

Public Question Time Summary Ordinary Council Meeting – 14 April 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

Stephen Greenwood, Hammond Park

Subject: Aboriginal Cultural and Visitors Centre – Design and Costings – Ordinary Council Meeting (OCM) December 2021

Q1. Regarding the 9 December 2021 OCM, Agenda Item 16.1, Aboriginal Cultural and Visitors Centre – Design and Costings, has any additional capital works funding been obtained from the federal government or corporate sector in the five months since the meeting, to go towards the shortfall of \$4,077,034 that was identified in the project at that time?

A1. The Chief of Community Services advised no, not yet.

Q2. If so, who funded it and for what amount?

If not, when will the City approach the WA Treasury Corporation for the loan to fund the shortfall?

A2. The Chief of Community Services advised the City will apply for a loan (if required) from WA Treasury Corporation when the Council makes the final decision to approve the project, once the tenders for the construction of the Aboriginal Cultural and Visitors' Centre have been evaluated and presented.

Q3. On page 269 of 960 of the 9 December 2021 OCM Minutes, in the Draft Operating Budget, it shows an operating deficit of \$472,000 in financial year 2022-23 and a net operating deficit of \$1,325,807 in financial year 2023-24.

Has there been any interest at this stage from the Corporate Sector to annually fund \$0.5M to \$1.0M towards the centre's annual program costs?

A3. The Chief of Community Services advised yes, there has been interest from the corporate sector, and further meetings will be held during 2022 to identify potential program funding.

Subject: Resident Group's Draft Capital Budget Submissions

Q5. On page 90 of 431 of the 10 March 2022 Ordinary Council Meeting Minutes, in the table it shows that in 2019-2020, \$357,000 was provided in funding to undertake projects, in 2020-2021 \$400,000 was provided, and in 2021-2022 \$308,000 was provided.

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What has happened to the \$825,000 that has been underutilised in this program over the last three financial years? (NB: 21 resident groups at \$30,000 per year over three years gives a budget of \$1,890,000).

- A5. The Chief Financial Officer advised that each year is treated separately. There is no cumulated pool of funds as inferred in the question. Any funds notionally allocated to residents' groups projects that were not allocated are factored back into that year's budget.
- Q6. Why hasn't the unspent money been put in a reserve for future use by the affected resident groups?
- A6. The Chief Financial Officer advised that each year's submitted projects are assessed on their merits and funded as such. It is an annual program and funds are not required to be reserved for future years.
- Q7. What is going to happen with the \$322,000 shortfall (21 groups x \$30,000 = \$630,000, less \$308,000 funded) for this financial year ending on 30 June 2022?
- A7. The Chief Financial Officer advised there is not surplus or deficit. The Council funds the approved list of resident group's projects each year.
- Q8. Have the resident groups been notified as to the status of their Project Submissions for the 2022-2023 Budget which had to be submitted prior to Christmas 2021? If not, when can this be expected?
- A8. The Chief Financial Officer advised the resident groups will be notified once Council has resolved to accept the 2022/23 budget.

Subject: Abandoned Shopping Trolleys

- Q9. Is CoSafe and/or Ranger Services impounding abandoned supermarket Shopping Trolleys?
- A9. The Chief of Community Services advised yes, CoSafe and Ranger both proactively impound abandoned trolleys. The use of CoSafe to support Rangers in this way has only commenced earlier this year.
- Q11. Do they take this action on their own accord or after complaints to the City?
- A11. The Chief of Community Services advised Rangers will respond to complaints and proactively patrol during their operating hours, and CoSafe proactively patrol and then impound trolleys several times per week after hours.
- Q12. How much money in fines has been raised through impounding the trolleys?
- A12. The Chief of Community Services advised the City has not fined any shops or supermarkets, as they are not committing an offence. However, from the start

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of 2022 trolleys are now being impounded by the City and not released to the owners until a \$25 impound fee is paid to the City.

This practice is new, so to date there has been some resistance by the stores to pay the impound fee, however, the City will not release these trolleys until the fees are paid.

It is hoped that this stance will encourage supermarkets to install trolley locking devices or a coin operating system. Both these systems have had a demonstrated success rate in reducing abandoned trolleys in other locations.

Q13. Is the problem increasing or decreasing, judging by the complaints and number of impoundments?

A13. The Chief of Community Services advised the impounding rate has significantly increased in recent months due to the City's new approach to tackling this ongoing problem. As previously stated, it is hoped that our new process will reduce the problem in the future.

Subject: Hooning 4WDs – Hammond Park

Q14. Hammond Road between the junctions of Gaebler Roads and Frankland Avenue on Hammond Park remains a problem despite numerous questions to the City of Cockburn.

Hooning, 4WDS ploughing up the wasteland and illegal dumping is a significant problem.

Can CCTV be set up to monitor this piece of neglected road which is used on a daily basis by a lot of the local community?

Alternatively, can the council suggest any other remedies?

A14. The Chief of Community Services advised CoSafe have increased their patrols within the area since March of this year to try and address these issues, however, hooning related complaints need to be referred to the WA Police by the person witnessing this illegal behaviour, as they are the appropriate authority.

The lot of land you may be referring to is privately owned, so the City has no authority to manage 4WDs using this land. It will be up to the owner to refer this matter to WA Police as a trespass issue if they wish to do so.

To date there have been no significant reports of illegal dumping during the City's increased patrols, however the City's Head of Community Safety and Ranger Services is available to meet with you on site to discuss any specific concerns.

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Yes, we are currently reviewing our mobile CCTV locations and have prioritised a unit to move into this area.

We rely on a contractor to support the relocation of our mobile CCTV units, so at this time I am unable to provide a specific timeframe, but staff will advise you once the date is confirmed.

Preliminary