



Public Question Time  
Ordinary Council Meeting – 10 March 2022

Summary of Questions Provided in Writing and Responses

Members of the public should not act immediately on preliminary responses to public questions but should wait for confirmation of minutes by Council.

Name	Anthony Certoma
Agenda Item	Item 13.9 AEM Motion – Corporate Credit Card Reporting
Response provided by:	Chief Financial Officer

Q1. Per page 52 of 407, can the CEO explain in sufficient detail as to the four sub sections (a) through (d) and particularly “(d) sufficient information to identify the transaction”, how he, as the CEO, complies with Regulation 13 of the Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996 under 13.

(1) “If the local government has delegated to the CEO the exercise of its power to make payments from the municipal fund or the trust fund, a list of accounts paid by the CEO is to be prepared each month showing for each account since the last such list was prepared- (a) the payee’s name (b) the amount of the payment (c) the date of the payment (d) sufficient information to identify the transaction?

In the current December Credit Card Statement when is the actual date of payment and where is it shown in the payments’ listings?

A1. The Chief Financial Officer advised the City believes it is compliant with *Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996* currently in place.

At no stage has the City been subject to either Department or Auditor comments or findings on how it publishes details on credit card expenditures.

Q2. If we use the first Credit Card holder Adrian Chester as an example, how can the CEO justify that the total amount of \$106.02 gives “sufficient information to identify the transactions” incurred by the card holder?

A2. The Chief Financial Officer advised all credit cardholders who use Council supplied cards must adhere to the following rules:

- a. Comply with the City’s guidelines for use of credit cards
- b. Credit card transactions must be acquitted with invoices and receipts detailing the nature of the expenditure and the budget to which the transaction is to be expensed.
- c. The expending officer then signs off for the expenditure, then forwards it to the line manager to check and counter sign.
- d. Finance Division review of expenditure to ensure compliance.

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All credit card expenditure is then subject to annual audit by Councils auditors.

The CEO has sufficient information through the above process to ensure compliance with Council's guidelines.

- Q3. Does the CEO truly believe that the current reporting system offers best practice reporting, gives full accountability and transparency, whilst maintaining the proper level of oversight for the Elected Members and the community for this expenditure item of almost \$1M pa?
- A3. The Chief Financial Officer advised yes, the City is compliant with existing regulations. Furthermore, it is noted that the City's public reporting of credit card expenditures currently materially exceeds that of both the Minister for Local Government and of the City's own regulator, the Department of Local Government, Sports and Cultural Industries.

Name	Joanne Curry
Agenda Item	Item 13.12 – Reinstatement of On Lead Dog Beach at Ammunition Jetty
Response provided by:	Chief of Community Services

- Q1. Where does the most southern point of CY O'Connor Beach start from?
- A1. The Chief of Community Services advised CY O'Connor Reserve is defined by Lot 1759 McTaggart Cove North Coogee, however, the beach area historically accessible to dogs extended approximately 230 metres south into Lot 2161 McTaggart Cove, North Coogee.
- Q2. Is it not the beach that is located on the north side of the rocks in front of the old Power Station?
- A2. The Chief of Community Services referred to her previous response.
- Q3. If a beach is defined as a sandy shore between the high and low water marks, then would it not make sense that the southern point of CY O'Connor Beach in fact commences from the north side of those rocks adjacent to the old Power Station?
- A3. The Chief of Community Services referred to her previous response.
- Q4. From the current maps posted, advising of the new dog on-leash only beach, it appears that the shown starting point is not on a beach but in fact inland of the protective rock barrier in front of the old Power Station. Is that correct?
- A4. The Chief of Community Services advised the new on-leash dog beach at Chelydra Point Beach will start from the southern end of Lot 2161 McTaggart Cove, North Coogee, adjacent to the Caledonia Loop Road Reserve, and extend to the land boundary of Lot 1759 McTaggart Cove North Coogee.

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Page 310 of the February 2022 Ordinary Council Meeting shows a closer image of the area.

The maps provided by the City are to be used as guidance only, and none should be considered to scale.

To ensure there was clear understanding of the proposed beaches, the City incorporated estimated distances of the proposal in all community consultation and the report to Council.

The City is also installing numerous signs to clearly delineate the area where the dog on-leash beach starts.

Q5. Is it not accurate to say that the initial first approximately 130metres of the 400metres of CY O'Connor Beach to be utilised is in fact not on a beach but inland between Chelydra Beach and CY O'Connor Beach through very soft and often hot sand, which could be difficult to transverse for some potential users?

A5. The Chief of Community Services advised the City is not aware of any additional access issues to this section of the beach, other than what would be normally considered for any coastal environment.

The new on-leash area provides good and levelled access via North Coogee from the southern end.

Q6. Will the Chief of Community Services together with a representative from Ranger Services agree to meet with representatives of ROC for the Dogs Inc. onsite at a mutually agreeable day and time to go through the issues onsite, including distances, CCTV coverage, Ranger patrols, signage, and defined barrier between on lead only and dog exercise area at CY O'Connor Beach?

A6. The Chief of Community Services advised that, subject to the nature and intent of a meeting it will depend on the City's representatives who would attend the meeting and their acceptance to attend.

Additionally, the City is not aware of any issues given that the on-leash dog beach has not come into effect.

Over the coming weeks, CCTV and additional signs will be installed and is not likely to leave any confusion as to where dogs can be on a leash or not.

Q7. Taking into account that there is no point at which the entire stretch of the on lead only dog beach can be seen, how it is anticipated this area will be policed?

A7. The Chief of Community Services advised City Ranger Services will be policing the area by physical patrols, CCTV and on complaint and reporting, as it does with any other area in the City.

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Q8. How is this policing option easier than policing the currently proposed 800m of Ammunition Jetty Beach, which has a straight line of sight from each end as well as multiple pathways down to the beach along its length?

A8. The Chief of Community Services advised Council has considered the Ammunition Jetty Beach area on multiple occasions and made the determination it will be dog prohibited.

It is noted that has been clear advice against allowing dog access at Ammunition Jetty Beach from the WA Government via the Department of Local Government, Sports and Cultural Industries and also the Department of Biodiversity Protection and Attractions.

Name	Stephen Greenwood
Agenda Item	Item 13.13 AEM Motion – Resident Group Draft Capital Budget Submission
Response provided by:	Chief of Community Services

Q1. With reference to the table on page 72 of 407, regarding Resident Group Draft Capital Budget submissions, why is it that of the 128 projects submitted over the three financial years, only 55 or only 43% were approved?

A1. The Chief of Community Services advised this measure is not an accurate reflection of the program's success to date.

To enhance the likelihood of resident groups accessing the \$30k funding allowance per group under the program, they are asked to submit up to three projects in priority order.

For example, a resident group can submit up to three projects, each up to a value of \$30k.

Should the highest priority project satisfy the City's criteria and be included in the proposed Draft Annual Budget, then the lower priority projects are not considered.

However, if the highest priority project is assessed to be unfeasible, the group still has an opportunity to secure funding with the remaining two projects.

This methodology is designed to increase a group's chance of success in the program, with a better measure being how many of the groups making submissions each year have projects included in the budget (over 90% each year).

It should also be noted that many projects submitted by the groups in the past were able to be accommodated within existing budgets or had already been included in the budget by City officers.

Q2. What were the main reasons for rejection?

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A2. The Chief of Community Services advised that, as can be seen in the answer for question 1, the main reason has been the extra projects exceeding the \$30k funding limit per group.

Q3. Is there a need for an information or education program to be run for the individual Residents Associations to help them fully take advantage of this program as over the three year period, on average, only 15 associations submitted projects with only 43% of the projects approved, whilst an average of only 56% of the available funds were utilised?

A3. The Chief of Community Services advised that each year the City's Community Development team works with the Resident Groups to brief and guide them through the submission process.

This year, the City has received submissions from 19 Resident Groups submitting 45 proposals for assessment.

These proposals will be considered by Council as part of the FY23 Budget deliberations.

Q4. Is there a mechanism in place or a channel to go through for an individual resident association to obtain some ballpark costings for certain types of projects?

A4. The Chief of Community Services advised that currently there is not a process in place to facilitate this idea, however, it is a good suggestion and the City's Community Development and Operations teams will examine ways that this could be implemented.

Q5. Is it not correct to say that the Resident Groups Draft Capital Budget Submissions are in fact a subset of the City's Total Draft Capital Budget rather than an incremental budget item?

A5. The Chief of Community Services advised yes.

Q6. In other words, is the Total Draft Capital Budget dollar figure set at a high end level and the various components of it, including the Resident Groups Draft Capital Budget Submissions, determines its final make up to that level?

A6. The Chief of Community Services advised the capital budget is comprised of a number of components including Resident Group projects. The funding is set to enable a range of projects to be completed including asset management plans and other Council adopted strategies and plans.

Q7. Given the human resources currently available to the City in undertaking major yearly projects to the value of \$30M plus per annum, does it seriously believe that a possible 40 odd projects such as playground shade sails, new footpaths, barbecues, park/reserve signage, solar lighting, exercise equipment, shelters, tables, with a maximum value of \$10,000 each will significantly tax its current resources?

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- A7. The Chief of Community Services advised Council approves the funding of resources, including staff, based on an agreed level of services and projects. Additional projects, such as these, require their own additional appropriation by Council over and above the standard services and projects approved for delivery.

Name	James Moore, Spearwood
Subject	Underground Power – Phoenix Road, Spearwood
Response provided by:	Chief of Operations

- Q1. Please provide an update on the progress to complete underground power for Phoenix Road, Spearwood.

- A1. The Chief of Operations advised there is no current program for the undergrounding of power along Phoenix Road, or current WA Government funding programs scheduled. Should the State Government announce a new round of funding, the City will look to nominate the areas within the City that do not currently have underground power, including parts of Spearwood.

Name	Anthony Certoma, Coogee (continued)
Subject	Financial
Response provided by:	Chief Financial Officer

- Q4. Explain why the average general rates per person, at \$909, is approximately 30% higher than the Cities of Joondalup (\$612), Gosnells (\$559), Stirling (\$621), and Wanneroo (\$633), and even 13.5% higher than Melville (\$786)?

- A4. The Chief Financial Officer advised that local governments raise rates from residential, commercial, industrial, rural, and vacant land properties within its district, and then expend those funds across a range of services for those ratepayers and residents.

Cockburn rates are heavily skewed to commercial and industrial rates, similar to the Kwinana, Perth, and Belmont local governments, and unlike Joondalup, Gosnells, Stirling, Wanneroo, and Melville.

The inference in the question that Cockburn rates each person \$909 is distorted as this is not the case.

A more accurate and relevant statistic is to compare the above local governments using residential rates per person, as this is what the general population pays its local government.

The comparison is as follows, and includes residential waste management charges, as some local governments include these in their rates whilst others do not.

The per capita charge for 2021/22 is as follows:

- **Cockburn**      **\$613**

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- Melville \$644
- Joondalup \$599
- Stirling \$652
- Gosnells \$604
- Wanneroo \$575\*

Cockburn compares favourably with all the above local governments.

The more usual comparison measure is rates per residential property, as the per capita measure is more of a poll tax statistic similar to the UK, not WA. Using residential rates per residential property, the comparison is:

- **Cockburn \$1,624**
- Melville \$1,747
- Joondalup \$1,611\*
- Stirling \$1,521
- Gosnells \$1,757
- Wanneroo \$1,714

Again, Cockburn's comparison with the other Local Governments is favourable.

This data is from the 2021/22 budget documents for each of the mentioned local governments.

Q5. Why is it that the City had to raise \$155,735,577 in Total Operational Revenue to run its operations, whilst Joondalup with some 42,000 more residents (35% more) only required \$151,213,935 and Gosnells with some 7,000 more residents (5.6%), only required \$125,939,071?

A5. The Chief Financial Officer advised that, as noted in the response to question 1 above, each local government provides a range of similar services, but also provides a range of services which are unique.

The City of Cockburn provides several unique services which provides context to its operating revenue. Those services and the operating revenue associated with the services include:

- Cockburn ARC \$11.4m,
- Port Coogee Marina \$1.3m,
- Henderson Waste and Recovery Park \$13m, and
- Commercial Waste Collection \$18.8m.

Gosnells and Joondalup do not provide these services.

In addition, Joondalup Arena, which is comparable to the Cockburn ARC, is provided by the State Government to residents of Joondalup at no cost to City of Joondalup.

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There are other unique services which also increase operating revenue, for example, \$2.9m from commercial property rentals, \$7.9m in operating grants for aged, youth, family, and childcare services.

- Q6. Why does the City have employee costs of \$62,845,278 whilst Joondalup (\$60,940,622) and Gosnells (\$49,478,787) are both lower in total and even more so when the LGA population is taken into account?
- A6. The Chief Financial Officer advised the FY22 Municipal Budget for payroll for each of the above are:
- **Cockburn**           **\$64,100,946**
  - Joondalup           \$66,183,322
  - Gosnells             \$51,483,433\*

Each local government provides a range of services which makes the comparison difficult without a specific knowledge and costing structure of those services in the local governments mentioned in the question.

In addition, some local governments choose to insource (increased staff numbers and higher payroll costs), versus those local governments that outsource services (reducing staff numbers and payroll costs but leading to higher material and contract costs, resulting from the outsourced service cost).

When payroll costs and material and contract costs are combined as a percentage of total operation revenue:

- **Cockburn**           **64%**
- Joondalup           81%
- Gosnell             78%
- Melville            72%
- Wanneroo          74%
- Stirling             78%

Cockburn compares favourably against the other two local governments noted in the questions, and also with the other local governments mentioned in question 1.

- Q7. Does the total FTE staff numbers impact this?
- A7. The Chief Financial Officer advised the question is not clear.
- Q8. Does the City of Cockburn have bigger teams but could review some of its operations?
- A8. The Chief Financial Officer advised the City has only enough staff to meet service delivery requirements and reviews each position when a vacancy occurs, as to the necessity to fill that position.

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Q9. Why does the City have employee costs of \$62,845,278, whilst Stirling (\$82,021,661) and Wanneroo (\$71,314,624) appear to have significantly lower employee costs, when taking into account that they both have almost twice the population base of Cockburn?

A9. The Chief Financial Officer advised, as noted in my response to question 3, compared to Cockburn, both Stirling and Wanneroo have higher combined payroll and material/contract costs as a percentage of total operating revenue.

It is also worth noting that neither Wanneroo nor Stirling provide equivalent facilities to the Cockburn ARC, a landfill operation, or an ocean marina.

Q10. Explain how the City of Cockburn apparently has different service needs for residents, commerce and industry than the other Cities compared?

A10. The Chief Financial Officer advised that, as noted in the response to question 6, Cockburn provides several unique services which require costs to be incurred, including the Cockburn ARC, a landfill operation, and a marina facility at Port Coogee.

It also has significant industrial areas with different transport infrastructure needs to residential areas.

Other services considered unique or more of a focus for the City include:

- Maintenance of a substantial network of natural areas (bushland, possum bridge and surrounding lakes systems)
- Waste management, including six tip passes, four verge collections and three bin systems, including weekly recycling
- Million-dollar community grant program
- Financial counselling services
- Parenting services, individual and family support counselling services
- Cockburn Care Frail Aged Service
- Dedicated Seniors Centre (5 days per week) and Youth Centre 6 days per week)
- Cockburn Integrated Health Centre with GP Super Clinic
- The Wetlands Centre and WA Wildlife
- Waste and Environmental Education programs
- Public jetties and other marine infrastructure (eg: sand bypassing system, groundwater interception drain, shark barrier (netsystem) at Coogee Beach, Omeo Dive Trail, groynes, sea walls, etc.
- Caravan Parks and coastal management and funded plans
- Commercial and industrial road building programs, including multi-million-dollar Jandakot Road, Hammond Road and Spearwood Avenue duplication projects, and including bridge duplication at Spearwood Avenue.

Q11. Why is it that at an average of \$527 per resident, the City of Cockburn's Employee costs are substantially higher than Joondalup (\$379, 28% more),

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Gosnells (\$393, 25% more), Stirling (\$368, 30% more), and Wanneroo (\$332, 37% more)?

A11. The Chief Financial Officer advised referred to his response to question 6.

Q12. Can the City of Cockburn itemise the list of services that it is providing within the community that apparently the other LGAs aren't providing given lower Employee Costs?

A12. Please refer to my response to question 6 and 10.

Q13. Can we responsibly continue to deliver these services on an ongoing basis given the pressure it puts on rate rises even with our yearly growth in the rates base of approximately 1,000 new dwellings per annum?

A13. The Chief Financial Officer advised that, as noted in his response to question 4, Cockburn has some of the lowest residential rates when compared to the South West Group, Growth Local Governments, and other local governments.

The City's operating budget is balanced (unlike many other local governments) and the City's rate increases have been modest, particularly when compared with State Government increases over the past five years.

It is noted the new dwellings come as part of new developments for which the City accrues depreciation of newly built assets such as roads, paths, streetlighting, paths and recreational and park facilities.

The Council has always adopted a prudent practice to fund their future replacement and maintenance costs through placing funds into reserves.

There is no windfall or excess revenue arising from newly rateable properties.

Q14. Can the City of Cockburn confirm that the following financial year employee turnover rates are correct?  
2018/2019 - 5.5%, 2019/2020 - 11.2%, 2020/2021 - 11.8%.

A14. The Chief Financial Officer advised that turnover rates were:  
FY19 at 16.18%, FY20 at 12.66%, FY21 at 11.81%.

Q15. Can the City of Cockburn administration please provide an update on the status of the potential review of the Workforce Plan, including dates when the Workforce Plan is scheduled to be reviewed?

A15. The Chief Financial Officer advised the Workforce Plan is currently being reviewed and will be released as part of the Annual Budget process.

Q16. Will the City Administration outline the current status of work progress on a new Workforce Plan given that the current one expires this financial year (2021-2022)?

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A16. The Chief Financial Officer referred to his responses to question 9.

Q17. How has the City of Cockburn used the review process to review service levels and organisational restructure to ensure continued efficiencies in the future Workforce Plan?

A17. The Chief Financial Officer advised the City has undertaken a significant organisational restructure over the past 12 months, adopting a contemporary business structure where all service functions and levels were reviewed.

The outcomes are still being progressed and these will lead to better and more efficient services.

Name	Anthony Certoma (continued)
Subject	OCM Minutes
Response provided by:	Executive Governance and Strategy

Q18. With reference to the Minutes of the 10/02/2022 Ordinary Council Meeting, in relation to Agenda Item 13.3 Initiation of Proposed Scheme Amendment No.153 – Lot 760 (No.49) Berrigan Drive, South Lake – Additional Uses. On page 67 of 537, it states that the Council Decision on “That the recommendation be adopted, with the exclusion of the Funeral Parlour.” was Lost on the Casting Vote of the Presiding Member 4/4.  
Can his worship Mayor Howlett confirm that this is correct?

A18. This is correct.

Q19. Can his worship Mayor Howlett explain to confused residents and Elected Members at the time why he initially voted for the Motion and some 20 seconds later used his Casting Vote to defeat the Motion?

A19. The Mayor is not required under any legislative framework to explain his voting decisions

Q20. Did he in fact vote the wrong way initially and used his Casting Vote to correct the error?

A20. Please refer to my response to question 19.

Q21. Why did the Mayor not feel the need to stick to his initial convictions?

A21. Please refer to my response to question 19.

Q22. In the Report of the Inquiry into City of Cockburn on Page13 under the heading “Conduct of Briefing Sessions” in para 75 to 84 a number of key issues are discussed in relation to Briefing Sessions. Para. 77. “Notably, at the time of the Inquiry being held, the briefing sessions were chaired by the CEO, closed to the public and very informal.”  
Can his worship Mayor Howlett confirm if this is still the case?

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A22. Yes

Q23. At which monthly meeting can Mayor Howlett confirm that he took over chairing the Agenda Briefing Meetings?

A23. The review of Committees and Forum forms part of the review being undertaken by the Governance Review Steering Committee.

Q24. Are they still closed to the Public?

A24. Please refer to my response for to question 22

Q25. Are they still very informal?

A25. Please refer to my response for to question 22

Q26. In Para. 81. "the Mayor stated he had no authority at the briefing sessions and that because the sessions were chaired by the CEO, he saw himself as "the same as all Elected Members", unable to exert his authority as Mayor to preside over the briefing sessions and call members to order if they were behaving poorly." Is this still the case?

A26. Yes, that is the case.

Q27. If not, why not or if so, why so?

A27. Elected Members are required to comply with the Code of Conduct for Elected Members which includes their individual behaviour.

It should be noted that the City's Standing Orders do not apply to briefing sessions.

Name	Mike Walker, North Lake
Subject	Roadworks – Intersection of North Lake Road and Farrington Street, North Lake
Response provided by:	Chief of Operations

Q1. Given the inordinate amount of time it has taken to affect the roadworks at the intersection of North Lake Road and Farrington Road, North Lake, can the Council examine the scope of work, the original budget and the actual costs, with a view to determining whether the project has given the best value for ratepayers, and provide that review to the ratepayers?

A1. The construction of a second right-turn land on North Lake Road and widening of Farrington Road was approved under the WA State Blackspot program based on crash data.

The Blackspot program contributed \$600,000 to the project.

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The project scope identified the most cost-efficient delivery methodology which mitigated the need to close Farrington Rd for two months and impact traffic flow on North Lake Road for an extended period.

Cost increases are related to traffic management, wester power works, traffic signal amendments and an increase to the number of nights required to deliver the works.

Future crash data will determine the overall success of the project

Q2. If the answer is no, then why not?

A2. N/A

Q3. Then can I request, the Scope of work and initial and final cost information, as it would appear that a project announced to take two weeks and starting in August 2021 has blown out considerably in time and I would imagine cost to review the project?

A3. The project commenced in November 2021 with a 4-month construction period which allowed for contingencies and extensions of time.

The project is now complete apart from line marking which is performed by Main Roads WA.

Name	Janette Mouttet
Subject	UDIA Conference
Response provided by:	Chief Executive Officer

Q1. Mr Brun, as City of Cockburn CEO, please explain why the UDIA on-line program reflected your participation as a guest speaker at the recent UDIA conference Bunker Bay, sitting on a panel of four, with the WA Planning Minister, planning to discuss "delivering on infill targets and how to overcome community resistance" when I always understood that City of Cockburn Delegated Officers and Elected Members were there to represent the community and supposed to serve, rather than discuss ways to overcome community resistance?

A1. I was invited alongside the Minister for Planning and the Director General of Communities to be a member of a panel relating to infill and development.

The invitation provided an opportunity, along with the State Government, to engage with sectors of industry.

I made the following points with respect to infill and density:

- Community objection to infill generally comes from poor quality infill
- Developers need to focus on providing quality development
- Density should occur generally around public transport nodes including proposed Tier 2 public transport

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- All dwellings should have street frontage or park frontage
- Higher density should come with higher public open space than the standard (or standards updated by the State to achieve this)
- Battle-axe developments should be avoided

Q2. Mr Brun what takeaways did you get from the UDIA conference that were helpful regarding the retainment of the Glen Iris Golf Course, first developed in 1964, with 220 homes now 'directly surrounding' the course and many more with secondary views, all paying premium prices?

A2. I had no discussion about the proposed rezoning and the session I attended had no relevance.

Q3. Mr Brun, as CEO, why do you think the City of Cockburn Community Scorecard Survey resulted in such a poor score of just 38, with City of Cockburn's result coming last in the category "The City has a good understanding of the community's needs" as per page 18 of the City of Cockburn Annual Report?

A3. Although 38 percent of community members agreed that "City of Cockburn staff have a good understanding of community needs" and 37 percent of community members agreed that "Elected Members at the City of Cockburn have a good understanding of community needs". Most of the remaining respondents answered neutral or unsure, with a minority, 15 to 17 percent of community members, disagreeing with these statements.

When ratings are averaged for staff and Elected Members' understanding of community needs, and compared to participating councils in Western Australia, the City of Cockburn is in 12th place out of 42 councils.

Q4. Mr Brun, having just viewed the footage from the recent UDIA WA large conference you attended and participated in, please can you explain how you were able to attend such a conference, where the footage clearly shows there was absolutely no social distancing, either in the conference room, or the restaurant (masks off), yet the City of Cockburn has denied residents and ratepayers from attending an Ordinary Council Meeting (for the second month) where social distancing can be easily controlled, as was evidenced at the last AGM that the City of Cockburn general public/ratepayers attended?

A4. I only attended the Friday morning session, under 2 hours indoors, where all the participants were masked.

I did not attend any social events.

With respect to the OCM, as has been responded to at last month's OCM Public Question Time, the reason for moving to online meetings relates to the significant risk an exposure event would pose to the entire governance and leadership functions of the Council and the City.

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Having online meetings represents effective risk management and mitigation to avoid having a large number of Elected Members and the Executive becoming COVID positive, or close contacts, all at the same time.

It is noted that the online format has not prevented members of the community from presenting their questions to Council and having responses provided on the public record.

This is reflected by the extensive 47 questions and two Deputations at the February OCM and 50 questions presented and seven Deputations at the March OCM.

As such, this clearly indicates the format has not in any way hindered the ability for electors and the members of the public to raise questions and matters.

Further, it is noted, the City's regulator the Department of Local Government, Sports and Cultural Industries do not allow members of public to attend their offices at all, unlike the City which is still providing in person customer service and operational functions across our many diverse service units.

- Q5. Have you been notified of any COVID positive cases from the 100+ UDIA WA event that you attended on 2-4 March?
- A5. Yes, I understand there has been positive cases.