



**Questions raised by the community at the
Cremorne Ward Community Forum
held on Tuesday 16 November 2010**

Questions Raised	Council's Reply
1. What makes up the Quadruple Bottom Line (QBL)?	<p>The State Government now requires councils to prepare an integrated planning and reporting framework that includes a long term Community Strategic Plan (known as the 2020 Vision) that addresses social, environmental, economic and civic leadership (governance) issues in an integrated manner. This is known as QBL.</p> <p>Quadruple bottom line extends the idea of the triple bottom line (social, environmental and economic) by including a fourth element or pillar - governance (civic leadership).</p> <p>Civic leadership encompasses policy frameworks, decision making principles, leadership and representation, levels of service, Council's role as a responsible employer, efficiency, ethical practices, community engagement and consultation and community ownership.</p>
2. Where does 'development' fit into QBL?	<p>Development as an issue fits across the QBL, however it is mainly addressed within the 'environmental' and 'social' pillars. Environment in terms of management controls. Social in terms of potential impact on quality of life.</p>
3. What does a 'special rate variation' mean?	<p>Section 508A of the Local Government Act allows a council to increase its general income by an amount that is greater than the general variation each year (known as the State Government-allowed increase or 'rate peg'), up to a maximum of seven (7) years.</p> <p>A Council must identify the amount of additional income it requires over the period of the proposed variation, calculated as a percentage. It then determines the annual percentage increases it requires over the rating period to match this amount. These percentages, which will include the rate peg for each year, may be different from year to year.</p>
4. Is the proposed 3% special rate variation (SRV) per annum over seven years, over and above the normal annual increase?	<p>Yes. North Sydney Council proposes to apply for a total special rate variation of 6%, which will be on top of 2010/11 rates, over seven years starting from 2011/12 i.e. 1 July 2011. This increase is made up of 3% (on average) SRV plus the annual State Government-allowed increase</p>

	<p>(or rate peg) which is expected to be around 3% in keeping with CPI.</p> <p>The rate peg for 2010/11 was 2.6%. The average increase over the past seven years has been 3.3% per year. The 2011/12 rate peg is 2.8%.</p>
<p>5. What is 'other income' as shown in the pie chart for 2009/10 income (slide 14) It is the second biggest amount of income.</p>	<p>The majority of this amount consists of property rental (\$5.2 million) and parking fines (\$6.8 million).</p> <p>It is worth noting that, of the \$6.8 million of parking fine revenue, \$3.5 million was raised from fines issued by our parking service officers. A proportion of the net revenue from these fines (i.e. what is left after deducting the costs associated with policing parking restrictions) must be forwarded to the Office of State Revenue.</p>
<p>6. Every New Years Eve (NYE) there is a lot of alcohol consumption and rubbish leading down Ridge Street down to the Harbour. This mainly comes from congregations held in St Leonards Parks. Can St Leonards Park be included in Council's NYE management plan?</p>	<p>Unfortunately Council only has so many resources and needs to focus these resources on the areas closest to the Harbour where the majority of visitors will congregate. Council will ask the Police to monitor and patrol St Leonards Park and Ridge Street down to the Harbour.</p>
<p>7. Will the increased alcohol free zones force more people into nearby streets and generate problems in street surrounding the restricted areas?</p>	<p>Council is conscious that the restrictions may cause problems somewhere else. However Council is constantly working with Police to improve NYE management arrangements. Approximately 430 Police will be in North Sydney on NYE including the streets surrounding the main vantage points and restricted access. The Police will be more effective than Council employing contract security personnel for the evening. Any problems encountered on NYE should be reported to the Police in the first instance. A wait/delay in response times is expected.</p>
<p>8. Can Council provide toilets/porta-loos on NYE in some streets in Kirribilli/North Sydney?</p>	<p>No porta-loos can't be provided in the streets. The porta-loos are provided in the managed access areas and specific harbourside locations. Porta-loos require regular emptying by pump-out trucks and with large crowd volumes will fill and overflow too quickly. Access by pump-out trucks to porta-loos during the evening would cause disruption to crowd control. Council acknowledges there is a problem with public urination, however, there is no easy solution.</p>
<p>9. What restrictions are in place for Whaling Road during NYE?</p>	<p>No specific arrangements are in place for Whaling Road. However, police will be asked to check the location to ensure traffic conditions are upheld.</p>
<p>10. What is the capacity of Blues Point Reserve? Nearby property owners experience damage every year.</p>	<p>Estimated capacity of Blues Point Reserve is 15,000. Council uses counters to measure number of people moving in and out of this location. 56 streets in North Sydney are closed on NYE. Any problems encountered on NYE should be reported to the Police in the first instance. A wait/delay in response times is expected.</p>
<p>11. How will Council publicise NYE</p>	<p>Council is starting advertising now i.e. local papers and on</p>

<p>management arrangements in advance to residents and the general public; so hopefully less people try to bring alcohol into the restricted areas?</p>	<p>our website. The NSW Premiers Department coordinates NYE information for the Sydney metro area and information about restrictions in North Sydney will be included in this promotion. 1-2 weeks out from NYE Council letterbox drops information to all affected residents outlining the restrictions. For more information visit Council's website: http://www.northsydney.nsw.gov.au/www/html/6953-nye-park-arrangements.asp?intSiteID=1</p>
<p>12. What work is proposed for the CBD?</p>	<p>Proposed CBD works will encompass both Mount and William Streets outside the post office and court. The works comprise the construction of sandstone paving, porous rubber round the trees, self-watering tree sites and installation of one multi-purpose pole on the southern side of Mount St (opp Victoria Cross) and 3 poles along the southern side of the Pacific Highway from Walker to Miller Streets.</p> <p>Work on Little Walker Street is also scheduled to proceed in 10/11. Some works have already been undertaken at this location as a result of a developer contribution in 2007 from 100 Arthur Street.</p>
<p>13. Is sandstone the right material for paving in the CBD?</p>	<p>Council's Landscape Architects recommended use of sandstone for the CBD because North Sydney wanted to offer something different in terms of 'look and feel' to other CBDs. Sandstone is currently meeting our expectations with only 1% regularly needing attention/maintenance. Council recently resolved to use a higher quality paver for future works in high-profile locations in the CBD.</p>
<p>14. Does Council have to replace street drainage in the future? Current infrastructure is not working well.</p>	<p>Council does not have such plans in the medium to long term. Like many council areas, North Sydney's drainage system was installed between 1930s-1950s. In 1960s and 1970s standards changed. Replacing drainage would be a major capital investment in the order of millions of dollars. Council would need to work with Sydney Water to design a program of works to upgrade such infrastructure. Council's Asset Management Strategy outlines how Council manages its infrastructure; and its supporting Infrastructure Asset Management Plan outlines that only those properties which are severely affected will be maintained/replaced in the short to medium term.</p>
<p>15. Is Council responsible for putting powerlines underground? Tree lopping around powerlines is unsightly.</p>	<p>Council has been ensuring through conditions of consent with more recent development proposals that powerlines are put underground. Where Council can do so, we also put in underground cabling for new developments. Council would like to put all powerlines underground, however, it is beyond our resources.</p>
<p>16. What is happening with the ANZAC Club site?</p>	<p>A public meeting (the first of many to come) was held on 4 November 2010 to discuss the future direction of the</p>

	<p>ANZAC Club site. The ANZAC Memorial Club has agreed to amalgamate with the Kirribilli Club. It has now closed its doors to customers. They will vacate by the end of the year.</p> <p>Council has begun consulting with the community regarding future uses of the site. Background information and options for the future are available from Council's website. Council is currently calling for feedback re ideas for future use. A report will be presented to Council in early 2011 summarising feedback received, then proposals moving forward will be placed on public exhibition. For more information visit Council's website: http://www.northsydney.nsw.gov.au/www/html/6950-anzac-memorial-club.asp?intSiteID=1</p>
<p>17. Will increased patronage at the Kirribilli Club drive need to install a taxi turning circle to cope with the extra traffic volume?</p>	<p>Council has undertaken some preliminary investigations into a turning circle in Harbourview Crescent. There are several issues with this request.</p> <p>Depending on the location and design, a turning circle may require expansion of the road carriageway into either the railway reserve or Clark Park. It will not be possible to expand into the railway reserve. To expand into Clark Park, this section of land would have to be changed from community land to operational land under the Local Government Act. This land would also have to be rezoned from "public open space" to "road" under the Environmental Planning & Assessment Act. Spot rezoning of the land requires a resolution of Council. The matter is then forwarded to the NSW Department of Planning for approval. Rezoning the land is likely to be achievable, however the approval process is a lengthy one.</p> <p>If the road carriageway is extended into Clark Park, it will require structural supports/ foundations into the park to support the proposed vehicle loadings.</p> <p>With regard to funding, this project is not currently identified in Council's capital works budget. Council would need to resolve to allocate funds to this project.</p> <p>At the time of the recent development works to the Kirribilli Club, it was suggested to the developer that the Club may wish to consider paying for a turning circle much as you have described. This is particularly given that the proposed works will largely benefit patrons to the Kirribilli Club.</p> <p>Any works in Harbourview Crescent would be subject to extensive community consultation and would require the</p>

	approval of the North Sydney Traffic Committee and Council.
18. When will the North Sydney Draft Local Environment Plan (DLEP) go on public exhibition?	<p>North Sydney has received a revised section 65 certificate from the Department of Planning allowing DLEP 2009 to be publicly exhibited. The conditional certification, dated 29 October 2010, replaces that received in July 2010. The certificate was reported to Council on 15 November 2010, where it resolved to proceed with the plan to the public exhibition stage.</p> <p>The report (with s.65 certificate attached) and minutes of the meeting can be accessed via the following link: http://www.northsydney.nsw.gov.au/www/html/2367-view-council-meeting.asp?numPageNo=2&numTypeID=2&numResID=6834&numYearNo=2010</p> <p>Public exhibition of the DLEP will commence in mid to late January 2011 and run for a period of six weeks.</p>
19. Last year a number of development applications (DAs) were exhibited (advertised) by Council over the Christmas period. There are a number of councils that specify designated periods when DAs can not be advertised, why does North Sydney Council not have such in place.	<p>The advertised period for these DAs was extended so that the community had time to comment.</p> <p>The draft North Sydney Development Control Plan 2010 (DCP) will be exhibited concurrently with the DLEP, as will Council's Local and Residential Development Strategies. During the public exhibition period of the Draft DCP is the appropriate time to suggest Council specify designated periods when DAs cannot be advertised.</p>
20. Does Council know what is happening regarding the works on railway land near Wendy Whiteley's Garden	The State Rail Authority (SRA) is improving infrastructure on SRA land used for stabling trains (while not in use in off peak times). The works include: security fencing, OH&S works and access for employees.
20. Where do I find out when and where my local Precinct Committee meets?	For up-to-date information about Precinct Committee meeting times, venues and office bearer contact details contact Council's Community Engagement Coordinator on 9936 8100 and/or precincts@northsydney.nsw.gov.au ; website http://www.northsydney.nsw.gov.au/precincts