Venues

By Councillor Ellsmore

Question

1. Does the Council own any community facilities, venues, or halls which are currently vacant or under-utilised? Please provide details of which buildings/venues.
2. What community facilities, venues, or halls are scheduled for an upgrade in the 10-year Capital Works Delivery Program? Please provide details, including the project name, budget cost and expected delivery timeframe.
3. Where can this information be found in the Council's 2022-2023 budget and other integrated planning and reporting documents?
4. What is the maintenance schedule for community centres, libraries and other venues?

X086664

Answer by the Chief Executive Officer

1. Two buildings within the community portfolio are currently closed to public access / vacant and are being reviewed to confirm future use – these properties are:
 - Former Beaconsfield Community Centre
 - Former Harry Burland Activity Centre, Darlington

Two properties have recently had Accommodation Grant Program tenants vacate and will be subject to an Expression of Interest in the coming months – these properties are:

 - 12A Dudley Street, Alexandria
 - The Banga Shed, Portman Street, Zetland.
2. Upgrade works included in the 10 Year Capital Works Delivery Program include:
 - Annual Asset Renewal for Properties Assets (Rolling Program) – Total 10 Year Expenditure of \$321M – This program includes renewal of specific building areas / components e.g. upgrade / renewal of bathrooms / kitchens, air conditioning upgrades etc
 - Pyrmont Community Centre Upgrade - \$5.7M Completion in 2024
 - Ultimo Community Centre Upgrade - \$12M Commencement in 2025 – Completion in 2029

In addition to the upgrade of existing facilities the following new community facilities are included in the 10 Year Capital Works Delivery Program:

 - SSHS – Stage 2 (Cultural/Community/Health Facilities) \$24.7M Completion in 2024/25
 - New Childcare – Fig and Wattle Street Ultimo \$8M Completion in 2026/27

- Sports Facilities – Fig and Wattle Street Ultimo \$7M Completion in 2026/27
 - Huntley Street Recreation Centre \$20M Completion in 2025/26
 - George Street – Lend Lease Circular Quay VPA \$8.8M Completion in 2023
3. Details of annual asset renewal programs and individual projects >\$5M are included in the Resourcing Strategy, approved by Council in June 2022.
 4. All facilities are subject to a program of maintenance (planned and reactive) and cleaning.

Maintenance includes:

- Regular compliance, safety and asset management inspections
- Planned maintenance based on asset and equipment operating manuals
- Reactive maintenance identified through inspections and prioritised requests from the operators of the building.

Cleaning services include:

- programmed planned cleaning and hygiene to ensure City buildings are clean, hygienic and presentable
- coordination and removal of waste
- sanitary and sharps disposal
- supply and management of consumables to ensure constant stock availability
- high level external window cleaning
- slip testing
- internal/external lift shaft glass cleaning

8. Making Accessibility Upgrades to Community Facilities

By Councillor Ellsmore

Question

1. The City of Sydney's Operational Plan includes a deliverable to manage the property portfolio to ensure that planned upgrades to community facilities make spaces more inclusive to all and optimise community needs.

In the 2022-2023 Council Budget, what specific projects or actions have been funded or proposed to meet this deliverable?

2. Which community facilities have been subject to accessibility upgrades in 2022-2023?
3. For the coming four years, what specific projects or actions are proposed to meet this deliverable?
4. For the coming ten years, what specific projects or actions are proposed to meet this deliverable?

5. What was the cost and budget associated with each of the projects or actions listed above?

X086664

Answer by the Chief Executive Officer

1. All planned upgrades of our community facilities which are included in the 10 Year Capital Works Delivery Program are required to comply with the Access to Premises standards where a construction certificate is required.
2. Examples of projects which have included accessibility upgrades in 2022-2023 include:
 - Pyrmont Community Centre Upgrade
 - PACT Theatre Deck Replacement.
3. All planned upgrades of our community facilities which are included in the 10 Year Capital Works Delivery Program are required to comply with the Access to Premises standards where a construction certificate is required.
4. All planned upgrades of our community facilities which are included in the 10 Year Capital Works Delivery Program are required to comply with the Access to Premises standards where a construction certificate is required.
5. Costs associated with upgrades of community facilities is included in the 10 Year Capital Works Delivery Program.

9. South Sydney Activity Centre

By Councillor Ellsmore

Question

1. What is the South Sydney Activity Centre, also known as the Harry Burland Centre, on Shepherd Street?
2. Where is the property located?
3. Who owns the property?
4. Who manages the property?
5. Are there any current leases, licences or other arrangements over the property? If yes, please provide details.
6. What is the history of the property?
7. What is the centre currently being used for?
8. If the centre is vacant, how long has it been vacant for?
9. What activities or community uses was the centre being used for in:
 - (a) 2018-2019
 - (b) 2019-2020
 - (c) 2020-2021

- (d) 2021-2022
 - (e) 2022-2023?
10. How were the operations of the centre impacted by Covid?
 11. What spaces and facilities does the centre include? Please provide details of what spaces are included in the centre – including indoor meeting rooms, kitchens, toilets, specific purpose rooms, outdoor seating, gardens or other facilities?
 12. Where can a site map of the centre be found?
 13. What is the condition of the current centre? Is it in a condition that would allow it to be used by the public? Please provide details.
 14. When was the condition and maintenance needs of the centre last assessed?
 15. Are there any current plans for future uses of the site? If yes, please provide details
 16. Is any maintenance or upgrade proposed for the site?
 17. When were the community facility needs of the Chippendale and Darlington community last assessed? In what Council reports or documents is this reported?
 18. Is there any current provision in the budget, or future budgets, for this site? If yes, please provide details.

X086664

Answer by the Chief Executive Officer

The Harry Burland Activity Centre is located at 132-134 Shepherd Street, Darlington and is owned by the City of Sydney.

The centre has been used in the past as an overflow space for the Pine Street Creative Studio but has not been in use since approximately 2018. The building is not suitable for use in its current state.

The longer-term use of this facility is under review. Any future upgrades of the site will be subject to Council approval.

Staff will investigate ways to enhance access to community facilities in the southern part of the city.

10. City of Sydney Grant Programs

By Councillor Ellsmore

Question

1. What current grant programs does the City of Sydney provide? Please provide the name of the grant program, and the total amount available, per annum.
2. Where is the information about these grant programs available to the public? Please provide details
3. Which grants are open to:
 - (a) Not for profit organisations

- (b) For-profit organisations
 - (c) Social enterprises?
4. In terms of total funding available, what percentage of the City of Sydney grant programs are open to:
- (a) Not for profit organisations
 - (b) For-profit organisations
 - (c) Social enterprises?
5. As part of the grant assessment and approval process, how does the City consider applications from:
- (a) Community groups (incorporated and unincorporated)
 - (b) Not-for-profit organisations
 - (c) For-profit organisations
 - (d) Social enterprises?

Please include details of the assessment criteria, and where this is publicly available.

6. As part of the grant assessment and approval process, does the City weigh or score applications from for-profit, not-for-profit and community groups differently? Please provide details.
7. The City of Sydney runs info sessions in relation to the grants process. In 2022/2023:
- (a) What grant information sessions have been provided
 - (b) What data does the City hold about who attended those sessions and
 - (c) In terms of attendants, is it known or estimated what percentage of attendees were for profit, compared to not for profit, organisations?
8. Is the City aware of any barriers faced by community groups (incorporated and unincorporated) when applying for grants? Please provide details, including any feedback received.
9. Is the City aware of any barriers faced by community groups (incorporated and unincorporated) when acquitting grants? Please provide details, including any feedback received.
10. Does the City have any resources or programs to support and encourage applications from community groups (incorporated and unincorporated) as part of the grant application process?
11. Has the City considered streamlining the grant application process in relation to repeat events/activities organised by community groups (incorporated and unincorporated)?

12. For the following financial years, how many grants were awarded to not-for-profit organisations, unincorporated community groups, incorporated community groups, and for-profit organisations:
- (a) 2019/2020
 - (b) 2020/2021
 - (c) 2021/2022
 - (d) 2022/2023 so far.

X086664

Answer by the Chief Executive Officer

Refer to the City's website <https://www.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au/grants-sponsorships> which details the Grants and Sponsorship Policy, Guidelines and relevant Operational Plan information relating to funding for grants programs.

Refer to relevant Operational Plans <https://www.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au/strategies-action-plans/operational-plan> and Annual Reports <https://www.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au/surveys-case-studies-reports/annual-report>

Grants information is reported quarterly (Supplementary Report) via Council Committees and via the Annual Report - <https://www.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au/surveys-case-studies-reports/annual-report>

Information session information is detailed in each report to Council where grants are recommended for determination.

The City has dedicated support for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, people with disability and culturally and linguistically diverse peoples to assist with the grants process.

11. Closing the Gap Strategy

By Councillor Scott

Question

In 2020, councils co-signed a landmark agreement marking a new chapter in the national effort to close the gap between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians.

At the heart of the National Agreement on Closing the Gap Partnership are four agreed priority reform targets and 16 socio-economic targets in areas including education, employment, health and wellbeing, justice, safety, housing, land and waters, and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander languages.

1. Broken down by target, what progress has the City of Sydney made on these targets?
2. Please detail progress made on the City's own Closing the Gap strategy?
3. When will the City's Closing the Gap strategy be considered/reported to Council?

X086668

Answer by the Chief Executive Officer

The City's strategic response to the National Agreement on Closing the Gap strategy is incorporated in the City's Community Strategic Plan which was adopted by Council in June 2022. The City's work to address the relevant Closing the Gap priority reforms and socio-economic targets is identified within that document.

The City's approach, including for reporting via the Operational Plan and the Stretch Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP) annual report, was outlined to Councillors via a CEO Update circulated on 8 April 2022. The Stretch Reconciliation Action Plan - Annual Report 2022 was circulated via the CEO Update on 17 February 2023.

12. Funding Allocated for Racism Not Welcome

By Councillor Scott

Question

On 3 March 2021, Councillor Scott moved a motion to approve funding of up to \$10,000 from the 2020/21 General Contingency Fund to support the program of community works, that may include value in kind donations of spaces for exhibitions, the instalment of "Racism Not Welcome" street signs in key locations around the City or other community engagement activities. The motion was carried unanimously.

1. Please detail how much of the \$10,000 was allocated, and what for.
2. What has the remainder of the funding been allocated for in 2022/23 Budget?

X086668

Answer by the Chief Executive Officer

Further to two CEO Updates provided to Councillors in 2021 (6 August 2021 and 17 September 2021), five Racism Not Welcome street signs were installed in late 2021 within the Sydney central business district and immediate surrounds. These are at high profile, high vehicular and pedestrian traffic locations where they are easily visible to residents, workers, students, tourists and visitors. Online articles supported the Racism Not Welcome [campaign](#) and the [installation](#) of these signs.

Between June and December 2021, the City hosted a series of interactive online anti-racism and by-stander action workshops for the community to further support the Racism Not Welcome campaign. Nine workshops were held with 121 people attending, including community members, along with representatives from community groups, education and government organisations. The workshops provided participants with opportunities to develop racial literacy, empathy and an understanding of race-related issues and identities. The workshops also provided tools, skills and strategies for intervention when encountering racism in everyday life.

The City regularly delivers anti-racism and bystander action programs and these are included in regular budgeting. This year the City's continues to take leadership of the NSW Anti-Racism Working Group, an initiative of the Local Government Multicultural Workers Network. In addition, the City recently established our Multicultural Advisory Panel. The panel's Terms of Reference highlight that the panel provides advice on policies and operations of the City of Sydney in relation to matters of importance to culturally diverse communities, including strategies to combat racism and discrimination. The panel has identified anti-racism strategies and initiatives as a priority and City staff will take on board their feedback when designing and delivering appropriate programs and strategies to combat racism.

13. Harry Noble Reserve Completion

By Councillor Scott

Question

During the Council briefing session on 12 July 2021, the City reported that construction on Harry Noble reserve would commence in July 2022 and be completed by April 2023. The project scope was then unanimously carried at Council on 26 July 2021.

When will Harry Noble Reserve be completed?

X086668

Answer by the Chief Executive Officer

Harry Noble Reserve Playground is currently in the design documentation phase progressing to 95 per cent Issue for Tender. Documentation has taken longer than anticipated due to complexity of the site and coordination of interfacing projects. The tender to engage a construction contractor is currently programmed to market in mid-2023. Following tender evaluation and contractor engagement, construction will commence early 2024 following summer school holidays.

14. Installation of the Milk Bar Plaque

By Councillor Scott

Question

In 2017, a plaque for the first ever modern Milk Bar was approved by the City of Sydney. On 30 October 2022, Councillor Scott moved a motion noting the history of the first ever modern Milk Bar and the family's struggle to have their plaque placed.

1. Where will the plaque for the Milk Bar be placed?
2. When is the plaque's installation scheduled for? Is this accounted for in the upcoming budget?

X086668

Answer by the Chief Executive Officer

The new management of the building at 20 Martin Place (Milk Bar plaque) were trying to find a solution but have now confirmed that they do not approve the installation of the plaque on their building. They are considering a new historical board within the lobby, which could be an opportunity to commemorate the milk bar site in some way.

City staff are now revisiting alternative locations for the plaque and once confirmed will discuss the options with stakeholders.

Once a final location has been determined the plaque will be installed following any necessary planning approvals being granted. The costs for installation are included in the upcoming budget.

15. Maureen Oliver Reserve Completion

By Councillor Scott

Question

On 14 December 2020, Councillor Scott moved a motion calling for Maureen Oliver Reserve to be upgraded. Council unanimously resolved for the Chief Executive Officer to order an updated assessment be undertaken to effectively consider the need for an amendment to the small parks playgrounds renewal timeframe to include an upgrade for the Reserve.

In the Council papers on 27 June 2022, City staff responded to Councillor Scott's Question on Notice regarding Maureen Oliver Reserve upgrades. Staff reported that initial investigations of the site had been completed and that community consultation was planned for August/September 2022.

1. What progress has been made on upgrading Maureen Oliver Reserve?
2. When will the Reserve's upgrades be completed?

X086668

Answer by the Chief Executive Officer

Construction for the upgrade of Maureen Oliver Reserve is currently underway. Works are scheduled for completion on 14 April 2023.

16. Sadie King OAM Plaque

By Councillor Scott

Question

1. Please advise when Sadie King's commemorative plaque will be installed.
2. Is the plaque accounted for in the upcoming budget?

X086668

Answer by the Chief Executive Officer

A draft design has been developed and stakeholders are currently being consulted. A location has been agreed with the stakeholders and owner's consent for this location is currently being sought. Following this, any necessary planning approvals will be sought and the plaque can be fabricated and installed.

The costs for installation are included in the upcoming budget.

17. Traffic Calming at Rainford Place

By Councillor Scott

Question

On 15 November 2021 Councillor Scott moved a motion requesting an investigation of traffic calming measures for Rainford Street, which was carried unanimously.

In the 16 May 2022 Council papers, the following information was reported:

The 15 November 2021 Council resolution requested that the Chief Executive Officer investigate traffic calming conditions at Rainford Street, Surry Hills.

Traffic and pedestrian counts were undertaken in April 2022. City staff will analyse the data to determine if traffic calming treatments are required in Rainford Street and the potential treatment options.

Future works if required could be accommodated in the future years' forward estimates if required.

1. Has the data collected on traffic patterns at Rainford Place been analysed?
2. What are the results of the investigations?
3. Will traffic calming conditions be put in place?
4. If so, when are they scheduled for and are they accounted for in the upcoming budget?

X086668

Answer by the Chief Executive Officer

1. Traffic count data was collected in Rainford Street on 6 March 2020 and again on 25 May 2022 after the impacts of the pandemic had settled. The data has since been analysed.
2. Traffic count data on 6 March 2020 showed an average of 1015 vehicles per day use this street with the majority of drivers travelling below 37km/h. Traffic counts on 25 May 2022 showed an average of 800 vehicles per day use this street with the majority of drivers travelling below 37km/h. Taking the results into account, speed does not seem to be an issue in this street as it is a local street with a sign posted speed limit of 40km/h.

The 2022 counts also showed that the maximum PM peak was 94 vehicles per hour (7pm-8pm) and in the AM peak was 81 vehicles per hour (9am-10am). This is approximately three vehicles every two minutes which is not a high volume for a residential street, however would qualify for a Shared Zone treatment.

3. Due to the street trees causing some obstruction on the footpath along Rainford Street, the City believes a Shared Zone would be a suitable treatment to improve access and safety for people walking in the street. A Shared Zone would allow pedestrians to share the space with vehicles at a reduced 10km/h speed limit. This treatment requires the approval of Transport for NSW before the City can proceed as it involves a speed limit change.

The proposed changes are also subject to community consultation and endorsement by the Local Pedestrian, Cycling and Traffic Calming Committee.

Residents in Rainford Street have previously requested for the footpath to be widened. However, given that the existing carriageway is approximately 6m wide, it would only be possible to widen the footpath by a maximum of 0.7m without impacting parking, and allowing for access for emergency and waste collection vehicles. Given the placement of existing street trees and power poles along the footpath, this minor increase in footpath width is unlikely to improve access for people walking and would be a significant cost for negligible benefit.

4. The Shared Zone proposal is currently scheduled for design in 2023/24 and construction in 2024/25, subject to all approvals and approval of the budget.

18. Water Quality at Victoria Park

By Councillor Scott

Question

1. How many ducks have died since the beginning of the year?
2. Has the death of the ducks been accounted for yet?
3. What investigations has the City of Sydney undertaken?
4. Have solutions been found and implemented?

X086668

Answer by the Chief Executive Officer

1. Through discussions with Taronga Zoo, City staff and volunteers the City understand the following carcasses have since been found in or near the lake:
 - 26 Pacific black ducks
 - 1 Corella
 - 1 Rainbow lorikeet
 - 1 Flying fox
 - 2 Ibis

The City has been unable to confirm if there are additional carcasses collected/disposed of by other agencies or volunteer groups.

2. On 24 March 2023, Taronga Zoo distributed preliminary pathology reports for 10 birds submitted by Sydney Wildlife Rescue. Preliminary results indicate avian botulism is the likely diagnosis, however other intoxication is a possibility. To confirm the findings animal tissue samples have been sent to a specialised laboratory in Western Australia for toxicology testing. Results are due on 31 March 2023. Further results from water tests are also due this week.

3. The City has been working with the Australian Registry of Wildlife Health, Taronga Zoo, the NSW Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) and the Department of Primary Industries (DPI) to determine the cause. Working with Taronga Zoo, the City has been providing background on the wetland system, the current ecological condition of the lake and details of the City's quarterly water monitoring program. The City expedited its quarterly testing to assist with the process and increased servicing of the park to collect carcasses.

Under the current water monitoring program undertaken by the City, Lake Northam is monitored on a quarterly basis by an environmental consultant. The most recent sampling occurred on 16 March 2023. Water samples are taken to an accredited laboratory and are assessed against state and national guidelines. Based on the initial field inspection and measurements, no immediate environmental risks were identified. Field measurements together with laboratory results indicate an elevated nutrient and organic content combined with low dissolved oxygen. These conditions could encourage the production of botulinum. To further verify avian botulism, the City requested additional sedimentary sampling and targeted laboratory analyses for suspect bacterium. Partial water quality testing results have been received with the remainder due by 31 March 2023.

All water quality results from this round of monitoring have been provided to the NSW EPA.

4. Multiple lines of supporting evidence from both water quality and autopsy results indicate avian botulism is the likely cause. The City is preparing to implement controls in relation to avian botulism if it is confirmed as the cause of the deaths.

The following management strategy has been planned to mitigate the outbreak with works to commence 3 April 2023:

- (a) Remove sediment and reduce vegetation, guided by an ecologist/wetland specialist;
- (b) Increased reticulation of water in the wetland; and
- (c) Additional one-off sampling event of the water body to determine if conditions have improved to suppress the outbreak (i.e. lower nutrient concentrations, lower organics, higher oxygenation, etc).

19. Wimbo Park Completion

By Councillor Scott

Question

On 22 August 2022, Council resolved to accept the tender for the construction of Wimbo Park. In the Council briefing session prior, the City reported that construction would commence in October 2022 and be completed within 12 months.

When will Wimbo Park be completed?

X086668

Answer by the Chief Executive Officer

Wimbo Park construction is progressing and on track for completion at the end of 2023.

20. City of Sydney Resourcing for Affordable Housing Related Work

By Councillor Ellsmore

Question

1. Which divisions, sections or units within the City of Sydney have primary responsibility for homelessness? Please provide details.
2. Which divisions, sections or units within the City of Sydney have primary responsibility for affordable housing?
3. Which divisions, sections or units within the City of Sydney have primary responsibility for public and social housing?
4. Does the City of Sydney have a dedicated affordable housing unit or team? If yes, please provide details.
5. Does the City of Sydney have any staff specifically dedicated to affordable housing policy, projects or other affordable housing related work? If yes, please provide details, including:
 - (a) How many staff
 - (b) Whether they are part-time or full time
 - (c) What units or sections of Council they work in, and
 - (d) Their titles and focus of their roles.
6. Does the City of Sydney have any staff whose role includes, but is not limited to, affordable housing? If yes, please provide details, including:
 - (a) How many staff
 - (b) Whether they are part-time or full time
 - (c) What units or sections of Council they work in, and
 - (d) Their titles and focus of their roles.
7. Does the City of Sydney have any staff dedicated to supporting the City's Housing for All Working Group? Please provide details.
8. What budget does the City of Sydney allocate to affordable housing? Please provide details of:
 - (a) Staffing
 - (b) Grants programs
 - (c) Planning and development matters
 - (d) Policy and law reform
 - (e) Other relevant areas.

9. Does the City of Sydney have any staff supporting public and social housing? Please provide details including:
- How many staff
 - Whether they are part-time or full time
 - What units or sections of Council they work in, and
 - Their titles and focus of their roles.
10. What resources does the Council contribute to the affordable housing work of the Southern Sydney Regional Organisation of Councils (SSROC) and Resilient Sydney. Please provide details including:
- How many staff
 - How many paid hours
 - Primary tasks.

X086664

Answer by the Chief Executive Officer

Various staff and divisions across the City undertake work on homelessness, affordable housing and public and social housing.

This includes the dedicated Homelessness Unit, the Grants Unit, the Safe City Unit and the Social City Unit in the City Life Division, Strategic and Development Assessment Planners in the City Planning, Development and Transport Division and Strategy Advisors and the Resilient Sydney Unit in the Strategic Development and Engagement Division.

Secretariat services for the Housing For All Working Group is provided by the City Planning, Development and Transport Division. The Chief Executive Officer and the Director City Planning, Development and Transport lead and support the Housing For All Working Group.

The Chief Executive Officer and relevant staff contribute to the affordable housing work of the Southern Sydney Regional Organisation of Councils (SSROC), the Council of Capital City Lord Mayors (CCCLM) and Resilient Sydney.

21. Council Policies Regarding Tree Poisonings

By Councillor Ellsmore

Question

- What are the policies and procedures that guide the City's responses to cases of tree poisoning?
- How does the City undertake investigations in relation to what poison was used and the entity or person that may have poisoned the tree?
- What factors does the City take into account when deciding to remove a poisoned tree, including assessments of whether treatment is a viable option?

4. If treatment is assessed to be a viable option, what are the treatment options and how are these determined?
5. If treatment is not a viable option, and the tree is assessed for removal, what factors determine whether it will or will not be replaced with an identified species?
6. If a tree displays epicormic growth, is this a factor considered in the City's assessment?
7. When Council is planning a response to a poisoned tree, what opportunities are there for the public to comment and how much time are they given to comment?
8. Does the elected Council have any role in deciding what action is taken in relation to poisoned trees?
9. Are there any circumstances where the City assesses that a tree cannot be treated, but decides against removing the tree, such as for providing habitat for birds and mammals?
10. Are there any policy tools that the City employs to discourage tree poisonings, other than the risk of a fine?
11. If a tree is poisoned and removed following assessment by City staff, does the City take any action to discourage future poisoning? For example, some other local councils put up signs in place of poisoned trees to block views, until the replacement tree has grown to the equivalent size of the original tree.

X086664

Answer by the Chief Executive Officer

1. The Current Tree Management Policy states:

The City of Sydney will notify the community of illegal works and undertake site specific responses following tree poisoning or illegal tree removal. The City of Sydney will investigate unauthorised (tree pruning, poisoning/removal) and pursue enforcement action where appropriate in accordance with the Enforcement Policy.

The City of Sydney will remove and replace poorly performing trees to reinvigorate the urban forest.

The revised draft Tree Management and Donation Policy states:

We notify the community of illegal works and undertake site specific responses following tree poisoning or illegal tree removal. We investigate unauthorised tree pruning, poisoning and removal and pursue enforcement action where appropriate in accordance with the City's Prosecution and Civil Enforcement Policy and the Compliance Policy.

We will consider the retention or delayed removal of appropriate trees that have been poisoned or otherwise damaged. These trees will be managed until they are removed and/or replaced.

2. The investigations undertaken are tailored to the condition of the tree and the site-specific circumstances. Trees can decline in health due to a variety of reasons.

Drill holes at the base of the trunk is usually a tell-tale sign that it has been poisoned with a systemic herbicide. The first response is usually to flush the drill holes with water to remove as much of the herbicide as possible. If a tree has declining health, and if it is unclear whether poisoning has occurred, we consider having laboratory testing of the foliage done to confirm the presence of any common systemic herbicides. If a tree is in an advanced state of decline and there are obvious signs of poisoning there is little the City can do.

If the tree is in a City street or park we usually place a notice on the tree to inform the local community that the tree has been poisoned and asking for them to contact us with any relevant information. We also consider if other sources of information may be available (e.g. CCTV recordings). It is often not possible to gain the necessary evidence to positively identify the person responsible.

3. We consider the following factors when deciding how to manage or whether to remove a poisoned tree:

- it's species and age (different trees can react in different ways)
- the current health and structural condition of the tree
- the site-specific location and growing conditions
- the likely future biological and growth response of the tree
- any potential for recovery and options for future management
- the use of the surrounding area and what ongoing risk a declining tree may present at the location

Treatment options are usually limited to improving soil conditions as a way to relieve stress and aid recovery. The potential for this is usually dictated by the site-specific conditions and whether the rootzone of the tree is paved (as in a street) or not paved (as in a park).

4. If the tree is located in a park with favourable access to the rootzone the treatment options are usually to water the roots to ensure optimum available soil moisture, depending on the season and the condition of the tree canopy. There are generally no other options to treat a tree affected by systemic herbicide.
5. As for any tree removed by the City, replacement planting is considered and determined on a site-by-site basis. All potential opportunities for planting are considered and acted on. The species of tree planted in streets is determined by the Street Tree Master Plan.
6. Yes, it is a factor related to the health, future structural condition, and potential for recovery. It is common for a tree to display epicormic growth after systemic herbicide poisoning. It is a short-term response to stress and does not usually lead to long-term health and recovery.
7. The public can contact the City or make submissions in response to the notices placed on the tree to inform them of the poisoning or removal/replacement work. They are usually given at least two weeks to comment but usually longer if the health and recovery of the tree is being monitored.

8. Recommendations for tree management and tree removal are made by arborists with the necessary skill and experience to get the best outcomes for the urban forest and to best manage tree related risk. Decisions are escalated and made by the Urban Forest Manager, Manager City Greening and Leisure, Director City Services and the Chief Executive Officer depending on the significance of the tree and any submissions received by the community. The elected Council have a role in reviewing and approving the City's tree management policies and strategies.
9. Yes, this is considered on a site-by-site basis. Large dead trees are sometimes retained for habitat in parks that have natural bush-like landscapes (like Sydney Park) depending on the tree species. It is not usually appropriate to retain dead trees for habitat in streets, however this is considered based on the individual circumstances. A more favourable outcome for the community and for wildlife is to replace the tree so they can benefit from the new tree and canopy as soon as possible.
10. The City's Greening Sydney Strategy and Urban Forest Strategy promote the importance and need for trees in our City, the value they contribute to residents and property owners, and foster a general appreciation for them in our community.
11. The City considers this response on a site by site basis. Signs may help to highlight the issue but may also lead to unfavourable outcomes for innocent local residents that may not have been involved.

22. Carbon Offsets

By Councillor Ellsmore

Question

1. In relation to the City of Sydney Council's emissions, in 2021 the City of Sydney announced it had reduced operational emissions by 70 per cent. How does the City of Sydney Council measure its emissions?
2. Against what baseline/s does the City of Sydney Council measure its emissions? Please provide details.
3. What activities are included in the calculations of the City of Sydney Council's emissions?
4. What are the key Council strategies or reports which outline emissions targets and actions? Where can the public view these?
5. How does the City of Sydney Council track and report its own emissions?
6. How does the City track and report on emissions produced by Council services which are not directly delivered by the Council?
7. How are emissions provided by Council waste services tracked and reported? Please provide details
8. What are the most update-to-date projections that the Council has:
 - (a) Of the Council's current emissions?
 - (b) Of the Council's future emissions?

9. In relation to emissions produced in the local area, the City of Sydney's Community Strategic Plan includes a target that by 2035 we will achieve net zero emissions in the City of Sydney local area. How does the City of Sydney track the emissions for the local area (ie for activities beyond those for which the Council is directly responsible)?
10. Against what baseline is the reduction in local area emissions measured?
 - (a) For the Council
 - (b) For other specific sectors, and
 - (c) For the local area (in total)?
11. Where does the City of Sydney track and report emissions relating to activities which are not its responsibility, in the local area?
12. In relation to offsetting emissions, in 2007 the City of Sydney announced that it was the first local government in Australia to become carbon neutral. How does the City of Sydney offset its emissions?
13. To offset emissions, the City of Sydney purchases carbon credits. This includes from Indigenous-owned businesses that practice traditional burning as part of land care. What current offsets does the City of Sydney purchase?
14. How many emissions was the City estimated to have produced in:
 - (a) 2019-2020
 - (b) 2020-2021
 - (c) 2021-2022
 - (d) 2022-2023?
15. How many of these emissions were offset, in:
 - (a) 2019-2020
 - (b) 2020-2021
 - (c) 2021-2022
 - (d) 2022-2023?

X086664

Answer by the Chief Executive Officer

1. See Green Report 2022 - <https://www.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au/surveys-case-studies-reports/green-reports> and the City's Public Disclosure Statements on the Climate Active Website - <https://www.climateactive.org.au/buy-climate-active/certified-members/city-sydney>
2. Financial Year 2006.
3. See the City's Public Disclosure Statements on the Climate Active Website.
4. Environmental Strategy 2021-2025 - <https://www.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au/strategies-action-plans/environmental-strategy>

5. See Green Report 2022 and the City's Public Disclosure Statements on the Climate Active Website.
6. See the City's Public Disclosure Statements on the Climate Active Website.
7. See Green Report 2022 and the City's Public Disclosure Statements on the Climate Active Website.
8. See Green Report 2022 – provides both.
9. See Green Report 2022.
10. 2006 (all).
11. See Green Report 2022.
12. See City's Public Disclosure Statements on the Climate Active Website.
13. See City's Public Disclosure Statements on the Climate Active Website.
14. 2022-2023 emissions are not yet quantified. For all others see Green Report 2022 and the City's Public Disclosure Statements on the Climate Active Website.
15. 2022-2023 emissions are not yet quantified. In other years 100 per cent of emissions were offset.

23. Waste Management Issues on Kellett Street, Potts Point

By Councillor Ellsmore

Question

1. Kellett Street, Potts Point is a residential zone that has several businesses including small bars and clinics, close to Bayswater Road. Who are the waste contractors for the businesses that operate on Kellett Street?
2. The City of Sydney provides additional street cleaning to priority or busy main street areas. Is Kellett Street currently identified as an area which is a priority for street cleaning and waste removal?
3. In the last six months, how often has the City's street cleaning or waste team been called to Kellett Street to deal with rubbish dumps, large spills and other waste items?
4. Kellett Street residents have written to the Council requesting additional street bins to manage the increased waste. Has the City responded to this request? If yes, please provide details.
5. Are any additional street bins planned for Kellett Street? If yes, please provide details.
6. How often does the machine sweeping attend Kellett Street?
7. What kind of protections are in place for residents when a private waste contractor is found to have been in breach of its contract – for example waste collection out of hours?

X086664

Answer by the Chief Executive Officer

1. There are multiple commercial waste contractors that operate within the Local Government Area.

There is a requirement for businesses to maintain a commercial waste contractor but there is no requirement for them to update the City on which company services the business. Due to the nature of the industry, many businesses change their contractor regularly.

2. Kellett Street is serviced twice a week by manual sweepers, assisted by a mechanical sweeper on request. The corner of Kellett and Bayswater is high pressure cleaned on a Saturday and Sunday morning. Manual sweepers are also allocated on weekends when resources allow. Team Leaders are aware of the concerns and monitor this area.
3. Below are the instances that Cleansing have been engaged in servicing Kellett Street outside of the regular service schedule for the last six months.

Cleanaway	29
<hr/>	
Missed Waste – Garden /Recycle /Metals	8
Book Clean Up -Whitegoods	7
Book Clean Up -Household	6
Missed Waste - Garbage Bins / Household	5
Illegally dumped metal and whitegoods	2
Illegally dumped bulky household and furniture	1
Cleansing Operations	6
<hr/>	
Sweep/Clean-Street & Bins / Ashtrays - East	5
Dumps - Unsafe / Urgent / Dead Animals – East	1
Soft Landing	6
<hr/>	
Book a Clean Up - Mattresses/ Ensemble Bed	3
Illegally dumped mattress	3
Grand Total	41

4. The City has received a request for additional street litter bins in Kellett Street. The request has been investigated by the Team Leader for this area.

5. As a result of the investigation and review there are no additional street litter bins planned for Kellett Street at this stage for the following reasons:
 - Kellett Street is narrow and these access issues make street litter bin collections difficult
 - There are currently three street litter bins at the end of Kellett Street in Bayswater Road, with additional bins along Darlinghurst Road and Ward Avenue
 - The street litter bins in this area are serviced twice daily, seven days a week
6. Kellett Street is serviced two to three times Monday to Friday, with additional cleaning on Saturday and Sunday morning, subject to available resources. The roadway sweeper services the area when manual sweepers ask for assistance. The corner of Kellett Street and Bayswater Road is also serviced with a steam plant on Saturday and Sunday morning.
7. If a resident is disturbed by waste collections outside of reasonable hours they are entitled to make a noise complaint which would be investigated by the City's Environmental Health Officers. Noise complaints are all investigated on a case-by-case basis. The officer will usually liaise with the business/waste contractor to ensure that the collections are carried out at a reasonable time - usually between 6am to 10pm Monday to Friday and 8am to 10pm on weekends and Public Holidays.

There are no set times permitted for collection of waste - the City's Environmental Health Officers are guided by the City's Waste Policy which details recommended operating hours for commercial waste collectors, however they are a guide only and are not enforceable. If the noise from the collection of waste has been investigated and found to have been carried out in an environmentally unsatisfactory manner (i.e. due to the offensive noise being emitted by the collection of waste and the time of day it is being collected) a Prevention Notice under the Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997 may be issued and the contractor compelled to ensure the waste collections are only carried out during the times mentioned above.

24. Questions for the Draft 2023/24 Budget

By Councillor Ellsmore

Question

1. What is the estimated cost of installing free sanitary products in the City of Sydney Local Government Area, in:
 - (a) Outdoor public toilets;
 - (b) Libraries and community facilities;
 - (c) Swimming pools and gyms; and
 - (d) Town Halls?
2. Which Council facilities currently have free Wi-Fi?
3. Which Council facilities are proposed to have free Wi-Fi installed in coming years?

4. What is the estimated cost of expanding free public Wi-Fi to the following locations and facilities:
- (a) Public spaces in the CBD;
 - (b) The Sydney Town Hall and surrounds;
 - (c) Community facilities, including community centres and town halls, where free Wi-Fi is provided;
 - (d) Public parks;
 - (e) Public housing estates such as Waterloo, Woolloomooloo, Redfern, Surry Hills and Glebe?

If an estimate has not been made for any of these sites, please note which.

5. Have City staff had any conversations with the NSW Government, including the Department of Communities and Justice and the Land and Housing Corporation, about partnering to provide free public Wi-Fi to public housing estates, including Waterloo, Woolloomooloo, Redfern, Surry Hills and Glebe?

If so, please provide details, including who the City spoke with, when the City had these conversations, and the outcome.

X086664

Answer by the Chief Executive Officer

The City is investigating trials currently being undertaken by some other councils and State Agencies in relation to public toilet dispensers for free sanitary products. If those trials are successful, the City will consider implementing.

The estimated cost of providing these products for 10 sites is \$165,000 per year.

Further to a CEO Update provided to Councillors on 22 July 2022 and a report to Council in December 2022, public Wi-Fi is currently available at all nine of the City's Libraries and two Library link sites, noting that the Pyrmont Community Centre is currently closed for renovation, and the link located there is also temporarily unavailable. Public Wi-Fi is also available at 12 of the City's community centres and venues for hire. This free public Wi-Fi access will be increased through the City's Wi-Fi tender to a total of 33 community centres and venues for hire to provide coverage across the City's community centres and venues.

Free Wi-Fi is provided in the public domain by a range of community, government and commercial organisations, including at shopping centres, cultural venues, ferries, train stations and Telstra payphone Wi-Fi hotspots.

Costings for free Wi-Fi in the public domain is impacted by many factors including provision of existing fibre, poles, power supply and the commercial arrangements such as length of time of free use, advertising and access to customer data.

The City is working collaboratively with partners, including NSW Government agencies to improve digital inclusion, and advocating strongly for digital inclusion to be considered as part of future developments within our local government area.

25. Bulky Waste Pick Up Including Booked and Illegal Dumping

By Councillor Ellsmore

Question

1. What is the Council budget, and actual cost, for booked bulky waste pickup in:

- (a) 2019-2020
- (b) 2020-2021
- (c) 2021-2022
- (d) 2022-2023?

Please include a breakdown of figures for different types of bulky waste pickup, where available (for example for mattress collection)

2. What is the Council budget, and actual cost, for pick-up of illegal dumping in:

- (a) 2019-2020
- (b) 2020-2021
- (c) 2021-2022
- (d) 2022-2023?

Please include both figures, if they differ, and breakdown by types of bulky waste if available

3. What was the budget, and actual cost, for pick-ups made directly by Council staff, for booked bulky waste pick up in:

- (a) 2019-2020
- (b) 2020-2021
- (c) 2021-2022
- (d) 2022-2023?

Please include both figures, if they differ, and breakdown by types of bulky waste if available

4. What was the budget, and actual cost, for pick-ups made by companies contracted by Council, for booked bulky waste pick up in:

- (a) 2019-2020
- (b) 2020-2021
- (c) 2021-2022
- (d) 2022-2023?

Please include both figures, if they differ, and breakdown by types of bulky waste if available

5. What was the budget, and actual cost, for pick-ups made directly by Council staff, for illegal or dumped waste pick up in:
- (a) 2019-2020
 - (b) 2020-2021
 - (c) 2021-2022
 - (d) 2022-2023?

Please include both figures, if they differ, and breakdown by types of bulky waste if available

6. What was the budget, and actual cost, for pick-ups made by companies contracted by Council, for illegal or dumped waste pick up in:
- (a) 2019-2020
 - (b) 2020-2021
 - (c) 2021-2022
 - (d) 2022-2023?

Please include both figures, if they differ, and breakdown by types of bulky waste if available

7. What percentage of booked waste pickup has been completed by Council, rather than a private contractor:
- (a) 2019-2020
 - (b) 2020-2021
 - (c) 2021-2022
 - (d) 2022-2023?

8. What percentage of illegal dumped waste pickup has been completed by Council, rather than a private contractor:
- (a) 2019-2020
 - (b) 2020-2021
 - (c) 2021-2022
 - (d) 2022-2023?

9. What staffing does the City currently engage to undertake booked waste pickup, and illegal dumping clean up?

10. What trucks or equipment does the City currently have to undertake booked waste pickup, and illegal dumping clean up?

11. Does the City of Sydney have sufficient staffing, trucks and other equipment to collect all booked waste in 2023-2024? If not, what additional staffing, trucks and equipment would be needed?

12. What is the estimated cost for the City to directly manage all booked waste pickup in 2023-2034?

13. What is the estimated cost for the City to directly manage all illegal waste pickup in 2023-2034?

X086664

Answer by the Chief Executive Officer

Refer to relevant Operational Plans <https://www.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au/strategies-action-plans/operational-plan> and Annual Reports <https://www.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au/surveys-case-studies-reports/annual-report>

The Operational Plan (budget) generally provides a breakdown by business unit.

Quarterly reports review the operating and capital results against budget for each financial year, and progress against the performance measures identified within the Operational Plan within the broader Delivery Program 2022-2026.

Bulky waste and illegally dumped waste collection costs are not differentiated in budgeting and reporting.

Mattress collection and processing information could be provided as this is undertaken via a separate contract.

Any booked waste pickup and illegal dumping clean up undertaken by the City's Cleansing and Waste Unit is done within existing resources (inclusive of staff and plant).

The City cannot provide estimated costs to directly manage all booked and illegal waste pickups without developing a business case.

26. Waste Management Complaints and Enquiries

By Councillor Weldon

Question:

1. Who is the primary point of contact for enquiries and complaints about domestic waste services in the City of Sydney: Cleanaway or Council?
2. Does Cleanaway operate a call centre for enquiries and complaints about domestic waste services in the City of Sydney?
3. How often does the City collate and/or receive reports regarding enquiries and complaints about domestic waste services?
4. In the last reporting period:
 - (a) How many enquiries and complaints were received?
 - (b) What types of enquiries and complaints were received?
 - (c) What percentage of enquiries and complaints were resolved?

- (d) For complaints and enquiries requiring action, what was the average response times from initial reporting to resolution?
- (e) What proportion of reporters conducted customer satisfaction surveys and what were the results?

X086670

Answer by the Chief Executive Officer

1. The City's customer service centre is the primary point of contact for enquiries and complaints regarding domestic waste services.
2. Cleanaway does not operate a call centre to manage enquiries and complaints related to the delivery of domestic waste services in the City of Sydney.
3. Monthly.
- 4.

- (a) In February 2023 the City responded to 9,587 residential waste related contacts received via the City's contact centre and on-line services:

- 4,071 were enquiries and requests for service e.g., book a collection
- 5,223 related to missed services
- 293 were complaints.

February was an atypical month due to the Cleanaway industrial action.

In the period July to December 2022, the average number of residential waste related contacts received was 7,396 per month, comprising:

- 5,375 enquiries and request for service e.g., book a collection
- 1,897 missed services
- 124 complaints.

- (b) Requests for booked collections, requests to repair or replace bins, and missed waste services.
- (c) 99.04 per cent have been resolved.
- (d) The average days to completion or resolution for a waste enquiry, request or complaint was four days.
- (e) 17 per cent of community members who called the City's contact centre in February 2023 responded to the end of call satisfaction survey.

91 per cent of these survey responders were satisfied or very satisfied with the service they received.

27. Public Housing and Public Land Redevelopment in the City of Sydney

By Councillor Ellsmore

Question

1. In an answer to a Question on Notice tabled at the 13 March 2023 Council meeting, it was advised that the City had discussions and/or correspondence with NSW Government representatives about five planned or future development applications regarding State-owned or controlled land in NSW, including any pre-DA requests.

Since these questions were tabled, have City staff had any additional discussions or correspondence with NSW Government representatives about planned or future development applications regarding State-owned or controlled land in NSW, including any pre-DA requests? If yes, please provide details.

2. In an answer to a Question on Notice tabled at the 13 March 2023 Council meeting, it was advised that the City initiated discussions with the Land and Housing Corporation (or LAHC) concerning eight planning proposals or forthcoming planning proposals.

Since these questions were tabled, have City staff had any discussions or correspondence with the Land and Housing Corporation about these or additional planning proposals relating to State-owned or controlled land in NSW, including any pre-DA requests? If yes, please provide details.

X086664

Answer by the Chief Executive Officer

1. 600-660 Elizabeth Street, Redfern (LAHC)

On 16 March 2023, City staff sent correspondence regarding Design Excellence Strategy to the successful proponent. The applicant arranged a follow up meeting to be held on 30 March 2023.

9-13 Hay Street, Haymarket (Paddy's Markets)

On 22 March 2023, City staff met representatives of Place Management NSW and Sydney Markets. The meeting was focussed on obtaining an understanding of the proposed alterations to the ground level of the existing markets for both fresh produce and cooked food. No formal advice was provided by City staff.

2. There are eight sites owned by NSW Land and Housing Corporation in the Pyrmont Peninsula in which the City is carrying out a review of planning controls. Separate proponent led planning proposals are not under consideration.

The City responded to a request by NSW Land and Housing Corporation with an update on the likely timing of any further meetings with landowners.

Item 9 Supplementary Answers to Previous Questions

There are no Supplementary Answers to Previous Questions on Notice for this meeting of Council.

Item 10 Notices of Motion

Item 10.1 Christmas in Pymont

Moved by Councillor Jarrett, seconded by Councillor Ellsmore –

It is resolved that:

(A) Council note:

- (i) Christmas in Pymont is an annual street fair organised by Pymont and Ultimo residents;
- (ii) it has been a fixture within the Pymont community since 2013, each year increasing in size and popularity, and bringing the community closer together;
- (iii) Christmas in Pymont celebrates the festive season and promotes a sense of community, while raising funds and awareness around local charities, having raised and distributed over \$700,000 to local charities since its inception;
- (iv) the City of Sydney has been providing an annual grant of \$15,000 to Christmas in Pymont since its inception in 2013;
- (v) previous grant applicants have raised concerns that the current grant application and acquittal process at the City of Sydney is long, complicated and time-consuming and noted that it was a particularly difficult and onerous task for not-for-profits and community groups who rely on sparse amounts of volunteers to complete it;
- (vi) due to the growth in size and popularity of Christmas in Pymont and the nature of its reliance upon volunteers, the Christmas in Pymont Committee has decided not to apply for a City of Sydney grant for its 2023 event; and
- (vii) for well-established community events which have previously been successful grant recipients like Christmas in Pymont, the many hours taken to annually fill out the City's grant and acquittal forms could be better spent connecting with the community and local businesses; and

(B) the Chief Executive Officer be requested to:

- (i) investigate the City's ability to remove the unnecessary red-tape surrounding the City's grants and acquittal process for well-established community-run events which continue to add value to the City's social and economic life;
- (ii) investigate the implementation of a new grants and acquittal process which simplifies and removes the complexities and repetition of the current process for applicants who are seeking to re-apply for a grant of which they have previously been an annual recipient; and
- (iii) consult previous grant recipients, including the Christmas in Pymont Committee, to establish the particularities of what needs to be removed and/or simplified in the City's current grants and acquittals forms in order to make the new application and acquittal process more user friendly and promote the City's willingness to provide timely and efficient grants and acquittal services to the community.

Amendment. Moved by Councillor Davis, seconded by Councillor Kok –

It is resolved that:

(A) Council note:

- (i) Christmas in Pymont is an annual street fair organised by Pymont and Ultimo residents;
- (ii) it has been a fixture within the Pymont community since 2013, each year increasing in size and popularity, and bringing the community closer together;
- (iii) Christmas in Pymont celebrates the festive season and promotes a sense of community, while raising funds and awareness around local charities, having raised and distributed over \$700,000 to local charities since its inception;
- (iv) the City of Sydney has previously provided annual grants of \$15,000 to Christmas in Pymont since its inception in 2013;
- (v) Christmas in Pymont Inc's most recent grant application in July 2018 sought funding of \$90,000 over three years, comprising funding of \$30,000 in each year of this period. This represented 25.6 per cent of its total estimated expenditure;
- (vi) this application resulted in Christmas in Pymont Inc receiving \$48,000 for the three year period, or \$16,000 a year;
- (vii) the application, assessment and acquittal process relating to this grant were conducted under the City of Sydney's previous Grants and Sponsorships Policy and Guidelines;
- (viii) on 22 August 2022, Council adopted a revised previous Grants and Sponsorships Policy and Guidelines;
- (ix) the application, assessment and acquittal process has been updated to reflect the new policy, with City staff continuing to make refinements following feedback from grant applicants and recipients;
- (x) the City's grants application, assessment and acquittals process:
 - (a) enables the City to ensure that projects, projects and events funded through the City's grants and sponsorships programs deliver benefit to the community and represent value for money;
 - (b) enables grant recipients to demonstrate that projects, programs and events supported by City of Sydney funding are well-managed, accord with the City's strategic priorities and achieve worthwhile and agreed outcomes; and
 - (c) protect and ensure the integrity and public reputation of the City's grants and sponsorships programs, which is in the direct interest of grant recipients;
- (xi) some previous grant applicants have raised concerns that the current grant application and acquittal process at the City of Sydney is long, complicated and time-consuming and noted that it was a particularly difficult and onerous task for not-for-profits and community groups who rely on sparse amounts of volunteers to complete it;
- (xii) due to the growth in size and popularity of Christmas in Pymont and the nature of its reliance upon volunteers, the Christmas in Pymont Committee has decided not to apply for a City of Sydney grant for its 2023 event;

- (xiii) all City of Sydney grant recipients are required to acquit their grants following the completion of their project, program or event via an online grants acquittal form, which includes information transferred from their initial applications;
 - (xiv) grants acquittals ensure that projects, programs and events receiving City of Sydney Grants have been delivered and the grant funding has been expended responsibly;
 - (xv) grants acquittals provide information which assists the City when responding to Council, community or the media inquiries about grants programs;
 - (xvi) Christmas in Pymont Inc. was required to answer 31 questions contained in the acquittal form and raised concerns about three questions which they suggested were impossible to answer; and
- (B) the Chief Executive Officer be requested to consider the feedback provided by Christmas in Pymont Inc, with a view to ensuring that questions asked on acquittal forms are appropriate and essential to ensuring whether the project, program or event has achieved its objectives and the City has received value for money.

The amendment was carried on the following show of hands –

Ayes (6) The Chair (the Lord Mayor), Councillors Chan, Davis, Kok, Scott and Scully

Noes (4) Councillors Ellsmore, Gannon, Jarrett and Weldon.

Amendment carried.

Amended motion carried unanimously.

X086657

Adjournment

At this stage of the meeting, at 6.50pm, it was moved by the Chair (the Lord Mayor), seconded by Councillor Scully –

That the meeting be adjourned for approximately 15 minutes.

Carried unanimously.

All Councillors were present at the resumption of the meeting of Council at 7.10pm.

Item 10.2 Parental Leave for Councillors

Moved by Councillor Scully, seconded by the Chair (the Lord Mayor) –

It is resolved that:

(A) Council note:

- (i) in 2017, the Office of Local Government reported that while 50.7 per cent of the NSW population identifies as female, only 31.2 per cent of councillors elected were female and that 91 per cent of councils have less than 50 per cent female councillors;
- (ii) according to preliminary data from the Office of Local Government, the percentage of female candidates has grown from 37.5 per cent in 2016/17 to 42 per cent in 2021, an increase of 4.2 per cent;
- (iii) preliminary data also indicates that 39 per cent of all councillors in NSW identify as female, an increase from 31 per cent at the 2016/17 elections, 28 per cent in 2012 and 27 per cent in 2008;
- (iv) currently, 69 of 124 councils that held elections in 2021 have recorded more women on council than in previous terms;
- (v) based on available data from the Office of Local Government's Candidate and Councillor Diversity Report 2017, both candidates and councillors who are Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander, disabled, female, between the ages of 18 to 29 or are linguistically diverse are not represented proportionately to the NSW population on councils;
- (vi) similarly in 2017, only 44 of the 127 councils reported on had councillors under the age of 30, with councillors aged 60+ making up 40.6 per cent of councillor positions, despite being 21.9 per cent of the NSW population;
- (vii) as of 2021, Local Government NSW (LGNSW) found that the latest profile of councillors in NSW were largely retired, semi-retired or independently wealthy and recommended that greater benefits for councillors would attract a more diverse range of candidates, broaden the skill pool of potential future councillors, and lead to better community representation;
- (viii) as of March 2023, the Office of Local Government has not published any updated data on candidate and councillor diversity since the 2021 election, and there is no data on candidates or councillors who are parents, guardians or carers;
- (ix) councillors are not considered employees of their council and are therefore not eligible for parental leave, sick leave or personal carer's leave;
- (x) while it is widely accepted that the role of councillor is part-time, and should be supplemented with another job if necessary, councillors spend an average of 45.6 hours per week fulfilling their local government duties;
- (xi) the Office of Local Government notes that major obstacles to more women standing as candidates for council include insufficient time to meet council, family and employment obligations as well as a lack of compensation for childcare and carer commitments;
- (xii) Local Government NSW (LGNSW) has reported that the increase in female councillors can be seen as a result of introducing superannuation for mayors and councillors in 2022;

- (xiii) in NSW, the remuneration received by mayors and councillors is independently set by an expert tribunal, the Local Government Remuneration Tribunal; and
 - (xiv) the Minister for Local Government has the capacity to refer an issue to be decided by a special determination by the Local Government Remuneration Tribunal, outside of the annual determinations for councils;
- (B) the Lord Mayor be requested to:
- (i) write to the NSW Minister for Local Government requesting:
 - (a) the release of the Candidate and Councillor Diversity Report for the 2021 NSW Local Government election, with the inclusion of statistics for candidates and councillors who are parents, guardians and/or carers;
 - (b) the development of a discussion paper to seek views of councils and their local communities on whether councillors should receive paid parental leave, similar to the Councillor Superannuation - Discussion Paper published in 2020;
 - (c) the implementation of 18 weeks of paid parental leave, inclusive of adoption and long-term fostering leave by special determination of the Local Government Remuneration Tribunal;
 - (d) the implementation of four weeks of paid partner leave by special determination of the Local Government Remuneration Tribunal; and
 - (e) consideration of how council representation might be maintained to represent election outcomes, such as through mechanisms including proxies or pairing, to accommodate the needs of councillors to meet caring responsibilities; and
 - (ii) write to the President of the Australian Local Government Association and President of Local Government NSW requesting the adoption of a policy position in favour of paid parental leave for councillors; and
- (C) the Chief Executive Officer be requested to write to the Director of the Local Government Remuneration Tribunal requesting the investigation of the financial implications of paid parental leave for councillors.

Carried unanimously.

X086654

Item 10.3 Gadigal Avenue Bus Shelter

Moved by Councillor Jarrett, seconded by Councillor Gannon –

It is resolved that:

(A) Council note:

- (i) that residents in Zetland have raised concerns about the need for bus shelters along Gadigal Avenue, Zetland, an important arterial and community road for residents;
- (ii) that there are four bus stops currently along Gadigal Avenue;
- (iii) with the increased effects of climate change, residents require increased shelter and cover, particularly in warmer months to protect from the harsher conditions; and
- (iv) that at current bus stops along Gadigal Avenue, there are no bus shelters available for residents to be protected from the natural elements; and

(B) the Chief Executive Officer be requested to investigate the feasibility of installing a bus shelter or multiple bus shelters at current bus stops at Gadigal Avenue, Zetland and report back to Council its costings and findings.

Amendment. Moved by Kok, seconded by Councillor Chan –

It is resolved that:

(A) Council note:

- (i) that residents in Zetland have raised concerns about the need for bus shelters along Gadigal Avenue, Zetland, an important arterial and community road for residents;
- (ii) the City of Sydney has limited influence on where Transport for New South Wales decides to locate bus stops in our area, however, the City installs bus shelters at bus stops where it is reasonable to do so;
- (iii) that there are four bus stops currently along Gadigal Avenue that are located:
 - (a) on the south east side of Gadigal Avenue near the intersection with Hutchinson Walk located between established street trees and where there is an awning attached to a building behind that provides weather protection for commuters while still being able to see the oncoming bus;
 - (b) on the west side of Gadigal Avenue near the intersection with Levy Walk located between established street trees leaving insufficient room to install a bus shelter without risking the health of the trees;
 - (c) on the west side of Gadigal Avenue near the intersection with Archibald Avenue where there is an awning attached to a building behind that provides weather protection for commuters while still being able to see the oncoming bus; and
 - (d) on the east side of Gadigal Avenue near the intersection with Archibald Avenue where there is an awning attached to a building behind that provides weather protection for commuters while still being able to see the oncoming bus; and
- (iv) with the increased effects of climate change, residents require shelter and cover, particularly in warmer months to protect from the harsher conditions.

The amendment was carried on the following show of hands –

Ayes (6) The Chair (the Lord Mayor), Councillors Chan, Davis, Ellsmore, Kok and Scully

Noes (4) Councillors Gannon, Jarrett, Scott and Weldon.

Amendment carried.

The amended motion was carried on the following show of hands –

Ayes (7) The Chair (the Lord Mayor), Councillors Chan, Davis, Ellsmore, Kok, Scott and Scully

Noes (3) Councillors Gannon, Jarrett and Weldon.

Amended motion carried.

X086657

Item 10.4 City of Sydney Community Centre Working Group

Moved by Councillor Jarrett, seconded by Councillor Gannon –

It is resolved that:

(A) Council note:

- (i) representatives of the 4Cs (Coalition Caring 4 Community Centres) developed a strategy called Strengthening Connections in the City of Sydney and sent it to Council in June 2022;
- (ii) in August 2022 and in March 2023, representatives of the 4Cs wrote to the Lord Mayor and the Chief Executive Officer requesting the establishment of a working group to review the needs of community centres and develop responses to those needs;
- (iii) the current City of Sydney budget included a sizeable increase in funding specifically for community centre staffing and programming;
- (iv) a portion of this funding has been allocated to the new online booking system for community centres that is not expected to be available for another two years;
- (v) residents have raised concerns that funding is not being allocated towards solving the short-term issues of isolation and accessibility currently being experienced by communities; and
- (vi) local community representatives have highlighted that community centres within the City remain under-utilised and poorly maintained, with staffing issues being left unaddressed and are concerned with little evidence of action by the City to address the underlying problems of social isolation and loneliness; and

(B) the Chief Executive Officer be requested to:

- (i) hold an immediate meeting with relevant senior staff at the City to determine how additional funds can be allocated to community centres in the 2023-24 budget;
- (ii) form a working group consisting of Council staff, Councillors, and community representatives to review the priorities and develop an action plan to address the community needs regarding community centre funding; and
- (iii) report back to Council on how the additional funds are to be allocated towards community centres in the upcoming budget and on the creation of a working group.

The motion was lost on the following show of hands –

Ayes (5) Councillors Ellsmore, Gannon, Jarrett, Scott and Weldon

Noes (5) The Chair (the Lord Mayor), Councillors Chan, Davis, Kok and Scully.

Motion lost.

X086657

Item 10.5 Congratulating Jozefa Sobski AM

By Councillor Scott

It is resolved that:

(A) Council note:

- (i) Jessie Street National Women's Library is a unique specialist library dedicated to the preservation of Australian women's work, words and history;
- (ii) the Library was established in 1989 and is named after Jessie Street, a lifelong campaigner for women's rights, the peace movement and the elimination of discrimination against Aboriginal people;
- (iii) the Library's mission is to:
 - (a) collect the published and unpublished materials which document the lives and experience of women of all ethnic, racial and religious backgrounds and of all socio-economic classes;
 - (b) ensure that documents relating to Australian women's lives and activities are preserved and made accessible;
 - (c) highlight the contribution of Australian women to this country's development; and
 - (d) support the field of women's history;
- (iv) Jozefa Soboski has served almost continuously as Board Chair since 2006;
- (v) this year will be her last year as Board Chair, however, she will remain as a volunteer;
- (vi) Jozefa was brought up in a migrant hostel, she has been a teacher, non-sexist education adviser to NSW Ministers, TAFE Director, and Deputy Director-General of NSW Education;
- (vii) Jozefa used these positions, and her membership of many voluntary organisations, to promote programs to achieve equal education outcomes for girls and women and create opportunities for marginalised communities through education and training;
- (viii) under Jozefa's leadership the Jessie Street National Women's Library became a significant research centre housing archives of national significance to the history of women's participation in our nation;
- (ix) everyone loves her for her energy, her enthusiasm and the generosity with which she contributes to making the world around her better; and
- (x) the City of Sydney is supporting Jessie Street Library's current location at the Ultimo Community Centre through the Accommodation Grants Program. The Library was relocated to this site in October 2005; and

(B) the Lord Mayor be requested to write to Jozefa Soboski AM thanking her for her years of service to our community.

Note – at the meeting of Council, the content of the original Notice of Motion was varied by Councillor Scott. Subsequently it was –

Moved by Councillor Scott, seconded by the Chair (the Lord Mayor) –

It is resolved that:

(A) Council note:

- (i) Jessie Street National Women’s Library is a unique specialist library dedicated to the preservation of Australian women’s work, words and history;
- (ii) the Library was established in 1989 and is named after Jessie Street, a lifelong campaigner for women’s rights, the peace movement and the elimination of discrimination against Aboriginal people;
- (iii) the Library’s mission is to:
 - (a) collect the published and unpublished materials which document the lives and experience of women of all ethnic, racial and religious backgrounds and of all socio-economic classes;
 - (b) ensure that documents relating to Australian women’s lives and activities are preserved and made accessible;
 - (c) highlight the contribution of Australian women to this country’s development; and
 - (d) support the field of women’s history;
- (iv) Jozefa Soboski has served almost continuously as Board Chair since 2006;
- (v) this year will be her last year as Board Chair, however, she will remain as a volunteer;
- (vi) Jozefa was brought up in a migrant hostel, she has been a teacher, non-sexist education adviser to NSW Ministers, TAFE Director, and Deputy Director-General of NSW Education;
- (vii) Jozefa used these positions, and her membership of many voluntary organisations, to promote programs to achieve equal education outcomes for girls and women and create opportunities for marginalised communities through education and training;
- (viii) under Jozefa’s leadership, the Jessie Street National Women’s Library became significant as a research centre housing books, serials, archives, posters and memorabilia of national significance to the history of women’s participation in our nation and advocacy for women’s equality;
- (ix) everyone loves her for her energy, her enthusiasm and the generosity with which she contributes to making the world around her better; and
- (x) the City of Sydney is supporting Jessie Street Library’s current location at the Ultimo Community Centre through the Accommodation Grants Program. The Library was relocated to this site in October 2005; and

- (B) the Lord Mayor be requested to write to Jozefa Soboski AM thanking her for her years of service to our community.

Carried unanimously.

Note – all Councillors, staff and members of the public present acknowledged Jozefa Soboski by round of applause.

X086655

Item 10.6 Protection of Public Housing in the City of Sydney

By Councillor Ellsmore

It is resolved that:

- (A) Council note and congratulate NSW Labor and Premier-elect Chris Minns, who will form the new NSW Government following the State Election held on 25 March 2023;
- (B) Council note:
- (i) the former NSW Government is estimated to have sold more 4,200 social housing properties, valued at more than \$3 billion, including public housing located in the City of Sydney Local Government Area;
 - (ii) the social housing waitlist in NSW is over 57,000, including over 1,000 in the inner city;
 - (iii) there were number of public housing properties in the City of Sydney Local Government Area which were on sale during the caretaker period, including large terraces in the Glebe Estate, which have historically been used to house families;
 - (iv) the current wait list for a family seeking public housing in the inner city is more than ten years;
 - (v) during the 2023 NSW election campaign, NSW Labor committed to immediately end the sale of public housing in NSW, and to implement legislation to place a moratorium on the privatisation of public housing including the sale, outsourcing, or leasing of any public housing assets or services; and
 - (vi) in addition, the then Labor Shadow Minister for Housing and Homelessness committed to urgently reviewing re-development projects which have been announced, or are underway, on public land. Public housing sites in the City of Sydney which are currently under redevelopment or proposed for future redevelopment include, but are not limited to, the Waterloo Estate, South Eveleigh Explorer Street, 600-660 Elizabeth Street Redfern, and Franklyn Street Glebe;
- (C) Council further note:
- (i) the City of Sydney is committed to tackling housing affordability where it can, including through protecting and increasing public housing, and is currently implementing a wide range of strategies and actions;
 - (ii) the Lord Mayor has long advocated to Federal and State governments to adopt more ambitious targets for public and social housing developments, and to end the sale of public housing sites in the City. This includes advocating to the incoming Prime Minister Albanese: to develop sustainable funding and investment models to ensure the adequate provision of appropriate public, social and affordable housing, especially in inner cities close to jobs and services; and for the Federal Government to work with the City to secure 100 per cent public, social and affordable housing at the Waterloo Estate;

- (iii) in February 2023, Council endorsed a Lord Mayoral Minute on priorities for the next NSW Government, including that planning powers for all public, social and affordable housing sites are returned to the City, and to end the sell-off of public land; and
 - (iv) in March 2023, the Lord Mayor wrote to Chris Minns the then Opposition Leader and now NSW Premier asking that the Labor Party commit to working with the City on these priorities following the NSW election; and
- (D) the Lord Mayor be requested to urgently write to the incoming NSW Premier Chris Minns, the Minister responsible for Housing and the Minister responsible for Planning, to:
- (i) reaffirm the City's commitment to protect and increase public housing in the local area; and
 - (ii) request an urgent meeting to discuss how the City of Sydney Council can support the incoming NSW Labor Government to implement the moratorium on the sell-off of public housing, to review current redevelopment or proposed redevelopment projects impacting existing public housing, and to increase public housing in the local area.

Note – at the meeting of Council, the content of the original Notice of Motion was varied at the outset by Councillor Ellsmore. Subsequently it was –

Moved by Councillor Ellsmore, seconded by Councillor Scully –

It is resolved that:

- (A) Council note and congratulate NSW Labor and Premier-elect Chris Minns, who will form the new NSW Government following the State Election held on 25 March 2023;
- (B) Council note:
 - (i) the former NSW Government is estimated to have sold more 4,200 social housing properties, valued at more than \$3 billion, including public housing located in the City of Sydney Local Government Area;
 - (ii) the social housing waitlist in NSW is over 57,000, including over 1,000 in the inner city;
 - (iii) there were number of public housing properties in the City of Sydney Local Government Area which were on sale during the caretaker period, including large terraces in the Glebe Estate, which have historically been used to house families;
 - (iv) public housing properties in the Glebe Estate currently listed for sale include 105 Mitchell Street, 36-38 Campbell Street and 93 Campbell Street;
 - (v) the current wait list for a family seeking public housing in the inner city is more than ten years;
 - (vi) during the 2023 NSW election campaign, NSW Labor committed to immediately end the sale of public housing in NSW, and to implement legislation to place a moratorium on the privatisation of public housing including the sale, outsourcing, or leasing of any public housing assets or services; and

- (vii) in addition, the then Labor Shadow Minister for Housing and Homelessness committed to urgently reviewing re-development projects which have been announced, or are underway, on public land. Public housing sites in the City of Sydney which are currently under redevelopment or proposed for future redevelopment include, but are not limited to, the Waterloo Estate, South Eveleigh Explorer Street, 600-660 Elizabeth Street Redfern, and Franklyn Street Glebe;

(C) Council further note:

- (i) although public/housing is currently principally the responsibility of the State Government, the City of Sydney is committed to tackling housing affordability where it can, including through protecting and increasing public housing, and is currently implementing a wide range of strategies and actions;
- (ii) the Lord Mayor has long advocated to Federal and State governments to adopt more ambitious targets for public and social housing developments, and to end the sale of public housing sites in the City. This includes advocating to the incoming Prime Minister Albanese: to develop sustainable funding and investment models to ensure the adequate provision of appropriate public, social and affordable housing, especially in inner cities close to jobs and services; and for the Federal Government to work with the City to secure 100 per cent public, social and affordable housing at the Waterloo Estate;
- (iii) in February 2023, Council endorsed a Lord Mayoral Minute on priorities for the next NSW Government, including that planning powers for all public, social and affordable housing sites are returned to the City, and to end the sell-off of public land; and
- (iv) in March 2023, the Lord Mayor wrote to Chris Minns the then Opposition Leader and now NSW Premier asking that the Labor Party commit to working with the City on these priorities following the NSW election; and

(D) the Lord Mayor be requested to urgently write to the incoming NSW Premier Chris Minns, the Minister responsible for Housing and the Minister responsible for Planning, to:

- (i) reaffirm the City's commitment to protect and increase public housing in the local area; and
- (ii) request an urgent meeting to discuss how the NSW Government will implement a moratorium on the sale of public housing, how it will reform the previous Government's Communities Plus policy, and how it will increase public housing in the local area.

The motion was carried on the following show of hands –

Ayes (8) The Chair (the Lord Mayor), Councillors Chan, Davis, Ellsmore, Kok, Scott, Scully and Weldon

Noes (2) Councillors Gannon and Jarrett.

Motion carried.

X086659

Item 10.7 Review of Redevelopment Projects Underway or Proposed for Public Land in the City of Sydney

By Councillor Ellsmore

It is resolved that:

(A) Council note:

- (i) the City of Sydney contains significant areas of public land, which have been subject to redevelopment or privatisation by the former NSW Government;
- (ii) state planning controls more than 296 hectares of land in the City of Sydney - over 10 per cent of the Local Government Area;
- (iii) the isolation of these areas and sites from the City's planning framework results in disconnected planning processes and outcomes for the City's residents, workers and visitors;
- (iv) for many of these projects, the NSW Government relied on the planning pathway called 'State Significant Development' (SSD), which allowed developments to be fast-tracked and bypass local council's decision making. Many SSD projects have been imposed on local communities despite strong community opposition;
- (v) under the former NSW Government, public land was transferred to government entities without the approval of the NSW Parliament including to the Transport Asset Holding Entity (TAHE) and the Land and Housing Corporation (LAHC);
- (vi) TAHE controls billions of dollars worth of the state's rail assets. It was set up in 2014 as a corporation and acts as the developer-arm of Transport for NSW which further erodes transparency around the use of public funds;
- (vii) many inner city public land sites have been privatised in part or full, such as Barangaroo, or are proposed for redevelopment and privatisation including but not limited to TAHE sites of North Eveleigh (Paint Shop sub-precinct and Clothing Store sub-precinct) and Central Station, and Blackwattle Bay;
- (viii) the previous NSW Government also encouraged unsolicited proposals to government by private entities to purchase and develop public land sites;
- (ix) several projects that are in the privatisation pipeline have approaching deadlines where contracts may be signed, and others the status of which is still unknown;
- (x) the City reviews and makes comprehensive submissions including recommendations to improve State Rezoning Proposals and State Significant Development Applications in the City of Sydney;
- (xi) during the 2023 NSW election campaign, NSW Labor committed to review all major projects on public land;
- (xii) NSW Labor also committed to abolish the Transport Asset Holding Entity (TAHE) and to merge the Land and Housing Corporation (LAHC) the Aboriginal Housing Office and the Department of Communities and Justice Housing into one entity called Homes NSW;
- (xiii) the Council and the Lord Mayor have long advocated to NSW Governments for the return of state-controlled areas to the City's planning framework;

- (xiv) in February 2023, Council endorsed a Lord Mayoral Minute on priorities for the next NSW Government including that planning powers are returned to the City;
 - (xv) in March 2023, the Lord Mayor wrote to Chris Minns, the then Opposition Leader and now NSW Premier to commit to working with the City on these priorities; and
- (B) Council commit the City of Sydney to work collaboratively with the NSW Labor Government to urgently review all State Significant Development (SSD) Applications and ensure that any proposals adequately reflect community needs; and
- (C) the Lord Mayor be requested to again write to the incoming NSW Premier Chris Minns, and the incoming Minister for Planning to:
- (i) provide copies of the City's submissions for all State Significant Development (SSD) projects currently under assessment by the Department of Planning and Environment that are on public land;
 - (ii) offering support to the NSW Government's review of those projects, including but not limited to Blackwattle Bay, Central Station and North Eveleigh sites; and
 - (iii) reiterate the City's position that planning controls over major projects should be returned to local councils, and the State Significant Development (SSD) planning pathway be abolished.

Note – at the meeting of Council, the content of the original Notice of Motion was varied by Councillor Ellsmore. Subsequently it was –

Moved by Councillor Ellsmore, seconded by Councillor Chan –

It is resolved that:

- (A) Council note:
- (i) the City of Sydney contains significant areas of public land, which have been subject to redevelopment or privatisation by the former NSW Government;
 - (ii) state planning controls more than 296 hectares of land in the City of Sydney - over 10 per cent of the Local Government Area;
 - (iii) the isolation of these areas and sites from the City's planning framework results in disconnected planning processes and outcomes for the City's residents, workers and visitors;
 - (iv) for many of these projects, the NSW Government relied on the planning pathway called 'State Significant Development' (SSD), which allowed developments to be fast-tracked and bypass local council's decision making. Many SSD projects have been imposed on local communities despite strong community opposition;
 - (v) under the former NSW Government, public land was transferred to government entities without the approval of the NSW Parliament including to the Transport Asset Holding Entity (TAHE) and the Land and Housing Corporation (LAHC);

- (vi) TAHE controls billions of dollars worth of the state's rail assets. It was set up in 2014 as a corporation and acts as the developer-arm of Transport for NSW which further erodes transparency around the use of public funds;
 - (vii) many inner city public land sites have been privatised in part or full, such as Barangaroo, or are proposed for redevelopment and privatisation including but not limited to TAHE sites of North Eveleigh (Paint Shop sub-precinct and Clothing Store sub-precinct) and Central Station, and Blackwattle Bay;
 - (viii) the previous NSW Government also encouraged unsolicited proposals to government by private entities to purchase and develop public land sites;
 - (ix) several projects that are in the privatisation pipeline have approaching deadlines where contracts may be signed, and others the status of which is still unknown;
 - (x) the City reviews and makes comprehensive submissions including recommendations to improve State Rezoning Proposals and State Significant Development Applications in the City of Sydney;
 - (xi) during the 2023 NSW election campaign, NSW Labor committed to review all major projects on public land;
 - (xii) NSW Labor also committed to abolish the Transport Asset Holding Entity (TAHE) and to merge the Land and Housing Corporation (LAHC) the Aboriginal Housing Office and the Department of Communities and Justice Housing into one entity called Homes NSW;
 - (xiii) the Council and the Lord Mayor have long advocated to NSW Governments for the return of state-controlled areas to the City's planning framework;
 - (xiv) in 2019, Council endorsed a Lord Mayoral Minute calling for an end to State Significant Precincts, State Significant Developments and confidential unsolicited proposals that seek planning outcomes;
 - (xv) in February 2023, Council endorsed a Lord Mayoral Minute on priorities for the next NSW Government including that planning powers are returned to the City; and
 - (xvi) in March 2023, the Lord Mayor wrote to Chris Minns, the then Opposition Leader and now NSW Premier to commit to working with the City on these priorities; and
- (B) the Lord Mayor be requested to write to the incoming NSW Premier Chris Minns, and the incoming Minister for Planning to:
- (i) provide copies of all the City's submissions for State Significant Development (SSD) and State Rezoning projects currently under assessment by the Department of Planning and Environment that are on public land;
 - (ii) offering support to the NSW Government's review of those projects, which should prioritise community needs, including but not limited to Blackwattle Bay, Central Station and North Eveleigh sites; and
 - (iii) reiterate the City's position that planning controls over major projects should be returned to the City, and the State Significant Development (SSD) planning pathway be abolished.

The motion was carried on the following show of hands –

Ayes (9) The Chair (the Lord Mayor), Councillors Chan, Davis, Ellsmore, Gannon, Kok, Scott, Scully and Weldon

Noes (1) Councillor Jarrett.

Motion carried.

X086659

Item 10.8 Housing for All Working Group Update

Moved by Councillor Ellsmore, seconded by Councillor Scully -

It is resolved that:

(A) Council note:

- (i) the Housing for All Working Group is an advisory group convened by the City of Sydney Council;
- (ii) the Housing for All Working Group's membership includes representatives from housing and tenant peak bodies, public and social housing tenants, advocates with lived expertise of homelessness, advocates with expertise in Aboriginal housing and homelessness, NSW Government agencies, representatives of the property industry, architects and Community Housing Providers;
- (iii) the Housing for All Working Group met most recently on Tuesday, 7 March 2023;
- (iv) the meeting included an update on:
 - (a) the recent public exhibition of the City of Sydney's Affordable Housing Planning Proposal. Amongst other changes, the proposal will impact where affordable housing contributions that the City collects from development are directed; and
 - (b) the City's lead role in expanding the supply of affordable housing in the Sydney area through the Resilient Sydney coalition of Sydney Councils, and the Southern Sydney Regional Organisation of Councils (SSROC). Recent actions include the launch of tools and resources that Councils can use to develop and implement affordable housing contributions schemes for their own councils;
- (v) the Working Group members also discussed priorities and actions for its workplan in 2023. Initial agreed actions include:
 - (a) a post-election briefing, to discuss what opportunities the outcome of the NSW election presents to improve affordable housing and planning laws, and increase the supply of social and affordable housing;
 - (b) a roundtable discussion on the affordable housing shortage for students in the City, which is projected to worsen as more students return to on-campus study. It is proposed that the roundtable be held in late May, and include student representatives, university and training organisations, Housing for All Working Group members, government agencies, and interested representatives from other City advisory panels such as the City of Sydney Multicultural Advisory Panel; and
 - (c) a site visit of housing co-operatives to explore innovative affordable housing models; and
- (vi) the Housing for All Working Group will meet again on 27 May 2023.

Carried unanimously.

X086659

Item 10.9 Support for Wolli Creek Regional Park Protection

Moved by Councillor Ellsmore, seconded by Councillor Gannon -

It is resolved that:

(A) Council note:

- (i) Wolli Creek Regional Park (WCRP) is an important piece of bushland in Sydney's urban inner southwest. Wolli Creek Regional Park has 50 hectares of bushland, which includes a 4.5km walking track, parklands, heathland, woodland, rainforest trees, wetlands and saltmarsh. It offers a home to a large array of birds and grey-headed flying foxes;
- (ii) due to its proximity to the City of Sydney, many of the City's residents go to Wolli Creek Regional Park for recreational purposes;
- (iii) the Wolli Creek Preservation Society (WCPS) plays an active role in bush regeneration activities;
- (iv) in 1988, the former NSW Government announced that the Wolli Creek Regional Park would be "permanently protected". Successive ALP and Coalition governments have overseen the gradual addition of lands to the Wolli Creek Regional Park, prompted by Wolli Creek Preservation Society campaigns in 1999, 2006, 2010 and 2018;
- (v) five blocks of land, constituting just two per cent of the Wolli Creek Regional Park, remain to be acquired. These small blocks are critical to the connectivity of the park's bushland and access to it. They are owned by Sydney Water and three private owners; and
- (vi) City of Sydney Councillors have received a request from the Wolli Creek Preservation Society to support the community campaign to add these remaining lands to the park; and

(B) the Chief Executive Officer be requested to write to the NSW Government:

- (i) requesting that the NSW Government take the steps necessary to expedite the acquisition of the remaining lands necessary to complete Wolli Creek Regional Park; and
- (ii) requesting that the NSW Government support the Wolli Creek Regional Park with increased funding and staffing, to provide for its continued protection and enhancement.

Carried unanimously.

X086659

Item 10.10 Community Consultation on Sydney Metro West - The Bays to CBD

Moved by Councillor Davis, seconded by Councillor Scott -

It is resolved that:

(A) Council note:

- (i) the Sydney Metro West project will provide a fast and reliable connection between Greater Parramatta and the Sydney CBD and includes The Bays metro stop at Pyrmont, which is strongly welcomed by the local community and the City;
- (ii) in August 2022, approval was granted for Stage 2 of the Sydney Metro West project involving excavation and tunnelling between The Bays and Sydney CBD, which is now subject to a modification application that seeks to amend conditions of approval to allow non-Tunnel Boring Machine activities to be undertaken 24/7;
- (iii) further, as part of design development, Sydney Metro are changing the tunnel alignment and relocating a "cross over cavern" from east of The Bays Station -where it is largely industrial - to the west of the Pyrmont Station, under one of the densest residential suburbs in Australia and where there are many heritage buildings including on Pyrmont Street, Paternoster Row and Union Street;
- (iv) the modification application was exhibited for just two weeks in February 2023 and included a lot of technical information that was confusing and alarming for many in the community who will be affected by the changes;
- (v) the community are most concerned about impacts of vibrations from tunnelling beneath significant heritage buildings, and about their amenity, safety and wellbeing from the constant and excessive noise from boring and drilling underneath their properties, air pollution from dust, and traffic operating in an already congested area with other major development projects happening at the same time nearby; and
- (vi) at the request of community members and with help of City of Sydney staff, the Sydney Metro West project team met with concerned community members on 29 March 2023 to listen to their concerns;

(B) the Lord Mayor be requested to write to the Minister for Transport and Minister for Planning requesting that:

- (i) the application to modify approval of the Sydney Metro West - The Bays to Sydney CBD is carefully reviewed against the valid concerns of the community outlined in (A) (iii) to (v) above; and
- (ii) Pyrmont and Ultimo communities are regularly updated at key project milestones and briefed on any further changes proposed with an opportunity to comment before a final decision is made; and

(C) the Chief Executive Officer be requested to convey the valid concerns of the community outlined in (A) (iii) to (v) above in relation to the Sydney Metro West - The Bays to Sydney CBD project during the City's regular discussions with Transport for NSW and Sydney Metro staff.

Carried unanimously.

X086660

Item 10.11 Victoria Park Wetlands Remediation

By Councillor Weldon

It is resolved that:

(A) Council note:

- (i) there has been an alarming number of duck fatalities in Victoria Park's Lake Northam. Sydney Wildlife carers have recorded 25 fatalities over the last fortnight;
- (ii) the observed species, the Pacific black duck and chestnut teal, are native to Australia and play an important role in wetland ecosystems;
- (iii) the City have been working with the Australian Registry of Wildlife Health, Taronga Zoo, the NSW Environment Protection Authority (EPA) and the Department of Primary Industries to determine the cause;
- (iv) the City expedited its routine quarterly water testing of the Lake Northam. No risks were identified. The City is conducting further testing for soil borne bacteria;
- (v) post mortems conducted by the Australian Registry of Wildlife Health show no injury, adequate weight and muscle mass, indicating absence of any longer term illness;
- (vi) prior to colonial incursion and industrialisation, Lake Northam formed part of a natural watercourse that extended from marshy headwaters at (what we now call) Glebe towards Redfern and Waterloo to the south;
- (vii) Lake Northam is now a constructed wetland, functioning as both wildlife habitat, a recreational area and a filtration system for stormwater run-off from King Street and the surrounding area;
- (viii) in 2018, City capital works upgrades in Victoria Park included a range of measures to restore and maintain the water quality of Lake Northam;
- (ix) over the last 12 months, there has been a proliferation of duck weed and algae on the surface of the lake; and
- (x) a Honi Soit report in September 2022 noted that the condition of Lake Northam appeared to be in dire need of attention, with decaying plants, increasingly murky water and a slew of semi-submerged rubbish; and

(B) the Chief Executive Officer be requested to:

- (i) provide an update to Council regarding the City's investigations of the cause of duck fatalities;
- (ii) subject to the findings of investigations, implement measures to mitigate the risk of a similar mass-fatality event from reoccurring; and
- (iii) undertake a condition assessment of Lake Northam and develop an effective and sustainable remediation strategy to improve water quality and promote a healthy wetlands ecosystem.

Note – at the meeting of Council, the content of the original Notice of Motion was varied by Councillor Weldon. Subsequently it was –

Moved by Councillor Weldon, seconded by Councillor Jarrett –

It is resolved that:

- (A) Council note that all Councillors were provided the following information about wildlife fatalities at Victoria Park's Lake Northam, a constructed wetland which functions as a filtration system for stormwater runoff from King Street and the surrounding area:
- (i) City staff were first made aware of duck fatalities at or near Lake Northam on 9 March 2023, with the City receiving additional notification from Sydney Wildlife Rescue on 10 March 2023;
 - (ii) Sydney Wildlife Rescue advised dead ducks had been sent to Taronga Zoo for autopsies;
 - (iii) the City has since been working with the Australian Registry of Wildlife Health, Taronga Zoo, the NSW Environment Protection Authority (EPA) and the Department of Primary Industries to determine the cause;
 - (iv) working with Taronga Zoo, the City has provided background on the wetland system, the current ecological condition of the lake and details of the City's quarterly water monitoring program;
 - (v) through discussions with Taronga Zoo, City staff and volunteers, the City understands that the carcasses of 26 Pacific Black Ducks, one Corella, one Rainbow Lorikeet, one Flying Fox and two Ibises have since been found in or near the lake;
 - (vi) the City has been unable to confirm if there are additional carcasses collected/disposed of by other agencies or volunteer groups;
 - (vii) it is unlikely that the Corella, Lorikeet and Flying Fox deaths are related to that of the duck deaths, as these species tend to have limited interactions with standing water;
 - (viii) early correspondence between the City and the zoo indicated avian botulism as the potential cause since a range of environmental conditions had been experienced that can promote the bacterial outbreak. Conditions include:
 - (a) shallow water depths from low levels of stormwater inflows and surface evaporation;
 - (b) high water temperature from recent heatwaves; and
 - (c) high nutrient load, organic levels and low dissolved oxygen in the water;
 - (ix) unfortunately, duck fatalities within the Local Government Area and surrounding councils during summer are not uncommon when environmental conditions combine to contribute to an outbreak;
 - (x) there have been previous outbreaks of avian botulism in Lake Northam in the summers of 2010 and 2012; and
 - (xi) botulism is caused by the release of toxins from the Clostridium bacteria, under optimal conditions, where concentrations in standing water can increase to a level which is harmful to wildlife, particularly birds. It poses a low risk to humans and dogs;

- (B) Councillors note that they were also informed about the following investigations being undertaken and the outcomes of these investigations:
- (i) quarterly testing of water quality at Lake Northam is undertaken by an independent environmental consultant with samples taken to an accredited laboratory and assessed against state and national guidelines. Following initial communications with Taronga Zoo, the City arranged for monitoring at Lake Northam to be expedited to 16 March 2023;
 - (ii) based on the initial field inspection and measurements:
 - (a) no immediate environmental risks were identified;
 - (b) field measurements together with laboratory results indicate an elevated nutrient and organic content combined with low dissolved oxygen;
 - (c) these conditions could encourage the production of botulinum;
 - (d) to further verify avian botulism, the City requested additional sedimentary sampling and targeted laboratory analyses for suspect bacterium;
 - (e) partial water quality testing results have been received with the remainder due by 31 March 2023; and
 - (f) all water quality results from this round of monitoring have been provided to the NSW EPA;
 - (iii) on 24 March 2023, Taronga Zoo distributed preliminary pathology reports for 10 birds submitted by Sydney Wildlife Rescue;
 - (iv) preliminary results indicate avian botulism remains the likely diagnosis, however other intoxication is a possibility; and
 - (v) to confirm the findings animal tissue samples have been sent to a specialised laboratory in Western Australia for toxicology testing. Results were due on 31 March 2023;
- (C) Councillors further note the following Management Control Measures proposed by the City:
- (i) as multiple lines of supporting evidence from both water quality and autopsy results indicate avian botulism is the likely cause, the City is preparing to implement controls in relation to avian botulism if it is confirmed as the cause of the deaths; and
 - (ii) the following management strategy has been planned to mitigate the outbreak with works to commence 3 April 2023:
 - (a) remove sediment and reduce vegetation guided by an ecologist/wetland specialist;
 - (b) increased reticulation of water in the wetland; and
 - (c) additional one-off sampling event of the water body to determine if conditions have improved to suppress the outbreak (i.e. lower nutrient concentrations, lower organics, higher oxygenation, etc);

(D) Councillors additionally note:

- (i) the system often experiences high nutrient levels due to stormwater flows entering the system and the water is not considered suitable for primary recreational contact (for example, swimming). As a result, permanent signage exists, advising park users to:
 - (a) refrain from entering the lake and to be careful near the lake edge;
 - (b) avoid drinking the water;
 - (c) avoid fishing or using model boats on the lake; and
 - (d) prevent dogs entering the lake and keep them away from wildlife; and
- (ii) the City works with a range of internal and external specialists to undertake proactive management measures to ensure the wetlands are maintained in a good condition. These include:
 - (a) quarterly testing of water quality by an independent environmental consultant;
 - (b) daily rubbish removal and litter inspections;
 - (c) monthly weed management of wetland reed beds and lake islands;
 - (d) periodic removal of silt build-up, excess vegetation and weeds (most recently undertaken in February 2023);
 - (e) inspections to ensure wetland is clean and in good ecological condition; and
 - (f) monthly check of water reticulation systems and pumps; and

(E) the Chief Executive Officer be requested to:

- (i) keep Councillors informed about actions being taken to address duck and other wildlife fatalities at Lake Northam;
- (ii) implement measures to mitigate the risk of a similar mass fatality event from reoccurring; and
- (iii) continue to review other constructed wetlands, lakes and ponds under City management to assess mitigation and ongoing management strategies at these locations.

Carried unanimously.

X086653

Item 10.12 Preservation of Boarding Houses

By Councillor Weldon

It is resolved that:

(A) Council note:

- (i) boarding houses provide much needed affordable accommodation for people on lower incomes, particularly singles, retirees, students and young couples;
- (ii) a proposed 'Change of use' to a boarding house in New South Wales requires Council development consent with consideration of the condition of the property, social and economic impacts on the community, cumulative loss of housing, financial viability of the boarding house and a possible monetary contribution payment to mitigate reduction in affordable housing;
- (iii) these planning provisions are set in the State Environmental Planning Policy (Housing) 2021 and the associated Retention of Existing Affordable Rental Housing (Guidelines); and
- (iv) over the last ten years, there have been 48 applications for 'Change of use' to boarding houses in the City of Sydney. All 48 applications have been approved; and

(B) the Chief Executive Officer be requested to:

- (i) review the assessment of 'Change of use' applications to ensure that appropriate consideration is given to the social and economic impacts on the community and the cumulative loss of housing;
- (ii) investigate mechanisms to incentivise community housing provider acquisition and management of boarding houses; and
- (iii) provide a report to Council with options and/or recommendations to retain boarding houses in the City of Sydney.

Note – at the meeting of Council, the content of the original Notice of Motion was varied by Councillor Weldon. Subsequently it was –

Moved by Councillor Weldon, seconded by Councillor Ellsmore –

It is resolved that:

(A) Council note:

- (i) boarding houses provide much needed affordable accommodation for people on lower incomes, particularly singles, retirees, students and young couples;
- (ii) a proposed 'Change of use' to a boarding house in New South Wales requires Council development consent with consideration of the condition of the property, social and economic impacts on the community, cumulative loss of housing, financial viability of the boarding house and a possible monetary contribution payment to mitigate reduction in affordable housing;
- (iii) these planning provisions are set in the State Environmental Planning Policy (Housing) 2021 (Housing SEPP) and the associated Retention of Existing Affordable Rental Housing (Guidelines);

- (iv) over the last ten years, there have been 48 applications for 'Change of use' to boarding houses in the City of Sydney. All 48 applications have been approved, 35 of which were Land and Housing Corporation (LAHC) applications on Crown Land where the Housing SEPP and guidelines don't apply;
 - (v) although housing is principally the responsibility of the State Government, the City is committed to tackling housing affordability any way it can, through levies, amended planning controls, discounted property sales, and an Affordable and Diverse Housing Fund; and
 - (vi) as at June 2022, the City has 1,427 built affordable housing units in the local area, 631 dwellings in the development pipeline and a further 701 that are expected to be built in the future; and
- (B) the Chief Executive Officer be requested to update Councillors via a CEO update:
- (i) on how the City considers the social and economic impacts on the community and the cumulative loss of housing when assessing change of use applications that result in a loss of affordable housing;
 - (ii) on how the City incentivises community housing providers to acquire or manage affordable housing (including boarding houses); and
 - (iii) on present options and/or recommendations on what the City can do to retain boarding houses in the City of Sydney.

Carried unanimously.

X086653

Item 10.13 Vale Rosalind Maybanke Strong AM

Moved by Councillor Weldon, seconded by the Chair (the Lord Mayor) -

It is resolved that:

- (A) Council note:
- (i) the recent passing of Rosalind (Ros) Maybanke Strong AM;
 - (ii) Ros was a remarkable woman and was well known and admired in Sydney and beyond. She was a brave, compassionate and generous leader with an incredible sense of purpose;
 - (iii) her career spanned 35 years in the NSW public service, retiring as the Director of the Heritage Office in 2002. Earlier she worked in school education and then was Assistant Director General, Employment and Training Co-ordination. Ros had a profound influence on education in Australia, particularly in migrant and multicultural education;
 - (iv) Ros served as Chair of numerous not-for-profit and non-government organisations, including the Sydney Community Foundation, UNIFEM Australia, the Asthma Foundation of NSW, the University of Sydney Union Foundation and Museums and Galleries NSW;
 - (v) Ros was a passionate and highly effective advocate for women's right. As Michele Goldman relayed, "She was not one to settle with the status quo and was passionate in the quest to do better and encourage and inspire those around her to do the same. Strategically astute, articulate and persuasive, no challenge was too great for Ros.";
 - (vi) Ros and her husband Tony were married for 50 years. They were a true team. They cared deeply for each other, for their family and for their friends. They opened up their home and their hearts to many; and
 - (vii) Ros will be greatly missed by all who knew her;
- (B) the Lord Mayor be requested to write to Ros' family expressing Council's condolences; and
- (C) all persons attending this meeting of Council observe one minute's silence to commemorate the life of Rosalind Strong.

Carried unanimously.

Note – All Councillors, staff and members of the public present stood in silence for one minute as a mark of respect to Rosalind Maybanke Strong.

X086653

Item 10.14 Alexandra Hospital for Children Plaque

Moved by Council Scott, seconded by the Chair (the Lord Mayor) –

It is resolved that:

(A) Council note:

- (i) in 1880, the Sydney Hospital for Sick Children opened in Glebe;
- (ii) in 1906, the Hospital moved to Camperdown and became known as the Royal Alexandra Hospital for Children;
- (iii) the Hospital was located at Camperdown for close to 90 years;
- (iv) there are two plaques at the Orphan School Creek Park, near the old Royal Alexandra Hospital for Children that acknowledge the staff and patients from the Royal Alexandra Hospital for Children;
- (v) while the Alexandra Hospital for Children was in operation, it would forcibly discharge Aboriginal children to the care of Government agencies;
- (vi) Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children continue to be over-represented in child protection and out-of-home care services compared to non-Indigenous children;
- (vii) the reason for this is complex but is strongly related to Australia's past of forcible removals;
- (viii) the Sydney Children's Hospital Network (SCHN) are requesting to install a plaque of apology to the families of Aboriginal children that were discharged into government facilities by the Royal Alexandra Hospital for Children, Camperdown;
- (ix) the plaque is proposed to be displayed with two other acknowledgements at the Orphan School Creek Park, near the old Royal Alexandra Hospital for Children;
- (x) this acknowledgement is proposed to fit within the space and be of similar size;
- (xi) the Network would like the plaque to be installed before Sorry Day which takes place on 26 May this year;
- (xii) there is a plaque offering an apology at the Children's Hospital at Westmead;
- (xiii) the Sydney Children's Network is willing to pay for the plaque and its installation; and
- (xiv) the plaque would read:

Apology to Aboriginal people from the Sydney Children's Hospitals Network

The Sydney Children's Hospitals Network acknowledges that, in the days when the Royal Alexandra Hospital for Children was located at Camperdown, Aboriginal children who were admitted to the Hospital were forcibly discharged to the care of government agencies.

For many of these children their removal meant they were not returned to their families.

The Sydney Children's Hospitals Network acknowledges the hurt and damage this has caused Aboriginal children and their families and sincerely apologises for its part it played in the removal of Aboriginal children at the Royal Alexandra Hospital for Children at Camperdown; and

- (B) the Chief Executive Officer be requested to work with the Sydney Children's Hospital Network to ensure the plaque can be installed prior to Sorry Day 2023.

Carried unanimously.

X086655

At 8.58 pm the meeting concluded.

Chair of a meeting of the Council of the City
of Sydney held on Monday 15 May 2023 at which
meeting the signature herein was subscribed.