

Item 13**Supplementary Answers to Previous Questions**

Supplementary Answers to Questions on Notice are as follows:

Question on Notice – Council 13 May 2024**9. Solar Panels and Battery Infrastructure in Council-Owned Facilities**

By Councillor Ellsmore

Question

1. Which Council-owned community venues, including town halls and community centres, have solar panels installed? (Please list)
2. Which Council-owned community venues, including town halls and community centres, have batteries or other sustainability infrastructure installed? (Please list)
3. Which Council-owned landmark venues have solar panels installed? (Please list)
4. Which Council-owned landmark venues have batteries or other sustainability infrastructure installed? (Please list)
5. Which other Council-owned buildings solar panels installed? (Please list)
6. Which other Council-owned buildings have batteries or other sustainability infrastructure installed? (Please list)
7. Which Council owned buildings are due for energy upgrades to install solar systems and/or solar infrastructure in the next three years? (Please list)

X086664

Answer by the Chief Executive Officer

The City of Sydney's carbon emissions have dropped 74.5 per cent since our 2005/06 baseline. The City has switched to 100 per cent renewable electricity from July 2020.

The City of Sydney has installed 7,081 solar panels across 45 City owned buildings, with just over two megawatts (MW) in total. We installed a 500kWh Tesla battery at our depot in Alexandria.

We report on our progress in the [Green Reports](#) that are published annually.

Council Owned Buildings with Solar PV installed

Site	Street Address
277-279 Bourke St	277-279 Bourke St
343 George St	343 George St
Abraham Mott Hall	2 Watson Rd
Alexandria Child Care Centre	41 Henderson Rd
Alexandria Park - Toilets & Changeroom	10 Buckland St
Alexandria Town Hall	73 Garden St
Andrew Boy Charlton Pool	1C Mrs Macquarie's Rd
Coronation Recreation Centre and Tennis Courts	1007 Chalmers St
Depot - Bourke St (Plunkett St)	75 Bourke St
Depot-Alexandria Canal	67 Bourke Rd
Depot-Nursery	38 Barwon Park Rd
East Sydney Community and Arts Centre (ESCAC) - Formerly known as Heffron Hall	225-245 Palmer Street OR 30/40 Burton St
Erskineville Oval Grandstand	149 Mitchell Rd
Erskineville Town Hall	104 Erskineville Rd
Eternity Playhouse (Tabernacle)	39 Burton St
Events Depot	34-42 Bourke Road
Glebe Town Hall	160 St Johns Rd
Gunyama Park Pool	17 Zetland Avenue
Huntley Street Early Learning Centre	4H Huntley Street
Joynton Ave - Waranara Child Care	3 Joynton Ave
Joynton Ave - West Land Holding ('Hospital Site') -GIC Building	3 Joynton Ave
Juanita Nielsen	31 Nicholson St
King George V Recreation Centre	15 Cumberland St
King St Retail Holding - Harry Burland Hall	218-222 King St
Library Link and Customer Service Green Square	100 Joynton Ave

Site	Street Address
Paddington Town Hall	247 Oxford St
Perry Park Recreation Centre	1B Maddox Street
Pine Street Creative Arts Centre	62-64 Pine Street
Pirrama Park	22-24 Pirrama Road
Redfern Community Centre	12-36 Caroline St
Redfern Occasional Care Centre	55 Pitt Street
Redfern Park & Oval	51 Elizabeth St
Redfern Town Hall	73 Pitt St
SES	107-125 Railway Parade
St James Park	3 Woolley Street
Surry Hills Community, Child Care Centre & Library	405 Crown St
Sydney Park Cycling Centre	171-203 Euston Rd
Sydney Park Pavilion	418 Sydney Park Rd
Sydney Town Hall	483 George St
The Crescent Early Learning Centre	7 Chapman Road
Turuwul Park Tennis Centre and Kiosk	115 Rothschild Avenue, Rosebery
Ultimo Community Centre	Harris St - 525 Harris St
Victoria Park Pool	1001 City Rd
Waterloo Town Hall & Library	770 Elizabeth St
Wilcox Mofflin Building	46-52 Mountain Street

All Council Owned Buildings with Battery Energy Storage

Site	Street Address
Depot-Alexandria Canal	67 Bourke Rd

Council Owned Buildings with Approved Solar PV (2024-2027)

Site	Street Address
Huntley Street Recreation Centre	6-8 Huntley St

10. Water Saving Infrastructure in Council-Owned Facilities

By Councillor Ellsmore

Question

1. Which Council-owned other community venues, including halls, have water saving infrastructure such as water tanks and grey water systems installed? (Please list)
2. Which Council-owned landmark community venues have water saving infrastructure such as water tanks and grey water systems installed? (Please list)
3. Which other Council-owned buildings have water saving infrastructure such as water tanks and grey water systems installed? (Please list)
4. Which Council owned buildings are due for energy upgrades to install solar systems and/or water saving infrastructure in the next three years? (Please list)

X086664

Answer by the Chief Executive Officer

1. The City of Sydney is currently achieving the operational water target (zero increase in potable water use to June 2025, from the 2006 baseline of 431 ML/year). In FY23 we achieved six per cent potable use reduction against the 2006 baseline. This water use reduction is being achieved by rectifying water leaks, installing water-efficient fixtures and prioritising non-potable water utilisation and water efficiency efforts on the largest water-consuming assets. Reference: <https://www.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au/research-reports/green-reports>

	Building Name	Address	Water Saving Infrastructure
1	Ian Thorpe Aquatic Centre	67c Bourke Rd, Alexandria	Rainwater Reuse System
2	Bourke Street Community Garden	103-107 Bourke Street, Woolloomooloo	Rainwater Reuse System
3	East Sydney Community & Arts Centre	34/40 Burton St, Darlinghurst	Rainwater Reuse System
4	Gunyama Park Aquatic and Recreation Centre	17 Zetland Ave, Zetland	Rainwater Reuse System, Recycled Water (Scheme-based)
5	Eternity Playhouse	39 Burton St, Darlinghurst	Rainwater Reuse System
6	Erskineville Town Hall	104 Erskineville Rd, Erskineville	Rainwater Reuse System
7	St Helens Community Garden	184 Glebe Point Rd, Glebe	Rainwater Reuse System
8	Hilda Booler Child Care Centre	Jubilee Park, Eglinton Rd, Glebe	Rainwater Reuse System
9	Ultimo Community Centre	40 William Henry Street corner, Bulwara Rd, Ultimo	Rainwater Reuse System
10	Eveleigh Early Education Centre	41 Henderson Rd, Eveleigh	Rainwater Reuse System

	Building Name	Address	Water Saving Infrastructure
11	Broughton Street Kindergarten	80 Broughton Street, Glebe	Rainwater Reuse System
12	Jane Evans Day Centre (Newtown Community Garden)	8-10 Victoria Street, Newtown	Rainwater Reuse System
13	Nurses Quarters	184 Glebe Point Rd, Glebe	Rainwater Reuse System
14	Abraham Mott Hall – Millers Point Community Garden	17 Argyle Pl, Millers Point	Rainwater Reuse System
15	Coronation Recreation Centre & Tennis Courts	Prince Alfred Park, Chalmers St, Surry Hills	Rainwater Reuse System
16	Cycling Centre - Sydney Park	410-416 Sydney Park Road, Alexandria	Rainwater Reuse System
17	Phillip Park Community and Childrens Centre	2/10 Yurong Pkwy, Sydney	Rainwater Reuse System
18	Redfern Occasional Child Care Centre	55 Pitt St, Redfern	Rainwater Reuse System
19	Juanita Neilsen Community Centre	31 Nicholson Street, Woolloomooloo	Rainwater Reuse System
20	Booler Community Centre	25-27 Lambert St, Camperdown	Rainwater Reuse System
21	Chippendale Childcare Centre	60 Pine St, Chippendale	Rainwater Reuse System
22	Glebe Library	186 Glebe Point Rd, Glebe	Rainwater Reuse System
23	Rosebery Community Centre	78 Harcourt Parade, Rosebery	Rainwater Reuse System
24	Banga Community Shed	3 Joynton Avenue, Zetland	Rainwater Reuse System
25	Pine Street Creative Arts Centre	64 Pine St, Chippendale	Rainwater Reuse System
26	Huntley Street Early Learning Centre	4 Huntley St, Alexandria	Rainwater Reuse System
27	Maybanke Recreation Centre	87/89 Harris St, Pyrmont	Rainwater Reuse System
28	The Crescent Early Learning Centre	7 Chapman Rd, Annandale	Rainwater Reuse System
29	Turruwul Park Tennis Centre	115 Rothschild Avenue, Rosebery	Rainwater Reuse System
30	James Street Reserve Community Garden	1 Young Ln, Redfern	Rainwater Reuse System
31	Surry Hills Library and Community Centre	405 Crown St, Surry Hills	Rainwater Reuse System
32	Green Square Library	355 Botany Rd, Zetland	Recycled Water (Scheme-based)
33	The Drying Green	103 Portman Street, Zetland	Recycled Water (Scheme-based)
34	Joynton Avenue Creative Centre Building	3 Joynton Avenue, Zetland	Recycled Water (Scheme-based)

2. Refer to response to part 1 above.
- 3.

	Building Name	Address	Water Saving Infrastructure
1	Bay Street Depot	10-16 Bay St, Ultimo	Rainwater Reuse System
2	Alexandra Canal Depot	67c Bourke Rd, Alexandria	Rainwater Reuse System
3	Redfern Oval Grandstand	602 Elizabeth St, Redfern	Rainwater Reuse System
4	Bellevue Cottage Blackwattle Bay	55 Leichhardt St, Glebe	Rainwater Reuse System
5	Woolloomooloo Depot	75 Bourke Street, Woolloomooloo	Rainwater Reuse System
6	Victoria Park Gardeners Lodge	3 City Rd, Camperdown	Rainwater Reuse System
7	Goodstart East Sydney Early Learning Centre	277-279 Bourke Street	Rainwater Reuse System

4. Green Square Water Reuse Scheme Expansion Project. Current Phase: Implementation.
 Bay Street Depot Redevelopment. Current Phase: Design.
 Rainwater Reuse Expansion Program (sites to be finalised).

11. Public Toilets and Water Facilities

By Councillor Ellsmore

Question

1. What new public toilets are proposed in the City of Sydney Local Government Area? Where can the community access details of the current and planning public toilet locations?
2. QMS has a development application for the installation on a Council-funded public toilet in the Ellen Lawman Rest Area at 116-126 Erskineville Road, Erskineville. Did the Council consider making the toilets in the Erskineville Town Hall regularly open to the public? (If yes or no, please provide details)
3. What Council strategies or plans guide the implementation of drinking fountains, bubblers and places to refill water bottles in the City of Sydney Local Government Area? Where can the community access details of the locations of bubblers?
4. What new water fountains, bubblers and places to refill water bottles are planning to be built by Council in coming financial year (2024/5)?

X086664

Answer by the Chief Executive Officer

1. There are eighteen automated public toilets approved and being installed at the following locations:

- Hickson Road and Lower Fort Street – Sydney
- City Road opposite Myrtle Street – Chippendale
- Wattle Street and Quarry Street – Ultimo
- Oxford Street at William Street – Paddington
- Quay Street and George Street – Sydney
- Castlereagh Street and Park Street – Sydney
- Cowper Wharf Road near Brougham Street – Woolloomooloo
- Crewe Place opposite Primrose Avenue – Rosebery
- Dowling Street and Stephen Street – Woolloomooloo
- College Street (Hyde Park) after William Street - Sydney
- St James Road after Macquarie Street - Sydney
- York Street before Erskine Street - Sydney
- Elizabeth Street before Market Street - Sydney
- Elizabeth Street at Park Street - Sydney
- York Street after Grosvener Street - Sydney
- Hay Street after Castlereagh Street - Sydney
- Forbes Street (Taylor Square) at Bourke Street - Darlinghurst
- Marlborough Street at Devonshire Street (Ward Park) – Surry Hills

There is one public automated toilet under development assessment:

- Erskineville Road – Erskineville (DA under assessment)

The community can access details of current public toilets at - <https://toiletmap.gov.au/> - website with the location of all public toilets (not only City of Sydney)

2. The DA for the proposed automated public toilet at Erskineville D/2024/129 was out for public comment until 11 April 2024. The DA will now be referred to the Local Planning Panel for consideration and determination. The Panel meeting date is likely to be in the later half of this year.

The Erskineville Town Hall is only open during business hours. Leaving the building open to the public poses a number of safety and security risks, given the location of the toilets within the building.

3. The City provides water bubblers in our open spaces and along key walking routes. There are currently more than 250 water bubblers in these locations.

Current locations can be found at - <https://www.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au/lists-maps-inventories/water-bubblers>

4. Opportunities for new water bubblers to refill water bottles are considered as part of the design of each project within the City's park renewal program and major public domain upgrades.

12. Forward Projections of the City of Sydney's Cash Position

By Councillor Ellsmore

Question

1. What was the total City of Sydney's cash investments in 2014/15?
2. What was the value of the City of Sydney's commercial property investments in 2014/15?
3. In the City of Sydney Long Term Financial Plan 2014/15 to 2023/24, the City of Sydney's cash reserves were estimated to decrease significantly over ten years:
 - (a) What amount were the City of Sydney's cash investments projected to have been reduced to by 2023/24?
 - (b) What were the key assumptions or aspects of the model used to make these ten-year long term financial projections in 2014/15?
 - (c) What are the main factors that account for the variation between what was modelled in 2014/15 and the City's actual cash investment position reached by 2023/24?
4. What was the total City of Sydney's cash investment in 2019/20?
5. What was the value of the City of Sydney's commercial property investments in 2019/20?
6. In the City of Sydney Long Term Financial Plan 2019/20 to 2028/29, the City of Sydney's cash reserves were estimated to decrease significantly over ten years:
 - (a) What amount were the City of Sydney's cash investments projected to have been reduced to by 2023/24?
 - (b) What were the key assumptions or aspects of the model used to make these ten year long term financial projections in 2019/20?
 - (c) What are the main factors that account for the variation between what was modelled in 2019/20 and the City's actual cash investment position reached by 2023/24?

7. The draft City of Sydney Long Term Financial Plan (2024/25) which includes the draft City of Sydney Resourcing Strategy (2024/25) includes a projection that over ten years the Council's cash position will reduce from \$787.7m in 2024/25 to \$263m in 2033/34.
 - (a) Have the same assumptions and/or modelling that were used in 2014/15 and 2019/20 to make the ten-year cash investment projections been used again for the ten-year projection for 2024/25?
 - (b) If yes, please provide of the updated assumptions and/or modelling?

X086664

Answer by the Chief Executive Officer

1. The total City of Sydney's cash investments at 30 June 30 2014/15 was \$624.4M. This information is shown on page 37 of the 2014/15 Annual Financial Statements available on the City's website.
2.
 - (a) The amount of \$171.4M which is shown on page 43 of the Long Term Financial Plan 2014/15 to 2023/24, available on the City's website.
 - (b) The assumptions and financial forecasts are outlined in the on pages 6 to 26 of the Long Term Financial Plan 2014/15 to 2023/24, available on the City's website.
 - (c) The operations of the City are large and complex with financial modelling needing to consider the income and expenditure generated by over 40 different business operations and the largest local government capital project delivery program in NSW. Together these operations and works generate more than 60,000 individual data points.

Over a 10 year financial planning horizon, a wide variety of factors impact funding timing and needs. Key amongst these are levels of inflation, interest rates, salary increases, construction costs and resource availability, outcomes of community consultation on services and projects, asset conditions, property acquisitions and sales, heritage floorspace sales, property market conditions and pandemics. Given the challenging and ever evolving financial environment, the Long Term Financial Plan (LTFP) is recalibrated annually to account for variations of all known factors, and latest economic and programming estimates.

Since the development of the 2014/15 LTFP, there have been many significant variances that impact the estimated final cash balance. Major factors include a higher cash opening balance, delayed capital works expenditure, increased property disposal income, higher developer and heritage floor space contributions, changes to the level and timing of capital contributions, and better than anticipated operating results. These changes have allowed the City to expand the size and ambition of its operational services, grants and capital works program.

3. The total City of Sydney's cash investments at 30 June 2019/20 was \$632.8M. This information is available on page 29 of the 2019/20 Annual Financial Statements available on the City's website.

4. Consistent with the Local Government Code of Accounting Practice, page 48 of the 2022/23 Annual Financial Statements identifies that the City held investment properties valued at \$509.6M.

It is the underlying purpose for which individual properties are held that determines their classification. The City's investment properties comprise a mix of commercial and industrial properties that are held for long-term rental yield and capital appreciation, and not occupied by the Council. These investment properties are revalued by independent valuers every year.

The City also holds non-'investment' buildings, including buildings valued at a net carrying amount of \$1.8B, a value for the physical building excluding any land value. These buildings are held at fair value. Independent comprehensive valuations are performed on these buildings at least every five years, with the carrying amount of these assets assessed by Council annually at each reporting date to confirm that they materially reflect fair value.

A number of these non-investment property buildings generate commercial property income for the City. Examples include the buildings held at Town Hall Square which have been acquired over a long period of time, for strategic purposes related to a proposed future project. However, in the interim they are tenanted for commercial rent, which contributes to offset their maintenance costs and the City's financial position.

5.
 - (a) The amount of \$376.4M which is shown on page 51 of the Long Term Financial Plan 2019/20 to 2028/29, available on the City's website.
 - (b) The assumptions and financial forecasts are outlined in the on pages 6 to 32 of the Long Term Financial Plan 2019/20 to 2028/29, available on the City's website.
 - (c) As noted in part 2, each year the Long Term Financial Plan is recalibrated. Since the development of the 2019/20 LTFP, major variances from the plan that have impacted the final cash balance have occurred. These include a higher cash opening balance than anticipated, delays to the planned capital works expenditure, changes to the timing of a significant property sale, higher developer and heritage floor space contributions, the level and timing of capital contributions, and better than estimated operating results. Again these changes have allowed the City to expand the size and ambition of its capital works program and service offering.
6.
 - (a) The assumptions are reviewed and revised annually.
 - (b) The assumptions and financial forecasts are outlined in the on pages 6 to 32 of the draft City of Sydney Long Term Financial Plan (2024/25), available on the City's website.

13. Investment Income, Property Acquisitions and Divestments in 2023/24

By Councillor Ellsmore

Question

1. What is the current value of the Council's commercial property portfolio?
2. What is the estimated profit (that is, income once costs have been considered) for the Council from its commercial property portfolio in 2023/24?
3. What is the estimated yield in 2023/24 from:
 - (a) Council's commercial property investments?
 - (b) Council's cash investments?
 - (c) Other Council investments? (please provide details)
4. What was the budget for commercial properties:
 - (a) to be acquired by the Council in 2023/24?
 - (b) to be sold or otherwise divested by Council in 2023/24?
5. What is the draft 2024/25 budget for commercial properties (as presented to the 6 May 2024 Corporate, Finance, Properties and Tenders Committee meeting):
 - (a) to be acquired by the Council in 2024/5?
 - (b) to be sold or otherwise divested by Council in 2024/5?
6. What is the projected yield in 2024/5 from:
 - (a) Council's commercial property investments?
 - (b) Council's cash investments?
 - (c) Other Council investments?
7. The Capital Budget Review Statement for Q3 2023/24 was tabled at the 6 May 2024 Corporate, Finance, Properties and Tenders Committee meeting notes at 3.1 that the approved Council budget for Property Acquisition/ (Divestment) in the 2023/24 financial year was \$189.5 million in 2023/24, but that -\$2.9 million is forecast.
8. Please provide details as to difference between the budget versus the projected figures.

X086664

Answer by the Chief Executive Officer

The City's property portfolio comprises 277 buildings valued at \$2.7 billion plus property interests including strata units that are broadly categorised into Corporate, Community, Strategic, Investment and Other Interests including strata units and footways.

Revenue may be generated from property either in whole or part (such as a commercial shop forming part of a corporate property or within a community facility) and from other interest such as strata. Collectively the buildings and spaces (the properties) that generate this revenue is generally referred as Commercial Property or Commercial Property Revenue or Income.

The purpose for which individual properties are held determines their required accounting classification.

Consistent with the Local Government Code of Accounting Practice, page 48 of the 2022/23 Annual Financial Statements identifies that the City held Investment properties valued at \$509.6M representing about 21% of the total property portfolio carrying value, noting the total carrying value excludes land value.

The City's Investment properties comprise a mix of office and industrial properties that are held for long-term rental yield and capital appreciation, and not occupied by the Council. These investment properties are revalued by independent valuers every year.

The City also holds non-'investment' buildings, including buildings valued at a net carrying amount of \$1.8 billion, a value for the physical building excluding any land value. These buildings are held at fair value. Independent comprehensive valuations are performed on these buildings at least every five years, with the carrying amount of these assets assessed by Council annually at each reporting date to confirm that they materially reflect fair value.

A number of these non-investment property buildings generate commercial property income for the City. Examples include the buildings held at Town Hall Square which have been acquired over a long period of time, for strategic purposes related to a proposed future project. However, in the interim they are tenanted for commercial rent, which contributes to offset their maintenance costs and the City's financial position.

Property Income for 2024/25 is forecast to be \$78.5 million, including income generated from its "investment" properties, properties held for "strategic" purposes, and long term "ground" leases such as Queen Victoria Building.

It is important to recognise that there are recurrent operating and maintenance costs, renewal and upgrade capital costs where the upgrade costs are incrementally recognised as expenses over their useful life. Despite unfavourable commercial rental market conditions, the City has been able to negotiate key rent increases that have resulted in a favourable 2023/24 budget performance.

As noted in the April 2024 Investment report to Council the City has achieved an annual rolling return of 5.07% for cash investments. This is expected to continue for the remainder of the financial year. Cash investment returns generally follow the Official Cash Rates as determined by the Reserve Bank of Australia (RBA), which are expected to decline over the next couple of years. The projected cash investments yield for 2024/25 is 4.8%

Property investments are long term investments. There are no equivalent yields measures for commercial properties as long term returns include the capital growth over long time periods. There are no other investment categories for the City.

The City's Long Term Financial Plan (LTFP) includes allowances to acquire property to meet the City's future requirements including open space and recreational needs, corporate and community needs and properties suitable as long-term Investments generating revenue.

The total provisional budget for acquisition in 2023/24 is \$208.7 million including a provision for Investment property that may include commercial office or industrial of \$152.3 million. The budget provides for funding within our Long Term Financial Plan to expand the diversification of our “own source” revenue, enabling the Council to expand its service delivery and works program, and remain financially sustainable without placing additional burden on our ratepayers. For each expected acquisition, the LTFP then includes anticipated future rental revenue.

The budget is only a provisional funding source, should appropriate properties that meet the Council’s needs, risk and return become available in the market. In accordance with the Local Government Act 1993, Council makes all decisions in regard to the acquisition and divestment of properties from the portfolio.

Note that the forecast has been revised down substantially for 2023/24, as no suitable and significant commercial property purchase have been identified during the year that represent an appropriate risk/return. A provisional sum has again been incorporated within the draft 2024/25 acquisition budget.

Similarly, the LTFP includes allowances for divesting property that is no longer supports the City’s operational needs and/or strategic objectives.

The budget for the proceeds from properties divestments in 2023/24 was \$19.1 million, funds that contribute to funding the City’s capital works program.

The total draft budget for the acquisition of property in 2023/24 is \$197.2 million, including a provisional budget for the acquisition of commercial properties of \$93 million. As above, the anticipated revenues that would follow on from the acquisition have also been factored into the commercial property income.

The draft budget for the proceeds from properties divestments in 2024/25 is \$169.2 million, significantly more than the usual budget, reflecting the final payment for the divestment of the former Fig and Wattle depot site. The majority of these funds have already been used to contribute to the funding of the City’s future capital works program. Proceeds from the sale of a small number of residential properties will be allocated, in accordance with a Council resolution, to the Supported Accommodation, Affordable and Diverse Housing fund.

The main driver of the variance between the provisional budget and current forecast, is the deferred timing to acquire commercial property and open space, which relies on the availability of suitable properties being offered in the market for purchase.

These substantial purchases have now been included in the draft 2024/25 budget within the City’s Long Term Financial Plan, to ensure adequate funding is available as and when appropriate properties arise on the market.

14. Tracking of Carbon Emissions from Operations and Carbon Credits Purchased by the City of Sydney

By Councillor Ellsmore

Question

1. How does the City of Sydney track and report on carbon emissions from City of Sydney operations?
2. Where can the public access reporting the total carbon emissions from City of Sydney operations?

3. Where can the public access reporting on carbon offsets purchased by the City of Sydney, to offset the estimated carbon emissions from operations?
4. What were the estimated total carbon emissions from City of Sydney operations:
 - (a) In 2021/22?
 - (b) In 2022/23?
 - (c) Projected for 2023/24?
 - (d) Projected for 2024/25?
5. Does this include estimated carbon emissions from operations undertaken by contractors engaged by City of Sydney, or services purchased by the City of Sydney?
6. How does the City of Sydney track and collect this information from or by contractors and external organisations?
7. Are estimations of the carbon emissions from waste services undertaken by contractors included in the report of carbon emissions from City of Sydney operations?
8. Are estimates of the carbon emissions from civil services undertaken by contractors included in the report of carbon emissions from City of Sydney operations, including footpath maintenance and road upgrades?
9. If not included in the answer to questions above (estimated total carbon emissions from City of Sydney operations), what were the total carbon emissions from City of Sydney operations undertaken by contractors engaged by City of Sydney, or services purchased by the City of Sydney?
 - (a) In 2021/22?
 - (b) In 2022/23?
 - (c) Projected for 2023/24?
 - (d) Projected for 2024/25?
10. What carbon offsets were purchased by the City of Sydney:
 - (a) In 2021/22?
 - (b) In 2022/23?
 - (c) Purchased to date, and total projected to be purchased for 2023/24?
 - (d) Purchased to date, and total projected to be purchased for 2024/25?
11. What proportion of carbon offsets were Australian Carbon Credit Units:
 - (a) In 2021/22?
 - (b) In 2022/23?
 - (c) In 2023/24?

- (d) In 2024/25?
12. What were the other types of carbon credits purchased, and in what proportions?
13. What is expected to be the total cost to Council of purchasing carbon credits of all types:
- (a) In 2021/22?
- (b) In 2022/23?
- (c) In 2023/24?
- (d) In 2024/25?
14. How does the City of Sydney decide which and how many carbon offsets it will purchase? Is there a policy, plan or guideline which the public can access?
15. To what extent has the Council achieved its goal of switching to '100% high quality Australian regenerative offsets by 2025' as set out in the City's *Environmental Strategy 2021-25* (Action 3)?
16. Has the Council reviewed the environmental assessment of Australian regenerative offsets by ANU Professors Andrew McIntosh and Don Butler, plus other eminent scientists, published in *Community, Earth and Environment* in March 2024 (<https://doi.org/10.1038/s43247-024-01313-x>)?
17. How does the City of Sydney assess the mitigation impacts from carbon offsets?
18. When did the City of Sydney last review its policies in relation to the purchase and use of carbon offsets?

X086664

Answer by the Chief Executive Officer

1. City of Sydney Green report www.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au/research-reports/green-reports
- City of Sydney Climate Active Public Disclosure Statement
www.climateactive.org.au/buy-climate-active/certified-members/city-sydney
2. City of Sydney Green report www.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au/research-reports/green-reports
- City of Sydney Climate Active Public Disclosure Statement
www.climateactive.org.au/buy-climate-active/certified-members/city-sydney
3. City of Sydney Green report www.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au/research-reports/green-reports
- City of Sydney Climate Active Public Disclosure Statement
www.climateactive.org.au/buy-climate-active/certified-members/city-sydney

4.

- (a) City of Sydney Green report www.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au/research-reports/green-reports

City of Sydney Climate Active Public Disclosure Statement
www.climateactive.org.au/buy-climate-active/certified-members/city-sydney

- (b) City of Sydney Green report www.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au/research-reports/green-reports

- (c) Actual figures will be published as part of the annual Green Report in November 2024.

- (d) Actual figures will be published as part of the annual Green Report in November 2025.

5. Yes

6. Fuel usage by contractors to provide services to City of Sydney.

7. Yes.

8. Yes.

9.

- (a) City of Sydney Green report www.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au/research-reports/green-reports

City of Sydney Climate Active Public Disclosure Statement
www.climateactive.org.au/buy-climate-active/certified-members/city-sydney

- (b) City of Sydney Green report www.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au/research-reports/green-reports

- (c) Actual figures will be published as part of the annual Green Report in November 2024.

- (d) Actual figures will be published as part of the annual Green Report in November 2025.

10.

- (a) City of Sydney Climate Active Public Disclosure Statement
www.climateactive.org.au/buy-climate-active/certified-members/city-sydney

- (b) Public Disclosure Statement to be made available on Climate Active website later in 2024.

- (c) Purchased to date: City of Sydney Climate Active Public Disclosure Statement
www.climateactive.org.au/buy-climate-active/certified-members/city-sydney

Projected - Undisclosed, commercial in confidence.

- (d) Purchased to date: City of Sydney Climate Active Public Disclosure Statement www.climateactive.org.au/buy-climate-active/certified-members/city-sydney
Projected - Undisclosed, commercial in confidence.
- 11.
- (a) City of Sydney Climate Active Public Disclosure Statement www.climateactive.org.au/buy-climate-active/certified-members/city-sydney
- (b) This information will be available when the disclosure statement is published later in 2024.
- (c) This information will be available when the disclosure statement is published in 2025.
- (d) This information will be available when the disclosure statement is published in 2026.
12. City of Sydney Climate Active Public Disclosure Statement www.climateactive.org.au/buy-climate-active/certified-members/city-sydney
- 13.
- (a) Undisclosed, commercial in confidence.
- (b) Undisclosed, commercial in confidence.
- (c) Undisclosed, commercial in confidence.
- (d) To be determined once final emission figures are known.
14. The Environmental strategy 2021-2025 explains our commitment to remaining carbon neutral www.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au/strategies-action-plans/environmental-strategy
Carbon offsets are procured through a public tender and RFQ process.
15. In 2022, 21 per cent of our emissions were offset from Indigenous savannah fire and land management in northern Australia. Our aim is for 100 per cent high-quality Australian regenerative offsets by 2025.
16. Yes.
17. The City only purchases ACCUs that are recognised by the Australian Government's Climate Active Program and the Clean Energy Regulator.
18. Refer response to part 14 above. Refer to the Environmental strategy 2021-2025 www.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au/strategies-action-plans/environmental-strategy

19. Food Organics

By Councillor Ellsmore

Question

1. What is the estimated amount of food scraps which could be directed and recycled in the City of Sydney?
 - (a) In 2019/20 (if known)
 - (b) In 2020/21 (if known)
 - (c) In 2021/22 (if known)
 - (d) In 2022/23 (if known)
 - (e) In 2023/24 (if known)
 - (f) Anticipated for 2024/25?
2. What are the numbers of households who have participated in the City of Sydney's food scraps trial:
 - (a) In 2019/20
 - (b) In 2020/21
 - (c) In 2021/22
 - (d) In 2022/23
 - (e) In 2023/24
 - (f) Anticipated for 2024/25?
3. What was the budget allocated for the City of Sydney's food scraps trial and other food organics recycling initiatives:
 - (a) In 2019/20
 - (b) In 2020/21
 - (c) In 2021/22
 - (d) In 2022/23
 - (e) In 2023/24
 - (f) In the draft budget 2024/25?
4. What is the total amount of food scraps redirected as a result of the City of Sydney's food scrap trials and other initiatives:
 - (a) In 2019/20

- (b) In 2020/21
 - (c) In 2021/22
 - (d) In 2022/23
 - (e) In 2023/24
 - (f) Anticipated for 2024/25?
5. What new initiatives for food recycling are included in the draft 2024/25 City of Sydney budget?
6. Does the City of Sydney intend to rollout food organics recycling, alongside or as part of an amended program of recycling for garden organics, in the 2024/25 financial year?
7. When does the City of Sydney currently estimate it will rollout food organics recycling to the whole Local Government Area?

X086664

Answer by the Chief Executive Officer

1. Below are estimates only of the approximate amount of food scraps in the residual bin based on residential kerbside bin audits conducted in 2019/20 that shows approximately 35 per cent of the residual (red-lid) bin consists of food and audits in 2023/24 that showed approximately 34 per cent of the residual (red-lid) bin consists of food.
- (a) 15,837 tonnes;
 - (b) 15,604 tonnes;
 - (c) 15,749 tonnes;
 - (d) 15,082 tonnes;
 - (e) 10,511 tonnes (approx. tonnes from July 2023 to March 2024); and
 - (f) 16,000 tonnes.
2. The approximate total number of households participating in the trial each financial year are:
- (a) 4,300 households;
 - (b) 13,300 households;
 - (c) 19,000 households;
 - (d) 20,600 households;
 - (e) At 30 April 2024 - 21,446 households; and
 - (f) 22,000 households.

3. Below are the operational budgets for the food scraps recycling trial project for the following financial years:

- (a) \$180,075 (includes grant income);
- (b) \$410,342 (includes grant income);
- (c) \$82,793 (includes grant income);
- (d) \$208,771;
- (e) \$268,220; and
- (f) \$337,610 (draft only).

The budgets include processing fees, education and communication costs, equipment, grant income (where applicable) and project administrative costs. They do not include in-house collection costs, salaries or plant and asset costs.

4. The amount of food scraps recycling through the City's food scraps recycling trial for the following years is:

- (a) 200 tonnes;
- (b) 370 tonnes;
- (c) 534 tonnes;
- (d) 521 tonnes;
- (e) 417 tonnes; and
- (f) 600 tonnes.

5. Implementing the insect farming trial using black soldier fly larvae to process residential food scraps.
6. The City will continue to offer the food scraps collection service in 2024/25 to properties participating in the trial. This is a separate service to the existing garden organics collection service, which is available to all residents.
7. The City will have the service available by the 2030 NSW Government mandated deadline. The City is working towards providing the service when there is adequate food organics waste processing capacity to handle the volume generated in the City of Sydney. It is noted that there are a number of challenges (outside the control of the City) including a limited number of suppliers, a lack of processing infrastructure and a shortage of readily accessible waste collection and transfer sites. The NSW Environmental Protection Authority is continuing to develop the NSW Waste Infrastructure Plan to address infrastructure needs across the state.

21. Affordable Housing Developer Contributions

By Councillor Ellsmore

Question

1. What is the estimated value of new development in the City of Sydney:
 - (a) In 2019/20
 - (b) In 2020/21
 - (c) In 2021/22
 - (d) In 2022/23
 - (e) In 2023/24
 - (f) Anticipated for 2024/25?
2. What is the amount of affordable housing contributions that the City of Sydney collected from development:
 - (a) In 2019/20
 - (b) In 2020/21
 - (c) In 2021/22
 - (d) In 2022/23
 - (e) In 2023/24
 - (f) Anticipated for 2024/25?
3. Over what areas of the Local Government Area does the City of Sydney have an affordable housing developer contribution scheme, which collects a percentage based on the cost of a development?
4. What are the rates of affordable housing developer contributions based on the cost of development that the City of Sydney collects?
5. Over what areas of the Local Government Area does the City of Sydney have an affordable housing developer contribution scheme based on the value created from a change to zoning (also known as a mandatory inclusionary zoning scheme or value uplift capture)?
6. What are the rates of affordable housing developer contributions based on value uplift capture?
7. What is the estimated value of new development in the City of Sydney CBD specifically (if known):
 - (a) In 2019/20
 - (b) In 2020/21

- (c) In 2021/22
 - (d) In 2022/23
 - (e) In 2023/24
 - (f) Anticipated for 2024/25?
8. What affordable housing contribution schemes apply to the Sydney CBD?
9. X086664

Answer by the Chief Executive Officer

1. The value of approved development applications in the City of Sydney:
- (a) In 2019/20 = \$2.83 billion
 - (b) In 2020/21 = \$1.39 billion
 - (c) In 2021/22 = \$3.45 billion
 - (d) In 2022/23 = \$2.51 billion
 - (e) In 2023/24 = \$2.57 billion
 - (f) Anticipated for 2024/25 = unknown
2. The value of affordable housing contributions that the City of Sydney collected from development:
- (a) In 2019/20 = \$24.11 million
 - (b) In 2020/21 = \$20.19 million
 - (c) In 2021/22 = \$24.75 million
 - (d) In 2022/23 = \$12.35 million
 - (e) In 2023/24 = available at end of financial year
 - (f) Anticipated for 2024/25 = not possible to predict with any level of certainty

It is noted that the requirement to pay a contribution is made at the approval stage via a condition of consent on the approval. The contribution is not actually payable until a construction certificate is issued and the project proceeds.

3. The City's contribution scheme now applies to almost all of the Local Government Area, except where the Sydney LEP 2012 (essentially NSW Government lands) or the Green Square Town Centre LEPs do not apply, such as Barangaroo, Darling Harbour, Central Park, Walsh Bay, The Rocks, parts of north and south Everleigh and Moore Park and parts of the LGA that are subject to the South Sydney LEP 1998, such as Rosebery, Waterloo Estate (north and central), and Redfern Estate.

A contribution is required to the former Redfern Waterloo Authority areas, if the State Government is the consent authority for a development, under the Redfern Waterloo Affordable Housing Contribution Plan.

4. Contribution rates are not based on the cost of development. They are based on a proportion of floor space. The contribution rates that apply in the Sydney LEP 2012 and Green Square Town Centre LEPs are three per cent of residential floor space and one per cent of non-residential floor space.
5. The higher contribution rate applies only where there is a planning proposal to increase the residential development capacity on a site. Currently, the requirement applies to several sites in the Waterloo Estate, several sites in the Botany Road Precinct, and the 923 Bourke Street, Waterloo (Woolworths site).

Notwithstanding the above, it is noted that the introduction of the levy that applies in Ultimo/Pymont (1996), Green Square (1998) and the Southern Employment Lands (2015) were all introduced when those areas were rezoned.

6. Rates of affordable housing developer contributions are set out in the Affordable Housing Program as:
 - 13% of new residential floor space in Central Sydney
 - 12% of new residential floor space in the South Precinct
 - 12% of new residential floor space in the West precinct
 - 21% of new residential floor space in the East precinct
7. The value of approved development applications in the City of Sydney CBD:
 - (a) In 2019/20 = \$1.56 billion
 - (b) In 2020/21 = \$630 million
 - (c) In 2021/22 = \$2.3 billion
 - (d) In 2022/23 = \$1.5 billion
 - (e) In 2023/24 = \$1.4 billion
 - (f) Anticipated for 2024/25 = unknown
8. The City of Sydney Local Government Area wide levy contribution scheme applies in Central Sydney.

22. City of Sydney E-Scooter and E-Bike Parking

By Councillor Scott

Question

1. How many e-scooter and e-bike Parking Racks are available for public use in the City of Sydney? Please list their locations.
2. Please detail any results from the City's Pyrmont trial.
3. Following the City's Pyrmont trial, does the City have any plans to extend the e-scooter and e-bike parking restrictions in other areas of the City? If yes, please list their locations and a timeframe for this.
4. What is the current clearing process for dumped e-scooters and e-bikes in the City?
5. Broken down by suburb, how many dumped e-scooters and e-bikes have been cleared by the City in the last 12 months?

X086668

Answer by the Chief Executive Officer

1. There are around 3,800 bike racks installed on streets and public domain in the City of Sydney. These are available for everyone to use to lock their bicycles.

Bike racks are not dedicated for specific use by e-bikes or e-scooters.

The use of private e-scooters on public land is illegal in NSW. The use of share e-scooters is only permitted in areas undergoing a Transport for NSW (TfNSW) trial. No such trial is underway in City of Sydney.

In response to requests from the community and businesses, the City asked operators to implement designated bike parking programs through their apps. These programs restrict where users can end their trips to approved locations. For share bike riders ending their trips outside the dedicated parking areas, they are charged time fees plus a penalty (e.g. \$25 for Lime bike).

- Pyrmont, Circular Quay and Ultimo: We allocated 60 dedicated bike parking areas across these suburbs as the first stage of this initiative. We have dedicated these areas on footpaths or public domain where there is sufficient space and strong demand from operators and riders for share bikes.
 - Forest Lodge and Chippendale: We allocated around 50 dedicated bike parking areas across these suburbs as the second stage of this initiative. These will be operational by July 2024.
2. City staff have been conducting regular compliance audits of dedicated parking areas since March 2024:

In Pyrmont, 77% of share bikes are now parked within one metre of a designated parking station (in areas where operator-applied parking restrictions are in place).

3. Following the trials of dedicated share bike parking in Pyrmont, Circular Quay and Ultimo, dedicated share bike parking areas will come on line in Forest Lodge and Chippendale.

Before allocating any more resources to progressing additional locations, the City will now wait until the NSW Government engages with local government on its proposed options for regulating share bike operations and options for on-street bike parking.

4. The Public Spaces (Unattended Property) Act 2021 (PSUP Act) gives Council limited practical / useable powers to remove dumped or illegally / badly parked share bikes. Rangers may take possession of bikes if they determine the bikes are:

(a) unattended, and

(b) the bike

(i) is obstructing access to or within a public place, or

(ii) poses a risk to persons, animals or the environment, or

(iii) is interfering with public amenity, or

(iv) has been in the same or substantially the same place for 7 days; or

(v) is unattended in another circumstance prescribed by the regulations including in contravention of the 'Code of Practice for Class 2 Items—Shopping Trolleys and other Sharing Service Items'.

Rangers can issue \$660 (individual) and \$1320 (corporation) penalties for non-compliance. In addition, Rangers can issue \$66 (individual) and \$132 (corporation) penalties for each additional shared bike left in the same public space.

Alternatively, Rangers may move the bike to another place in the same general area so that the bike does not obstruct access to or within a public place, or pose a risk to persons, animals or the environment, or interfere with public amenity. Rangers could move shared bikes if they reasonably believe the bike is unattended, but it is not necessary to take possession of the bike. In such circumstances Rangers must:

(a) move the item to a place where it is reasonably likely to be found by a responsible person for the item, or

(b) if it is not practicable to move the item as referred to in paragraph (a) — take reasonable steps to notify a responsible person for the item of the place to which the item has been moved.

In addition, Rangers may give a written notice directing bike user or bikes scheme operator to:

(a) remove the unattended bike, or

(b) prevent it becoming unattended again.

If this direction is not complied with, Rangers can issue \$1320 (individual) and \$2640 (corporation) penalties for non-compliance.

5. There are no shared e-scooters in the City of Sydney. Shared e-bikes – none. For the reasons outlined above, the PSUP laws and regulations are an ineffective tool for councils to address complaints. The City has been working with bike share operators to ensure they clear the bikes reasonably quickly.

When contacted, the City advises people to report issues directly with the operators.