

Item 9**Questions on Notice****1. Investigating Options to Install Refugees Are Welcome Banners at Town Hall and at Other Key Locations**

By Councillor Ellsmore

Question

1. At the 31 October 2022 Council meeting, Council unanimously committed to create banners or signage stating that 'Refugees are Welcome' (or equivalent) that can be prominently displayed at the Sydney Town Hall and other key locations within the City of Sydney. Which locations to display Refugees are Welcome Banners (or equivalent) have been considered or investigated by the City?
2. Where are banners or signage currently displayed, including banners which recognise the City's long running commitment as a Refugee Welcome Zone?
3. What heritage or other considerations were taken into account, in relation to the Sydney Town Hall?
4. What locations and types of banners are being proposed for the future? (Including which town halls, community centres and other key locations are proposed).
5. The 31 October 2022 Council decision requested that the Chief Executive Officer provide advice about costs of creating these banners, including if the Council were to commission or collaborate with a refugee or asylum seeker artist or organisation to design the banners or signage. What investigations or discussions has the City undertaken with refugee-affiliated organisations and/or refugee artists regarding the creation of Refugees Are Welcome Banners?
6. Which organisations or individuals has the City had discussions with, or is proposing to have discussions with?
7. What is the proposed timeline for implementation?
8. Are new banners or signs proposed for Refugee Week in June? Are banners or signs proposed at other times of the year?

X086664

2. 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 12 December 2022 Council meeting, it was advised that there had been three Pre-DA requests regarding the development of public housing in the last 12 months, relating to multiple properties on Wentworth Park Road and Raper Street Newtown. What are the details of what was discussed at these pre-DA meetings? What development or changes are proposed for these properties?
2. Since November 2022, have City staff had any 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.
3. In an answer to a Question on Notice tabled at the 12 December 2022 Council meeting, it was advised that the City initiated discussions with the Land and Housing Corporation (or LAHC), in relation to eight planning proposals or forthcoming planning proposals.

Since November 2022, have City staff had any discussions or correspondence with NSW Government representatives about these or additional planning proposals relating to State-owned or controlled land in NSW? If yes, please provide details.

4. Generally, what City of Sydney policies or guidelines determine what or how pre-DA advice is provided? Please provide details.

X086664

3. Street Furniture Contract

By Councillor Scott

Question

1. Please detail where and how the contract for the provision of the City's street furniture is available to the public.
2. During the procurement process, how many tenders were considered? Why did the City staff recommend to reject and negotiate?
3. What were the tender specifications for street furniture?
4. Were sites for advertising signs specified during the tender process? To any or all tenderers?
5. How many sites were specified during the tender process? How many sites were specified during the contract negotiation process?

6. Post the signing of the contract, how many sites did the City provide landowner permission for? Post signing of the contract, how many sites did the City refuse? Has the City revoked any sites for permission at any stage?
7. Were fixed prices for fixed sites provided by any tenderers? Were fixed prices requested by the City?
8. How much income has been received, broken down by month, since the contract was signed with the City? What's the formula for the income?
9. Please detail who tendered, and how many meetings were held with each tenderer?
10. How many advertising sites did JCDecaux have?
11. Which sites have heritage considerations? Please detail how the City has considered the heritage of the sites approved, and those rejected?
12. Were guarantees of landowner consent or approvals given to tenderers about approvals for signs at any stage in the tender or contract negotiation process? Were any guarantees given during contract variation processes?
13. How much time is allocated in total, per month, to the City's advertising? What is the cost in kind of this?
14. How did the City's Audit, Risk and Compliance Committee consider this contract?
15. How many contract amendments have been requested? How many have been granted? Please detail what they are for.

X086668

4. Mardi Gras

By Councillor Scott

Question

1. How many tickets to march in the City of Sydney Mardi Gras was the City of Sydney allocated?
2. How were they allocated? Were any elected members of council or their staff provided with tickets to march in the parade?

X086668

5. City of Sydney Live Music and Performance Plan Update

By Councillor Scott

Question

Individually, please detail the progress of the following recommendations under the Live Music and Performance Action Plan (2012):

1. Review the Sydney Development Control Plan (DCP) to optimise its support for the live music and performance sector by identifying and protecting areas with strong traditions of live music and performance, and by supporting areas where urban and cultural amenity can be improved by live music and performance activity.
2. Establish a City of Sydney live music and performance liaison officer.
3. Review City of Sydney policies and protocols, refine the process for assessment of 'offensive noise' and develop City policies to address outdated development consent conditions
4. Establish a policy and process that includes alternative dispute resolution options for live music and performance venues in the City of Sydney;
5. Monitor the impacts of the Building Code of Australia on creative practice;
6. Develop a pre-lodgement process to provide bespoke advice and support for the development of temporary or non-traditional performance spaces;
7. Establish a venue-satisfaction survey and formal network of live music and performance venues to meet biannually in order to build relationships and discuss issues of concern;
8. Establish a Music and Performance Program Coordinator role based at an appropriate peak body, supported by a financial contribution from the City, to assist first-time venues find, select and program live music or performance;
9. Collaborate with the Australian Hotels Association and Music NSW to make appropriate, unused hotel spaces available for music rehearsals;
10. Establish a grant program for venues and organisations wanting to hold all-ages events;
11. Optimise City-owned indoor and outdoor facilities for use as live music and performance venues by augmenting existing equipment with appropriate sound, lighting and seating infrastructure, and issuing licences to enhance their use as performance venues;
12. Provide space in suitable City properties for innovative start-up businesses that support live music and performance; and
13. Allocate \$20,000 matched funding to APRA|AMCOS to develop a campaign to support local musicians to play live in local venues.

X086668

6. Advertising Screens Review

By Councillor Weldon

Question

1. At the October 2022 Council meeting, the Chief Executive Officer was requested to undertake a review of the new advertising screens in the City and report back to Council. What is the status of this review and when will it be complete?
2. Have any advertising screens been found to be non-compliant with their development application approvals. If so, how many?
3. How many screens have been removed or relocated as a result of this review?
4. Has the City of Sydney incurred any costs (including forfeited revenue) as a result of the review and removal or relocation of advertising screens?

X086670

7. Change of Use of Boarding Houses

By Councillor Weldon

Question

1. In the last 10 years, how many applications have there been for 'Change of Use' from a boarding house to residential dwelling in the City of Sydney?
2. Of these applications, how many have been approved and how many boarding house rooms have been lost?
3. Of those approved, how many were determined to be financially unviable and on what other basis were applications approved?
4. When assessing the financial viability of a Boarding House, what steps are taken to verify the relevant values (rental income, expenses, depreciation, current investment value and capital upgrading) provided by the applicant to calculate rental yield?
5. How does the City of Sydney safeguard against asset 'harvesting' i.e. the inclusion of expenditure which is a result of inadequate maintenance over an extended period?

X086670