

Item 10

Questions on Notice

1. Gadigal Avenue Bus Seating

By Councillor Jarrett

In the 18 April 2023 CEO Update, Council was informed that the City of Sydney would be installing seating in four locations along Gadigal Avenue which were expected to be completed by end of May 2023. On 5 June 2023, Councillor Jarrett enquired about whether in fact, the installation of the seats had been completed. The Director City Services responded on 6 June 2023, confirming that the seats had not yet been installed but a work order had been raised and installation was on QMS's schedule, weather permitting.

Question

1. It has now been almost three months since the installation of the seating along Gadigal Avenue was expected to be completed, has the installation now been completed?
2. If not, why did the City of Sydney commit to having the seating installed by the end of May 2023 when it couldn't deliver in this time frame?
3. If not, considering Sydney has experienced a very dry and sunny winter and therefore weather has not been an issue, why has the installation not been completed?
4. Are there any other infrastructure projects that are currently delayed or behind schedule?

X086666

2. Getiela Synthetic Sportsfield – Meeting with Alexandria Park Community School Principal

By Councillor Jarrett

On 31 July 2023, Councillor Jarrett received an email from the CEO stating 'after the Council meeting on 26 June 2023, City staff met with the Department of Education on 27 June 2023 and asked them write to the City requesting us to review the Project Deed (signed by DoE and the City) requirements for the fence. The acting Principal and representatives from the School Assets team advised they would be providing the letter to the City. To date we have not received anything in writing from them regarding the fence. Staff are meeting with the Principal next Monday 7 August 2023 and will raise the issue with her'.

Question

1. Did the meeting scheduled for Monday 7 August 2023 take place?
2. If so, what was discussed at the meeting?

3. If so, what was the outcome and/or action items of the meeting?

X086666

3. Cycleways Expenditure Breakdown

By Councillor Jarrett

In 2007, the City of Sydney introduced its Cycle Strategy and Action Plan 2007-2017, and in 2009, constructed its first separated cycleway. Today, in August 2023, the City of Sydney is asking Council to approve millions of dollars for the construction of several more cycleways.

Question

1. What has been the City's total expenditure on the cycleway network for each year inclusive of:
 - (a) 2022;
 - (b) 2021;
 - (c) 2020;
 - (d) 2019;
 - (e) 2018;
 - (f) 2017;
 - (g) 2016;
 - (h) 2015;
 - (i) 2014;
 - (j) 2013;
 - (k) 2012;
 - (l) 2011;
 - (m) 2010; and
 - (n) 2009?

2. In comparison, what has been the City's total expenditure on affordable housing contributions both materially and in-kind in each year inclusive of:
 - (a) 2022;
 - (b) 2021;
 - (c) 2020;

- (d) 2019;
 - (e) 2018;
 - (f) 2017;
 - (g) 2016;
 - (h) 2015;
 - (i) 2014;
 - (j) 2013;
 - (k) 2012;
 - (l) 2011;
 - (m) 2010; and
 - (n) 2009?
3. How many affordable housing dwellings did the City need to build in order to reach their affordable housing targets in each year inclusive of:
- (a) 2022;
 - (b) 2021;
 - (c) 2020;
 - (d) 2019;
 - (e) 2018;
 - (f) 2017;
 - (g) 2016; and
 - (h) 2015?
4. How many affordable housing dwellings did the City actually build in each year inclusive of:
- (a) 2022;
 - (b) 2021;
 - (c) 2020;
 - (d) 2019;
 - (e) 2018;
 - (f) 2017;

(g) 2016; and

(h) 2015?

X086666

4. Fourth Quarter Operational Plan Report 2022/23

By Councillor Jarrett

In the Corporate, Finance, Properties and Tenders Committee Item 3.3: Fourth Quarter Operational Plan Report 2022/23, the City indicates that 'progress against the Non-residential Register Methodology and Plan for the local government election in 2024 remains on track. Legislative change to non-residential entitlement within the City has been foreshadowed by the Minister for Local Government; scenario planning to prepare for possible options has been completed.'

Question

1. What options has the City prepared for each possible scenario?
2. Can the options prepared for each possible scenario be distributed to all Councillors via CEO Update?

X086666

5. Tree Shade and Planting Services

By Councillor Scott

Question

1. Broken down by suburb, what percentage is shaded by trees?
2. Broken down by suburb, what percentage is covered by greening?
3. What plans and targets does the City of Sydney currently have regarding green spaces in the city?
4. What plans and targets does the City of Sydney currently have regarding tree shade in the city?
5. What free tree planting services does the City of Sydney provide in public areas?

X086668

6. Cleanaway Truck Size Effects on Parking Conditions

By Councillor Scott

Question

1. What truck sizes does Cleanaway own for use in the City of Sydney? Please describe their lengths, widths, heights and mass.
2. What traffic and parking conditions has the City proposed to change specifically due to waste collection requirements from Cleanaway vehicles? Please detail in what locations, and when.
3. What is the City doing to ensure Cleanaway can service smaller streets such as Thomson Street, Union Street, Shorter Lane, Griffin Street and Maddison Lane, without changes to parking and traffic conditions?

X086668

7. Trolley Dumping Penalties

By Councillor Scott

In November 2022, the new Public Spaces (Unattended Property) Act 2021 came into effect. This legislated a three-hour collection time limit on trolleys, vehicles or other items causing a safety hazard, and a seven-day limit for others. Further, fines for offences range from \$660 to \$13,750 depending on the nature, number and time the items remained.

Question

Broken down by month, how many penalties has City issued since new law came into effect?

X086668

8. Increase in Lost Time Injuries

By Councillor Scott

The recent Quarterly Report demonstrated that lost time injuries more than doubled between 2021/22 and 2022/23.

Question

1. Why did this increase occur?
2. Why does the City not have a target for this issue?
3. Please detail any trends emerging regarding lost time injuries.
4. What steps is the City taking to remedy the increase in lost time injuries?

5. Does the City only monitor City staff, or contractors as well?
 - (a) If so, please provide a breakdown of the results.
 - (b) If not, why not?
6. What has been modified on the risk register as a result?
7. What resourcing changes have been made to address this issue in the annual budget?

X086668

9. Status of State Government Redevelopment Projects in the City of Sydney, as of August 2023

By Councillor Ellsmore

Question

1. What state significant planning proposals on public land are underway, in the City of Sydney Local Government Area?

Please provide the current list of state significant planning proposals, where a NSW Government entity was either applicant, owner, or part-owner.
2. What development applications, modifications or other form of planning proposals is the City of Sydney currently assessing, where the NSW Government is the landowner or proponent?

Please provide details.
3. Of these development applications, proposals or projects, for which is:
 - (a) Land and Housing Corporation the proponent?
 - (b) Transport Asset Holding Entity the proponent?
4. Of the planning proposals, development applications and other proposals above, which are:
 - (a) not yet lodged but in early stages of planning, including consultation pre lodgement?
 - (b) submitted but not yet placed on public exhibition?
 - (c) currently on public exhibition, and what are proposed closed dates?
 - (d) post exhibition but not yet determined?

5. In answers to similar questions tabled at the 26 June 2023 Council meeting, a summary was provided in the form of a table with details of 43 development applications and 23 modification applications, where an NSW Government entity was either applicant, owner, or part-owner.

If not provided in the answers for Questions 1 to 4 above, please provide additional information about those applications, in the form of the street address and whether they are development applications or modification applications.

X086664

10. Recent Discussions about New or Future Possible Public Land Development in the City of Sydney, as of August 2023

By Councillor Ellsmore

Question

Since June 2023, have City staff had discussions with any NSW Government representatives about any new or future development applications or development projects, relating to State-owned or controlled land in the Local Government Area, including any pre-DA requests? If yes, please provide details.

X086664

11. Status of Public Housing Redevelopment Plans in the City of Sydney, as of August 2023

By Councillor Ellsmore

Question

1. Relating to public housing in the City of Sydney, what development applications, including modification applications, or planning proposals, are currently underway, as of August 2023?

Please provide details.

2. Of these sites, what are the street locations and at what stage are the proposals or applications?

Please advise which projects or locations are:

- (a) in pre-DA discussions or pre-consultation,
- (b) submitted but not yet placed on public exhibition,
- (c) on public exhibition,
- (d) post exhibition but not yet determined?

3. Are any of the proposals or applications listed above to be considered at an upcoming Local Planning Panel?

If yes, what is the street address of the relevant application/s or proposal/s, and what is the estimated date that the application/s or proposal/s will be considered?

4. If not included in the answers above, as of August 2023, at what stage are the proposals or applications in relation to:

- (a) Waterloo South,
- (b) 600 Elizabeth St Redfern,
- (c) Explorer Street Eveleigh,
- (d) 82 Wentworth Park Rd Glebe?

5. Since June 2023, have City staff had discussions with any NSW Government representatives about new, planned or future development applications or development projects, relating to public housing in the Local Government Area, including any pre-DA requests?

If yes, please provide details.

6. Is the City of Sydney aware of any further proposals for the redevelopment of public housing in the Local Government Area, that are not yet lodged but in early stages of planning, including consultation pre lodgement?

This includes expressions of interest for public housing sites which are the rezoning of the former NSW Government's public call for rezoning proposals for public housing sites.

7. Have any public housing sites in Pyrmont been identified for potential planning changes, through the City of Sydney's strategic review of the area?

If yes, please provide details including specific site addresses.

8. Have any public housing sites in other parts of the Local Government Area been identified for potential planning changes, arising from other City of Sydney's strategic planning processes or reviews?

If yes, please provide details.

X086664

12. Potential State-Led Rezoning of Sites within the City of Sydney Local Government Area

By Councillor Ellsmore

Question

1. On 10 August 10 2023, it was reported in the Sydney Morning Herald that more than 3,000 sites have been identified by the NSW Labor Government as public land suitable for redevelopment as housing, and 11 suburbs had been prioritised for state-led rezoning, including suburbs in the City of Sydney Local Government Area.

Is the City of Sydney aware of this report and/or has the City requested a copy of the report from the relevant Minister or Government agency?

2. The City of Sydney has previously written to the NSW Government raising objections to the proposed state-led rezoning, and advocating for local planning powers to remain with Council.

What has the NSW Government most recently advised the City of Sydney in relation to whether the NSW Government intends to extend or reduce State-led rezoning projects in the City of Sydney Local Government Area?

3. Has the City of Sydney been involved in recent discussions with NSW Government or its representatives, about specific suburbs, areas or sites which could be the subject of state-led rezoning?

If yes, please provide details.

4. If yes, what suburbs or sites were discussed, and how do these suburbs or sites differ than those identified for potential future rezoning or growth in the City's current strategic land use plans and other planning instruments?

Please provide details.

X086664

13. Council Investments and Financial Position, as of July 2023

By Councillor Ellsmore

Question

1. What are the main forms of financial investment made by the City of Sydney?
2. What are the main policies or documents that outline how the City of Sydney determines what it should invest in?
3. Noting that the 2022/23 Quarter 4 Review - Delivery Program 2022-2026 reported that the total property acquisitions by the City in the 2022/23 financial year were net \$92.5 million, what is the current estimated value of the City's commercial property investment portfolio?

4. Does the City currently have any investments in residential property? If yes, what are the details, and where is this reported?
5. Does the City currently have any investments in affordable housing? If yes, what are the details, and where is this reported?
6. Separate from the City's commercial property investment portfolio, the monthly investment report to the City's Corporate, Finance, Properties and Tenders Committee reported that the City's cash and investment position as of 31 July 2023 was \$718.24M.

Of the total cash investments held by the City of Sydney as of 31 July 2023, how much in total is considered 'unrestricted'?

7. What are the main activities or projects that the City's 'restricted' cash investments are earmarked to fund?
8. Of the total cash investments held by the City of Sydney as of 31 July 2023, how much in total is considered 'unrestricted'?
9. Of the City's cash investments which are considered 'unrestricted', what amounts have been earmarked for specific activities or projects?

Please provide details including:

- (a) What are these activities or projects for which 'unrestricted' cash investments are earmarked, and how much has been earmarked for each?
 - (b) When or over what timeline will these activities or projects require funding? (that is, when will the funding be needed)?
 - (c) In what report or document is this list of activities or projects for which 'unrestricted' funding is earmarked reported?
10. Do developer contributions account for any of the City's total cash and investments of \$718.24M? If yes, what amount, and are these considered restricted or unrestricted?
 11. Do affordable housing contributions from development account for any of the City's total cash and investments of \$718.24M? If yes, what amount, and are these considered restricted or unrestricted?
 12. Has any of the City's total cash and investments of \$718.24M been earmarked for affordable housing, including grants for affordable housing? If yes, please provide details.
 13. What is the estimated revenue, once costs are accounted for, from the City's commercial property portfolio:
 - (a) For the 2022/23 financial year?
 - (b) For the 2023/24 financial year?
 - (c) Over the four years 2023/24 to 2026/27?

(d) Over the next ten years 2023/24 to 2033/34?

If estimate not made, please note this.

14. What targets has the City of Sydney established to increase the revenue and value of its commercial property portfolio?

15. How much interest revenue from the City of Sydney's cash and investments:

(a) Was originally projected to be made in 2022/23?

(b) Was made for the financial year 2022/23?

(c) Is projected to be made in 2023/24?

(d) Is projected to be made for the four years 2023/24 to 2026/27?

(e) Is projected to be made for the ten years 2023/24 to 2033/34?

If estimate not made, please note this.

16. Does the City fund any of its projects or work through borrowing?

17. Does the City access any financing other than cash reserves to purchase new commercial property?

18. In total, what is the current value of the City's main forms of investment income, including:

(a) total value of commercial property interests,

(b) total value of cash investments, and

(c) any other main forms of investment income?

X086664

14. Commercial Development Approval Processing Time Increase

By Councillor Scott

2022/23 commercial development approvals are half of the 2020/22 levels and 42 per cent of 2021/22 levels.

However, DA processing times have increased by an average of eight days.

This increase is noted as attention required, with a target of decreasing the processing time by eight days (back to the 2020/22 processing time).

Question

1. Is the decline in each year matched by a decline in applications? Please detail applications for 2020/21, 2021/22 and 2022/23.

2. What resourcing has the City allocated to reaching this processing target in the budget?
3. What other measures is the City taking to support our planning work to deliver on our commercial growth targets to create new City jobs and grow liveable City communities?

X086668

15. City of Sydney Council Vehicles

By Councillor Gannon

Question

1. How many motor vehicles does the City of Sydney own?
 - (a) How many of those are fully electric?
 - (b) How many of those are hybrids?
 - (c) How many of those are solely internal combustion engines?
2. What was total cost of acquiring the City's Nissan Leaf fleet? Was consideration given to purchasing more affordable electric vehicles? If so, which vehicles?
3. Does the City consider the potential for future EV conversions with respect to the procurement of its Medium Rigid and Heavy Rigid vehicle fleets?

X086665

16. Parking Fines Issued to City Vehicles

By Councillor Gannon

Question

1. In the past five financial years, how many penalty notices (fines) have been issued to Council owned vehicles?
2. What is the breakdown of the different types of penalty notices?
3. What is the total cost of these fines?
4. How many employees have been fined?
5. Have any employees been issued more than one fine? If more than one, what is the highest number of fines issued to a single employee?
6. Are there any unidentified employees for fines?

7. How many challenges have been made against these fines?
 - (a) How many were successful?
 - (b) How many were unsuccessful?

X086665

17. Transport Workers Union – Industrial Action – Overtime and Workplace Injuries

By Councillor Gannon

Question

1. How many hours of overtime have City staff undertaken because of the Cleanaway / Transport Workers Union industrial action?
2. How many workplace injuries in the City's Cleansing teams have occurred this year? How does this compare to the past three calendar years?
3. Of these injured staff:
 - (a) How many were injured while performing overtime duties?
 - (b) How many were injured during regular shift hours?
4. What has been the total cost to the City with respect to these injuries?
5. How many Cleansing staff have worked overtime this year?
6. What percentage of the City's Cleansing staff have worked overtime this year?
7. What has been the total cost of overtime payment to Cleansing staff this year?

X086665

18. Update on the City of Sydney's Sydney Streets Program

By Councillor Ellsmore

Question

1. What dates and locations are proposed for the 2023/24 Sydney Streets program?
2. Which business, venues, community organisations or other groups are the lead partners that the City is working with, to implement the 2023/24 Sydney Streets program?
3. Which business, venues, community organisations or other groups were lead partners or worked with the City to implement the 2022/23 Sydney Streets program?

4. Which businesses and venues participated in 2022/23 Sydney Streets program?
5. What community organisations, including resident groups, participated in the 2022/23 Sydney Streets program?
6. Can local resident groups or community groups have stalls as part of the 2023/24 Sydney Streets program?
7. What are the requirements or steps for local resident groups or community groups to participate in the Sydney Streets program?

X086664

19. Dog Poisoning in City Parks by City Contractor

By Councillor Scott

In late July 2023, City of Sydney contractors were refilling rat baits in Sydney Park, Alexandria, when a dog ate some rat poison out of their exposed bucket. The dog ended up in the vet but has now recovered. At first, City of Sydney Council denied responsibility, however, they have now admitted responsibility. City staff have been in touch with the dog owner and have spoken to the contractor.

Question

1. What identification do all City contractors wear to identify that they work for the City?
2. What signage are City contractors required to display when completing services such as this?
3. How is the City educating contractors on their obligations and what monitoring of compliance is in place?
4. What steps have been taken to prevent further pet poisonings by the City?
5. What consequences are there for the contractor?
6. Does the City have any obligations to report this to any regulators? If so, to whom and when was the report made?
7. What support has been offered to the resident?

X086668