

Item 12**Supplementary Answers to Previous Questions**

Supplementary Answers to Questions on Notice are as follows:

Question on Notice – Council 9 September 2019**Neighbourhood Centre Staff**

13. By Councillor Scott

Question

Community and Neighbourhood Centres in the City of Sydney provide an invaluable service to some of our most vulnerable residents and have an important place at the heart of our communities.

Can the Chief Executive Officer please provide the number of staff, specifying the roles and contract type of these staff (full-time / part-time / casual), in individual community and neighbourhood centres being operated by the City of Sydney listed by year for the past 10 financial years?

Answer by the Chief Executive Officer

This information will take some time to compile. A CEO Update will be provided to Councillors when the information is available.

S129275

Supplementary Answer**Background**

A Question on Notice was asked by Councillor Scott at the Council Meeting on 9 September 2019 in relation to staffing levels at the City's community facilities. The attached table shows the number of staff for the Customer Service Contact Centre at Town Hall House and counter services at Kings Cross, Glebe and Green Square Customer Service Centres and in the City's libraries and community centres as at end June 2018 and 2019. Also included are Town Hall House-based staff and those not based in a particular centre, but who provide social programs and services to our community.

The total FTE across all services has increased by 16.59 FTE since 2016/17, primarily in Libraries and Learning where the increase in FTE relates to Green Square, Darling Square and Waterloo Libraries. In addition, one staff member was redeployed to City Spaces in 2019/20.

The table below shows a summary of FTE for each business area. With the exception of additional staff required for new, larger libraries, staffing numbers have remained relatively constant across this period:

Section	FTE 2016/17	FTE 2017/18	FTE 2018/19	FTE 2019/20
Libraries and Learning	67.71	68.2	82.7	85.9
Customer Service	52.85	50.25	50.25	50.25
City Spaces	40.85	40.85	40.85	41.85
Social Programs	5	5	5	5
Total	166.41	164.3	178.8	183

A total of 70 to 85 casual staff are also used across the services. Casual staff are used in a variety of ways, including to fill leave vacancies, to cover permanent staff attending training, meetings and workshops and to assist when additional staff are required, for example to deliver events to the community.

Question on Notice – Council 9 September 2019

The City of Sydney and Tertiary Research

15. By Councillor Scott

Question

1. What co-contributions to research projects has the City of Sydney made since 2004? Please detail, broken down by year.
2. Please detail whether funds have been committed, or committed and expended, the relevant University or tertiary education provider, and the outcomes (where relevant) for the City and communities.

Answer by the Chief Executive Officer

This information will take some time to compile. A CEO Update will be provided to Councillors when the information is available.

S129275

Supplementary Answer

Background

At the Council Meeting in September 2019, the following Question on Notice was submitted by Councillor Scott relating to the City of Sydney and tertiary research:

1. What co-contributions to research projects has the City of Sydney made since 2004? Please detail, broken down by year.
2. Please detail whether funds have been committed, or committed and expended, the relevant University or tertiary education provider, and the outcomes (where relevant for the City and communities).

This information has now been compiled and is detailed below:

2005: Dictionary of Sydney

In 2005, the City of Sydney entered into a five year Linkage Project Agreement for an Australian Research Council grant for a project to research and develop the Dictionary of Sydney. The joint partners in the project were Sydney University, the City of Sydney, State Records NSW, State Library of New South Wales and the University of Technology Sydney.

The City's commitments under the ARC linkage grant were \$95,000 per year for five years and provision of office accommodation and standard office systems as value in kind. All monies were expended.

The Dictionary is an electronic repository of text and multimedia materials that records and celebrates the history of Sydney in an accessible way. The Dictionary's coverage is of the greater Sydney Metropolitan area and includes references to natural forms such as its botany and geology, built forms both present and lost over time, catastrophic natural and human disasters, as well as the triumphs and achievements that have contributed over time to an understanding of the place. It is a forum for education, entertainment and public discussion.

The Dictionary of Sydney website was launched in 2009. The website is still functioning and accessible. www.dictionaryofsydney.org. Content is still added to the digital repository, there is an active blog and associated social media channels, and the Dictionary of Sydney has a regular history slot on 2SER breakfast radio. The Dictionary of Sydney Trust was formed in 2006 to provide a governance structure and a life for the history project beyond the ARC linkage grant. All monies from the ARC linkage grant were expended.

2012: Cooperative Research Centre for Low Carbon Living (CRC LCL)

The City was involved with the Cooperative Research Centre for Low Carbon Living over its seven year term which completed in June 2019. The CRC LCL objective was to drive Australia's built environment sector towards a globally competitive low carbon future.

The research was categorised into the following themes: Integrated Building Systems, Low Carbon Precincts, and Engaged Communities. The City directly participated in multiple programs including a review of BASIX performance, tools to measure and respond to urban heat, advanced building energy diagnostic systems, and distributed energy.

The City's commitments under the CRC grant were \$100,000 cash over two years and provision of in-kind contributions to an equivalent value of \$199,435.

Two notable outcomes of the partnership with the City are the recycled cement road trial <https://www.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au/vision/better-infrastructure/streets-and-public-places/completed-works/sustainable-concrete-road-trial> and the Cooling Sydney Guide <https://apo.org.au/sites/default/files/resource-files/2019/06/apo-nid246731-1372011.pdf>.

More information about the CRC LCL is available at <http://www.lowcarbonlivingcrc.com.au/>.

2012: Chinatown in the Asian Century

The City engaged in an Australian Research Centre linkage grant with the University of Western Sydney to:

1. provide a large scale analysis of Chinese/Asian commercial culture in Haymarket,
2. conduct an in-depth assessment of the evolution of Chinatown and the broader Haymarket area in its role as a hub for Asian/Australian transnational flows and links,
3. analyse the role of urban design and cultural initiatives in positioning Sydney's Chinatown as a contemporary "Asian" destination for investors, consumers tourists, students, visitors' and
4. evaluate how more traditional Chinese heritage and community interests can be safeguarded in a globalised, multicultural Asian precinct (ie the hybrid character of today's Chinatown).

The City provided \$75,000 cash over three years, plus in-kind support valued at \$100,000 per annum for three years, predominantly in the form of data from the 2006 and 2011 City of Sydney Floor Space and Employment Surveys.

The outcome was a report into the changing nature and current state of "Chinatown", including the linkages between the current population and entities right across Asia.

2018: Cooperative Research Centre for Water Sensitive Cities (CRC WSC)

The CRC WSC is a collaboration of over 80 research, industry and government partners to deliver socio-technical urban water management solutions, education and training programs, and industry engagement to make towns and cities water sensitive. There are challenges of water management in the context of a growing population, ageing infrastructure and a warming climate, while maintaining affordability and equity for Sydney's diverse communities.

The City is providing \$40,500 in cash over three years.

The City is advocating for regulatory and pricing reform in the NSW urban water sector to enable innovation and investment in water recycling and water sensitive urban design. As part of this advocacy, the City hosted the Water Sensitive Sydney Summit in February 2018.

The Summit was informed by CRC WSC research and attended by industry leaders from state and local government, businesses, developers, researchers and industry associations who are also part of the CRC WSC.

2018: Sydney Food Business Incubator

The Sydney Food Business indicator is an applied research project funded by an ARC linkage grant with University of Sydney and other partners. The project supports community members to set up food-based businesses in the local area.

The City is providing \$120,000 cash over three years (as at 30 September 2019, \$80,000 of the funding has been acquitted) and \$12,000 value-in-kind per year for three years (starting in financial year 2018/19), in the form of waived venue hire fees. This will fund the part-time use of a community centre with a commercial kitchen. In addition to the City's funding, the University of Sydney successfully secured an Australian Research Council (ARC) Linkage Grant totalling \$423,500.

The FoodLab Sydney website can be found at <https://foodlabsydney.com/>

The pilot project is in progress and at least 90 residents are expected to participate. The program is being promoted across our vulnerable communities and participants will be engaged through the City's networks of housing communities, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities, and refugee and asylum seeker communities.

The first cohort of eight participants commenced on 5 April 2019 and the second cohort of 10 participants commenced on 26 July 2019. Participants have come to the program through a range of organisations including, Lentil as Anything, Global Sisters, Mission Australia and Settlement Services NSW. The first cohort graduate from the program on 18 October 2019.