

Item 11

Questions on Notice

City of Sydney Road Conditions

1. By Councillor Forster

Question

According to media reports earlier this year, the City of Sydney Council had a total of 534 pothole jobs in 2018 with 170 occurring in December 2018 following a severe storm in November, which dumped 100ml of rain on the city in six hours. Another media report indicated that over a period of approximately 60 days from August 2019 the NRMA had received 776 calls in relation to poor road conditions within the City of Sydney local government area.

1. In 2019, to date, how many calls has the City received in relation to potholes in the local government area?
2. Of these calls, how many were related to local roads versus state-owned roads?
3. In 2019, to date, how many pothole jobs have been undertaken on local roads within the local government area?
4. How long is the backlog for fixing potholes and other vehicular and pedestrian related dangers on local roads within the local government area?

S129269

Answer from the Chief Executive Officer

The City maintains roadway network covering 330kms of local road, 542kms of footpath and 13kms of cycleways. In 2019 to date, 99 calls about potholes were received. Of these 83 were on local roads.

City staff proactively inspect our roads, footpaths and cycleways and make repairs where necessary. On local roads 527 potholes have been identified by City staff conducting proactive street and infrastructure checks. These 527 have been repaired.

Once a request is received, our maintenance teams carry out repairs within 24 to 48 hours, as such, there is no backlog for potholes reported to the City.

Gunyama Park Aquatic and Recreation Centre

2. By Councillor Forster

Question

1. When is the Gunyama Park Aquatic and Recreation Centre expected to be opened to the public?
2. What do the Stage Two works involve?
3. When does Stage Two commence?
4. When is Stage Two expected to be completed?

S129269

Answer from the Chief Executive Officer

1. July 2020.
2. Stage Two works include installation of a playground, including skate ball, and passive landscaping.
3. The land is currently in private ownership. This portion of land will not transfer to public ownership until the owner decides to develop that parcel of land. Timing of Stage Two is dependant on redevelopment of an adjacent privately owned site with land dedication as per an approved Voluntary Planning Agreement.
4. See response above. The City will have a fully documented design ready to go to tender for construction, as the result of the current contract with CPB Constructions Pty Ltd.

Bicycle Related Works Budget

3. By Councillor Forster

Question

The 2019/20 Quarter 1 Capital Works Expenditure Summary identifies a variance of \$16,593,000 for bicycle-related works between the Total Project Budget and the Total Project Forecast.

Can you please explain this variance?

S129269

Answer from the Chief Executive Officer

The variance relates mostly to the Bondi Junction to City Cycleway. The total project forecast at Quarter 1 reflected the worst case scenario as per the consultant's report. A value engineering review has commenced, with the October 2019 forecast since revised back to the total project budget of \$22.9M.

Capital Works Projects Budget Increases

4. By Councillor Forster

Question

There are a number of capital works total budget increases between the 2018/19 and 2019/20 Quarter 1 Reviews including:

1. Gunyama Park Aquatic and Recreation Centre: \$100.8 million to \$103.3 million, a \$2.5 million increase (2.5%);
2. The Crescent Lands at Johnston's Creek: \$8.1 million to \$10.9 million, a \$2.8 million increase (35%);
3. Bondi Junction to City Cycleway: \$15.3 million to \$22.9 million, a \$7.6 million increase (50%); and
4. Belmore Park: \$6.4 million to \$10.4 million, a \$4 million increase (62.5%).

What is the reasoning behind the budget increases for each of these capital works projects?

S129269

Answer from the Chief Executive Officer

1. The \$2.5M adjustment is related to the improvement of the plant room for a more sustainable outcome. In order to contribute to Gunyama Park Aquatic and Recreation Centre energy efficiency system measures, the Contractor was directed to replace two gas fired boilers in favour of installing a heat pump and a heat pump chiller. The outcome will be a significant reduction of the carbon footprint by about 750 tonnes of carbon per year and a reduction of \$150,000 in future operational expenditure per annum.

The variation constitutes mechanical, architectural, structural, electrical, acoustic and other associated changes to the plant room area.

2. The additional \$2.8M budget for the Crescent Lands at Johnston's Creek: \$8.1M to \$10.9M, predominantly relates to the inclusion of a new skate mini ramp, and allowances for the conservation works on the viaduct.
3. The increase to \$22.9M relates to RMS-stipulated restrictions on working times along Moore Park Road, requiring construction works to be staged over an estimated two-year period. The restrictions include restricted hours and night work along the majority of the site, including the removal and reconstruction of the central median and eight intersections. Previous cost estimates had assumed standard (longer) working hours and less stringent traffic management requirements. The City project team advocated to the Traffic Management Centre (TMC) to loosen the restrictions, but to date only a marginal relaxing of certain aspects has been achieved. Night works and shorter daily hours entail significant cost increases.
4. The City South Public Domain Plan Project included the preparation of a strategic masterplan for Belmore Park. The development scope and improvements required for a park of that size and prominence arising from the masterplan process (pathway upgrades, light, park furniture, street interface treatments, landscape works, event services infrastructure etc) indicated that a project budget of \$6.4M would be insufficient, additional budget was requested during the 2019/20 budget process.

Commencement of Live Streaming

5. By Councillor Phelps

Question

Changes to the legislation in the Model Code of Meeting Practice requires all local governments in NSW to live stream all Council, Committee and other public meetings by December 2019 so Council activities are readily accessible by constituents.

Could the Chief Executive Officer please provide:

1. An update on progress for the commencement of live streaming of council, committee and other public meetings, including expected implementation date.
2. What is the City doing to prepare for its smooth introduction before the statutory deadline? Are any trials taking place?
3. Breakdown of the total cost of equipment implementation and ongoing cost for the City.

S129272

Answer from the Chief Executive Officer

A request for quotation for the supply and installation of camera and live streaming equipment has closed and the assessment of those quotations is being completed. A contract is expected to be finalised early next week.

Testing has been, and will continue to be undertaken in the Council Chamber between now and then to ensure a smooth transition.

Given the contract for the installation is currently being finalised, information regarding the total cost of implementation has not been provided. Once the contract is finalised, information will be provided in the CEO Update.

Construction Timeline for Multi-Purpose Synthetic Field at Crescent Park, Annandale

6. By Councillor Phelps

Question

At the 28 October 2019 Council meeting, Council approved the commencement of concept designs for a multi-purpose synthetic field at Crescent Park, Annandale and to investigate the feasibility of modifying the proposed pitch to meet the International Hockey Federation's (FIH) requirements of a Hockey5s pitch in consultation with Glebe Hockey Club.

Could the Chief Executive Officer please provide:

1. A proposed timeline for the multi-purpose synthetic field at Crescent Park, Annandale.
2. When is consultation with the Glebe Hockey Club expected to begin?
3. What is the estimated date of completion?

4. Is it feasible for the City to shift the timeline for the completion of construction to the end of 2020?

S129272

Answer from the Chief Executive Officer

1. The development phase (including investigative studies and concept development) is scheduled for the period November 2019 to first quarter 2020.

The concept development phase (including community consultation and scoping report) will commence in first quarter 2020 and is scheduled for completion in first quarter 2021.

The design phase (including Development Application approval) will commence in first quarter 2021 and is scheduled for completion in last quarter 2021.

The Tender phase will commence in last quarter 2021 and is scheduled for completion in second quarter 2022.

Construction is scheduled to commence in the second quarter 2022.

2. The City will start consultation with all sporting groups, including the Glebe District Hockey Club, once investigative studies have commenced in December 2019.
3. Third quarter 2022 (but is subject to approved scope of the project).
4. The timeline above outlines the project phases. As this is a contaminated site, there are a range of complex investigative works that need to be undertaken, prior to the construction phase.

High Impact Busking Pitt Street Mall

7. By Councillor Phelps

Question

The recent 2019 Sydney Busking Code still allows for high intensity (including drumming and amplified music) as well as low intensity busking acts on the Southern pitch of Pitt Street Mall, which is directly below the Tower Apartment building which has around 40 apartments directly facing this area.

Could the Chief Executive Officer please advise:

1. The reasons for allowing high intensity (including drumming and amplified music) busking on the southern pitch of Pitt Street Mall.
2. Any community feedback on high intensity (including drumming and amplified music) acts on the southern pitch of Pitt Street Mall.

3. Methods to manage the noise and inconvenience to those in neighbouring apartments to the southern pitch.

S129272

Answer from Chief Executive Officer

The provision of high intensity busking and community feedback on high intensity busking were discussed in the report to the 6 May 2019 Cultural and Community Committee <https://meetings.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=136&MId=3042&Ver=4>

Methods to manage noise and inconvenience are detailed in the Local Approvals Policy Busking and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Cultural Practice https://www.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0020/315182/Local-Approvals-Policy-Busking-and-Aboriginal-and-Torres-Strait-Islander-Cultural-Practice.PDF and the City of Sydney Busking Code <https://www.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au/business/doing-business-with-us/regulations/busking>

Waterloo Estate

8. By Councillor Phelps

Question

It has been announced that the planning responsibility for the development of the Waterloo Estate has been handed back to the City by the NSW State Government. On March 4, 2019, Council held an extraordinary meeting to consider submitting a proposal to the State Government for a more balanced redevelopment of the Waterloo housing estate.

At this meeting, Council agreed to:

- endorse an increase in the ratio of social and affordable housing on this publicly owned site to 50 per cent social housing, 20 per cent affordable housing and 30 per cent private housing to address the urgent need for more social housing in the inner city highlighted in the latest City of Sydney street count which showed an increase in homelessness in our area and to also address the critical shortage of affordable housing for essential workers in the inner city;
- call on the NSW Government to allocate proceeds from the sale of social housing properties within the City of Sydney local government area to the Waterloo Housing Estate redevelopment including the \$591 million from the sale of social housing at Millers Point and the \$43 million held by the UrbanGrowth Development Corporation in development contributions from the Central Park development in Chippendale for affordable housing that must be spent in the Redfern-Waterloo area; and
- call on the NSW Government to retain public ownership of this land through the use of leasehold provisions.

Could the Chief Executive Officer please advise:

1. How the City will fund the development of the Waterloo Estate?
2. If the City intends to retain public ownership of this land through the use of leasehold provisions, or other arrangements?

3. If the City will retain the increase in the ratio of social and affordable housing on this site to 50 per cent social housing, 20 per cent affordable housing and 30 per cent private housing as voted on by Council on 4 March 2019?
4. If the City intends to use the same development proposal presented to the public on 6 March 2019 by the Director City Planning, Development and Transport?

S129272

Answer from the Chief Executive Officer

On 2 November 2019, the NSW Government announced changes to the way precincts involving Government land are rezoned. Waterloo Estate has been identified as a 'council-led rezoning' precinct.

This announcement relates to planning controls and does not change the ownership and development responsibilities for this site, which lie with the State Government.

The ratio of social and affordable housing remains the responsibility of the State Government.

It is expected, but yet to be confirmed, that NSW Land and Housing Corporation will lodge a planning proposal request with the City to change the planning controls.

The City will then assess the request in accordance with legislation. Any future development would be undertaken and funded by NSW Land and Housing Corporation or other proponent. The City is continuing to work with the NSW Government on ways to increase social and affordable housing and retain land in public ownership, informed by the City's previous planning and urban design work.

City of Sydney Library Funding

9. By Councillor Scott

Question

1. Broken down by financial year, how much additional funding will the City of Sydney Council receive for public libraries as a result of the Renew our Libraries campaign?
2. Broken down by financial year, please detail what the extra funding be allocated for.
3. Broken down by financial year, please detail which City libraries will receive extra funding, and for what purpose.

S129275

Answer from the Chief Executive Officer

An increase in public library funding was announced in August 2018, totalling \$60M over four years to 2022/23 across all NSW public libraries.

Public Library funding consists of Per Capita Subsidies, Subsidy Adjustments to balance the requirements of larger and smaller local government areas, the Outback Letterbox Library and the Public Library Infrastructure Grants.

The per capita subsidy for all libraries will increase annually from the 2018/19 amount of \$1.85 to \$2.85 per head of resident population by 2022/23 as outlined below:

Table 1: Per capita amount per year

Year	Per capita amount
2019/20	\$2.45
2020/21	\$2.55
2021/22	\$2.65
2022/23	\$2.85

Each year the City of Sydney Library network receives the per capita subsidy and a subsidy adjustment which is calculated annually.

In 2018/19, the City of Sydney received a total of \$541,631, made up of \$431,451 per capita subsidy, and \$110,180 subsidy adjustment.

For the 2019/20 year, the City of Sydney will receive a total of \$644,773, made up of \$588,561 per capita subsidy, and \$56,212 subsidy adjustment.

The per capita subsidy forms part of the Libraries and Learning operational budget and contributes to continual improvements to infrastructure, collections and services within libraries.

The subsidy adjustment grant requires that a minimum of 30 per cent is put towards local priority projects. Of the \$56,212 subsidy adjustment amount, the City of Sydney library has committed 50 per cent to a research project to develop library services for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. The other 50 per cent will be dedicated to experimental collections that will be developed through community engagement activities, such as expansion of the makerspace collection to enhance digital programs

City of Sydney Planning Controls

10. By Councillor Scott

Question

In February of 2019 it was reported that the City of Sydney had lost planning control over 274ha of land.

1. Please detail, broken down by financial year, how much land has been lost (since 2011) or regained.
2. Please detail where this land is located.

S129275

Answer from the Chief Executive Officer

The City's Draft Local Strategic Planning Statement identifies 14 precincts affected or proposed to be affected by a state level planning instrument. These sites total 296ha, updated from the previously reported 274ha. The sites and precincts include the Bays Precinct, Central Station Precinct, Darling Harbour, Elizabeth Street, Redfern, Moore Park Showground (including Fox Studios and Sydney Sports Stadium), Barangaroo, Redfern-Waterloo, Walsh Bay, The Rocks, Broadway (CUB) site, Sydney Opera House and Waterloo Estate. The precincts are shown on page 197 of the Draft Local Strategic Planning Statement at <https://www.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au/council/your-say/city-plan-2036-our-draft-plan-for-planning-and-land-use>. Since 2011, the Bays Precinct, Central Station, Waterloo Estate and Elizabeth Street, Redfern have been nominated as potential state significant precincts. The NSW Government's announcement about a new approach to precinct planning on 2 November 2019 is expected to change the extent of land affected or proposed to be affected.

Community Venue Hire

11. By Councillor Chung

Question

Referring to each room for hire in City of Sydney Libraries and venues for hire, and referring to each category of hire being commercial, community and student, can the Chief Executive Officer please advise:

1. For each category of hire, how many times have community venues been hired in the City of Sydney libraries network each year since 2014?
2. For each category of hire (commercial, community, student), how much income has the City of Sydney received for each venue?
3. Why it is necessary for users to have \$10 million public liability insurance coverage when hiring a library meeting room?

S129268

Answer from 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.

Outsourced Waste Collection

12. By Councillor Scott

Question

1. Broken down by month, since 2004, please provide data on complaints received with regards to waste collection, comparing rates for areas of the City with outsourced verses in house services.
2. Broken down by year, since 2004, please detail City staffing levels for Waste Collection Services.

S129275

Answer from the Chief Executive Officer

1. Complaints have been consistent at an average of 0.5 per cent of services, with a spike when contracts are transitioning to a new provider.
2. Staffing levels for the Cleansing and Waste Business Unit for the five years from 2015 to 2019 are as follows:

Approved Positions (FTE)	As At 30/06/2015	As At 30/06/2016	As At 30/06/2017	As At 30/06/2018	As At 11/11/2019
<i>Total</i>	<i>256.0</i>	<i>257.0</i>	<i>257.0</i>	<i>254.4</i>	<i>265.0</i>

City Waste Targets

13. By Councillor Scott

Question

Broken down by year (since 2004), please detail the progress the City is making to achieve its 2021 targets set out in its strategic plan to achieve zero waste by 2030:

- to divert 50% of waste from City parks, streets, and public places away from landfill;
- to divert 70% of waste from City-managed properties away from landfill;
- to divert 80% of construction and demolition waste, generated and managed by City operations, away from landfill;
- to divert 70% of (residential) waste (with a minimum of 35% as source-separated recycling) away from landfill;
- to divert 70% of waste from operating businesses in the local government area away from landfill; and
- to divert 80% of waste from construction and demolition activities in the local government area away from landfill.

Please also provide a comparison, where relevant, between waste managed by City staff and waste managed by outsourced staff (e.g. in the residential waste diversion and any other waste diversion targets where some or all of the work is not undertaken by City staff).

S129275

Answer from the Chief Executive Officer

Since waste targets were set by Council, progress has been reported in the City of Sydney State of the Environment Reports (for 2004 to 2011):
https://www.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0005/122387/StateOfEnvironmentReport201112Final.pdf

From 2012, progress has been reported in the biannual Green Report.
<https://www.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au/council/publications-updates/environmental-plans-reports>

Where targets have been revised by Council, this has been reflected in the Green Report.

Reports on progress on the diversion of waste within the local government area (operating businesses and construction and demolition activities) is estimated performance only from State data due to data being unavailable at a local government area level. This is also reported in the biannual Green Report
<https://www.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au/council/publications-updates/environmental-plans-reports>

City Waste Diversion

14. By Councillor Scott

Question

Broken down by year (since 2004) how much of the diverted waste is being:

- Recycled?
- Sent to Waste for Energy incinerators?
- Placed in landfill?
- Unknown?

Please also provide a comparison, where relevant, between waste diversions managed by City staff and waste managed by outsourced staff.

S129275

Answer from the Chief Executive Officer

Rates of waste diverted to recycling or placed in landfill are available in the biannual Green Report from 2012 <https://www.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au/council/publications-updates/environmental-plans-reports>

Previous data from 2004 to 2011 is available in the City of Sydney State of the Environment Reports
https://www.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0005/122387/StateOfEnvironmentReport201112Final.pdf

No waste is sent to waste to energy incinerators.

The City requires in all contracts details of downstream markets for recycling, however the availability and transparency of this data is sometimes difficult to obtain at a contract level due to the way in which waste is transported via waste transfer stations and combined with other Council waste and commercial waste.

Current Services Managed by City of Sydney and Cleanaway

SERVICES	CITY of SYDNEY GARBAGE SERVICES STAFF		CITY OF SYDNEY PUBLIC DOMAIN – CLEANSING STAFF		CLEANAWAY	
	North Area	South Area	North Area	South Area	North Area	South Area
Red Bins		✓			✓	
Yellow Bins					✓	✓
Green Bins					✓	✓
Booked Household Bulky Waste		✓			✓	
Metals / Kerbside E-Waste					✓	✓
Food Scraps Trial		✓				
Illegal Dumps			✓	✓	✓	✓
Bin Replacement and Repair					✓	✓
Street Sweeping			✓	✓		

City Waste Target Funding and Waste Diversion Auditing

15. By Councillor Scott

Question

- Broken down by year (since 2017), how much City funding has been allocated to each of the six main priority areas to reach zero waste by 2030?
 - Promote Innovation to avoid waste
 - Improve Recycling
 - Sustainable Design
 - Clean and clear
 - Better data
 - Future treatment solutions

What objectives has the City of Sydney delivered in regards to each of the above priority areas?

2. Has any of the City's waste been allocated to the business case for Cleanaway's proposed waste to energy facility in Western Sydney? If so, how much (per tonne, and percentage), broken down by year?
3. Please explain the mechanisms the City has to control and audit what happens to its waste once it is collected by our outsourced waste provider? Please explain what auditing has been undertaken to date.

S129275

Answer from the Chief Executive Officer

1. Grant Funding

2017/18	2018/19	2019/20 (to date)
\$21,920	\$169,628	\$6,000

Council endorse the Operational Plan and budget annually which includes funding for these projects and programs, the outcomes of which are reported in the biannual Green Report.

Operational Plan: <https://www.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au/council/publications-updates/integrated-planning-reporting/operational-plan>

Green Report: <https://www.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au/council/publications-updates/environmental-plans-reports>

As the work is undertaken across Divisions, a breakdown of the funding for each priority area is not possible.

2. No.
3. The City's Contract Management team do regular reviews of collection operations to ensure the correct truck collects the correct waste in line with the Contract. On a monthly basis all tipping dockets from Cleanaway are compared to the disposal reports received from City contracted waste processors to ensure correct charges and waste volumes are matched so that invoices can be paid. Only nominated Cleanaway trucks are permitted to dispose of waste at nominated disposal facilities, all others are queried by the City's Contract Management team for approval.

On a monthly basis, Cleanaway submit to the City a report of all prior month service activities and performance against Key Result Areas and Key Performance Indicators. These are reviewed at a Monthly Contract Management and Operations meeting. Reports for the four months July to October 2019 have been received.

City Cleansing Staff Wages and Conditions

16. By Councillor Scott

Question

Please provide a comparison of wages and conditions cleansing staff receive, comparing those employed by the City of Sydney and those employed in equivalent roles by organisations contracted to undertake cleansing and waste for the City of Sydney.

S129275

Answer from the Chief Executive Officer

Cleanaway was awarded the City's contract for domestic waste which came into effect on 1 July 2019. Cleanaway employs staff to provide services to the City of Sydney under an Enterprise Agreement. The Enterprise Agreement was negotiated with the Transport Workers Union.

This agreement was ratified by the Fair Work Commission but is not published on the Fair Work Commission website. The rates are confidential between those parties.

By law the base pay rate in enterprise agreements cannot be less than the base pay rate in the Industry Award (the Waste Management Award 2010) and the National Employment Standards still apply.