

Item 13

Questions on Notice with Answers

1. Fee Waivers for Community Use of City Facilities and Venues

By Councillor Ellsmore

Question

The 2025/26 Quarter 2 Review – Delivery Program 2025-2029 was reported to the Corporate, Finance, Properties and Tenders Committee, on 16 February 2026.

The Delivery Report provides an update to Council on a range of targets and measures on Council action and services, including fee waivers for community hire at 7.2.

We note that 74 requests for free or reduced rates were approved.

Could the Chief Executive Officer please inform the Council how many total requests there were in this time period (including approved and rejected requests)?

X113783

Answer by the Chief Executive Officer

In Q2 2025/26, there were a total of 76 requests for free or reduced rates.

The 2 requests that were not approved did not meet the eligibility for a fee waiver. Both were for events not open to the public by private organisations that operate outside the City of Sydney.

2. Delivery Report Indicators/Measures

By Councillor Ellsmore

Question

The 2025/26 Quarter 2 Review – Delivery Program 2025-2029 was reported to the Corporate, Finance, Properties and Tenders Committee, on 16 February 2026. The Delivery Report provides an update to Council on a range of targets and measures on Council action and services, including (i) footway replaced by green verge and (ii) Improve walking safety, connectivity and amenity (both at 5.1).

1. The indicator for 'footway replaced by green verge' was updated, with a decrease from 6,005m² in 2023/24 to 3,527m² in 2024/25 to 2,000 m² in 2025/26

Can it please be confirmed how the indicator has changed, and the reason for the change?

2. The indicator 'Transport-related projects' including footpath widening, traffic calming measures and intersection upgrades was updated, with a decrease from 31 in 2024/25 to 10 in 2025/26

Can it please be confirmed how the indicator has changed, and the reason for the change?

3. The indicator 'New granite infill paving' including footpath widening, traffic calming measures and intersection upgrade was updated, with a decrease from 3,179 m² in 2023/24 to 1,816m² in 2024/25 to 0 m² to date in 2025/26

Can it please be confirmed how the indicator has changed, and the reason for the change?

X113783

Answer by the Chief Executive Officer

1. The target has not changed and is 2,000 m2.

Results for FY2025/26 have not yet been published. This figure will be published with the Q4 delivery program report in August. In the financial year to March 2026, 1,179 m2 has been completed and is on track to meet the target KPI.

Year to year variations in the indicator are primarily driven by changes in asset condition, the timing of footway renewal programs and space available for greening in line with accessibility requirements.

Footway replaced by green verge in the City of Sydney Council area	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26
Target KPI	2,000	2,000	2,000
Result	6,005	3,527	Will be published with Q4 report in August

2. The target has not changed and is 10.

Results for FY2025/26 have not yet been published. This figure will be published with the Q4 delivery program report in August. In the financial year to March 2026, 5 have been completed and works are on track to meet the target.

Year to year variations in the indicator generally reflect community requests reviewed in line with road risk severity, authority approval timeframes, and release of funds for state sponsored projects.

Transport related projects (footpath widening, traffic calming measures, intersection upgrades, etc.)	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26
Target KPI	10	10	10
Result	16	31	Will be published with Q4 progress report in August

3. Variations in both the target and results for this indicator reflect earlier delivery of works, which were driven by Covid-19 stimulus works.

Results for FY2025/26 have not yet been published. This figure will be published with the Q4 delivery program progress report in August. The figure of 0 quoted for 2025/26 is for the period July to December 2025. The target for 2025/26 is 500m2. In the financial year to March 2026, 50m2 have been completed, with 2 paver infill projects in Clarence Street and Market Street due for completion in Q4.

The program is on track to meet the target KPI for FY2025/26.

New granite infill paving in the City of Sydney local area (m2)	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26
Target KPI	1,500	1,500	500
Result	3,179	1,816	Will be published with Q4 progress report in August

3. Public Housing Redevelopment in the City of Sydney

By Councillor Ellsmore

Question

- What State public housing (that is, housing owned by Homes NSW or another NSW agency) within the City of Sydney Local Government Area (LGA) is currently:
 - Under development?
 - Proposed for development?
- In 2026, has Homes NSW, or another NSW agency or their representative, made any applications to council for the development of additional public housing in the LGA? If yes, please provide details.

3. In 2026 has Homes NSW, or another NSW agency or their representative, made any inquiries about potential redevelopment of additional public housing sites in the LGA, including pre-DA inquiries? If yes, please provide details.
4. Is the City of Sydney aware of any other proposed redevelopments of public housing in the LGA, other than those noted above? If yes, please provide details.

X113783

Answer by the Chief Executive Officer

1. No further development since the similar [Question on Notice - Status of Public Housing Redevelopment in the City of Sydney](#) - 23 March 2026.
 - (a) The developments noted in the Question on Notice in March 2026 include:
 1. D/2023/21: 82 Wentworth Park Road, Glebe. Landowner is Homes NSW. Approved development comprises 43 social housing units.
 2. SSD-51274973: 600-660 Elizabeth Street, Redfern. Landowner is Homes NSW. Development comprises 4 new buildings for market housing, social (147 units), affordable (197 units) and specialist disability accommodation (11 including 1 carers unit), a community facility and commercial uses. The State Significant Development Application (SSDA) was approved by the Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure (DPHI) in October 2025.
 3. SSD-93222706: Environmental Impact Statement for the rezoning and concept SSDA for Waterloo Estate (South) has been exhibited. The City made a submission on 2 June 2026, after the draft submission was circulated to the Councillors. Homes NSW is the landowner, and the draft proposal includes at least 30% social housing. Waterloo Estate (South) redevelopment will be delivered in stages, and Homes NSW is preparing the separate SSDs for each stage.
 - (b) Not applicable.
2. No development applications have been received.
3. No further pre-DA inquiries since the similar Question on Notice - 23 March 2026. The 2 pre-DA inquiries noted in March 2026 were for 13-21 Nicholson Street, 56-66 Nicholson Street, and 20-26 Forbes Street, Woolloomooloo.
4. The Minister for Housing advised in a letter to the Lord Mayor (dated 20 March 2026, circulated via the CEO Update on 24 April 2026) that Homes NSW has 7 housing projects in the City of Sydney LGA at various stages of development: 2 projects in Glebe (17-31 Cowper Street and 2A-2D Wentworth Park Road, and 82 Wentworth Park Road) are currently under construction, another project in Glebe (14-36 Wentworth Park Road) and 2 in Woolloomooloo (13-21 Nicholson Street, 56-66 Nicholson Street, and 20-26 Forbes Street, Woolloomooloo) are in the design phase, one project in Newtown (Raper Street) is in the tender preparation phase and the Waterloo South Renewal Project.

4. Allocation and Usage of City of Sydney Owned Vehicles by the Lord Mayor

By Councillor Weldon

Question

1. What is the budget for the Lord Mayor's full-time driver and allocated vehicles?
2. How many vehicles does the City of Sydney allocate for the Lord Mayor to use?
3. Has there been an increase in the number of vehicles in recent years? If so, what is the reasoning for the increase?
4. Are the vehicles and driver available for the Deputy Lord Mayor or other Councillors to use? If so, what is the policy around how this is allocated?
5. What is the policy around the usage of the Lord Mayor's allocated vehicle and driver? Who oversees usage, and are there records maintained? Are the records publicly accessible?

X113777

Answer by the Chief Executive Officer

Provisions for the Lord Mayor's driver and vehicle are contained within the Councillors' Expenses and Facilities Policy unanimously endorsed by Council in December 2024.

The Policy recognises the additional authorities and functions exercised by the Lord Mayor, in accordance with the Act (as amended) and Council's adopted delegations to the Lord Mayor.

The annual budget for the Office of the CEO approved by Council includes provision for the Lord Mayor's driver and allocated vehicles (in the Civic Functions unit).

There are 2 vehicles allocated for use by the Lord Mayor and Deputy Lord Mayor. There has not been an increase in the number of vehicles in recent years, however there has been fleet renewal and the relevant vehicles are now fully electric (previously hybrid).

The Policy provides that:

A dedicated vehicle including a fuel card and driver for local and intrastate journeys (and the ACT) will be made available to the Lord Mayor to assist them to carry out the duties of civic office. The vehicle and driver are to be available for other duties when not utilised by the Lord Mayor

The Policy also provides that:

A non-dedicated vehicle and driver is available to assist them to carry out the duties of Deputy Lord Mayor for journeys in the Sydney metropolitan region. The vehicle and driver may only be used where the purpose of the transport is directly related to the functions of the Council. Such vehicle and driver will be available for other duties when not utilised by the Deputy Lord Mayor.

When representing the Lord Mayor, the vehicle and driver can be utilised by other Councillors. The vehicle and driver are also utilised by other City staff such as the Chief Executive Officer, when available and appropriate.

Usage and allocation are overseen by the Office of the CEO. Records are maintained and can be released subject to compliance with privacy legislation.

5. Existing Grant Recipients 2025/6

By Councillor Ellsmore

Question

1. Which organisations or individuals received Community Services and Food Security grant funding from Council in 2025/6?

Please advise which organisations and the amount of funding.

2. What specific local projects or programs were supported through Community Services grant funding or Food Security grant funding in 2025/6?

Please advise which organisation was funded to deliver which local project or programs.

3. Across the Council's various grant programs, in 2025/6 which organisations or individuals, and projects received grant funding, and to what amount?

If there are additional organisations to those noted at Q1 and Q2 please note these, and under which grant programs they were funded.

4. Is Council aware or has been Council been advised that any of the organisations (above) are currently reliant on the City of Sydney's funding as the primary source of funding for those particular local programs or projects? If yes, please provide details.

X113783

Answer by the Chief Executive Officer

1. Please refer to Council reports:
 - [Monday 23 June 2025](#): 10.3 Grants and Sponsorship - Social Grants
 - [Monday 17 November 2025](#): 9.3 Grants and Sponsorship - Social Grants
2. Refer response to 1 above.
3. Please refer to the Council reports at the following meetings:
 - [Monday 23 June 2025](#)
 - 7.4 Grants and Sponsorship - Environmental Grants
 - 8.4 Grants and Sponsorship - Cultural Grants
 - 10.3 Grants and Sponsorship - Social Grants

11.3 Grants and Sponsorship - Economic Grants

- [Monday 25 August 2025](#)

9.4 Grants and Sponsorship – Affordable and Diverse Housing Fund – Amended Support for Haymarket Foundation

- [Monday 22 September 2025](#)

8.3 Grants and Sponsorship - Affordable and Diverse Housing Fund - Metropolitan Local Aboriginal Land Council

8.4 Grants and Sponsorship - Affordable and Diverse Housing Fund - Property Industry Foundation Meanwhile Use Housing

9.3 Grants and Sponsorship - Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Collaboration Fund and Ad Hoc Grant - Wyanga Aboriginal Aged Care Program

- [Monday 17 November 2025](#)

7.3 Grants and Sponsorship - Environmental Grants

8.3 Grants and Sponsorship - Cultural Grants

9.3 Grants and Sponsorship - Social Grants

10.3 Grants and Sponsorship – Economic Grants

- [Monday 15 December 2025](#)

8.3 Grants and Sponsorship - Dixon Street Improvement Grant

- [Monday 18 May 2026](#)

9.4 Grants and Sponsorship – Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Collaboration Fund

4. All applications are assessed on their merit on a project-by-project basis. It is not the core role of the City of Sydney to provide operational funding for organisations. With over 370 agreements managed each year, we cannot provide details on all organisations that may be reliant on our funding as a primary source. Constructive feedback is often provided to both successful and unsuccessful applicants on how to make their programs sustainable as well as encouraging other sources of funding.