



**Questions raised by the community at the  
Cremorne Ward Community Forum  
held on Tuesday 21 September 2010**

<b>Questions Raised</b>	<b>Council's Reply</b>
<b>1. Does Council carry any debt?</b>	<p>Council has been debt free for many years, however, there may be significant demands on council to acquire public open space and redevelop some of its existing assets. Depending on the timing and size of these redevelopments, it will become necessary to start a controlled borrowing program.</p> <p>Councils are allowed to apply for a special rate variation (SRV) i.e. an increase above the rate peg set by the State Government to cover the costs of service provision and infrastructure maintenance and acquisition. North Sydney Council has resolved to apply for a SRV in 2011/12, a small increase above the rate cap over 7 years; as additional income is required to implement the 2020 Vision, North Sydney Community Strategic Plan. For more information refer to the following report: <a href="http://www.northsydney.nsw.gov.au/resources/documents/G0367.pdf">http://www.northsydney.nsw.gov.au/resources/documents/G0367.pdf</a></p>
<b>2. Was Council impacted by collateralised debt obligations (CDO) and/or other investments?</b>	<p>Council's investment portfolio was affected by the global economic downturn in 2008/09 to a limited extent compared to other organisations because of our cautious investment strategy. Council did see a reduction on investment returns and adjusted budgets accordingly. Council was not impacted by CDOs. Council's income from investments has now returned to a good rate of return.</p> <p>For more information about Council's budget position as at 30 June 2010 refer to the following report: <a href="http://www.northsydney.nsw.gov.au/resources/documents/G02107.pdf">http://www.northsydney.nsw.gov.au/resources/documents/G02107.pdf</a></p>
<b>3. Regarding Neutral Bay streetscape works, why are Council planting trees in summer? Will this not be detrimental to the trees as it is not the ideal time/season for planting?</b>	<p>Council does not want to plant the trees in December as this is the busiest time for retailers in the area. Planting in January will have minimal impact on retail trade. Council's Landscape Architect has advised that planting the trees at this time will not have any adverse effects. Council will source established trees.</p>
<b>4. Why are the paperbark trees (Melaleuca quinquenervia) on Military Road being</b>	<p>The trees in question are a species widely planted by Council in the 1970s. Unfortunately as these trees have</p>

<p>removed?</p>	<p>reached maturity they have significantly damaged infrastructure (pavements, drains etc). Council is currently replacing the paperbark trees with more suitable species. For more information refer to Council's Street Tree Strategy available from Council's website <a href="http://www.northsydney.nsw.gov.au/www/html/4299-street-tree-strategy.asp">http://www.northsydney.nsw.gov.au/www/html/4299-street-tree-strategy.asp</a></p>
<p><b>5. What will Council do regarding the Chinese Tallow Wood (<i>Sapium sebiferum</i>) trees at Barry St and Wycombe Road as they are badly affected with sooty mould?</b></p>	<p>Chinese Tallow Wood trees were widely planted in the 1980s and are a well liked species. Throughout the North Sydney local government area approximately 900 trees have been infected by the Scale Insect which produces large quantities of Honeydew, which leads to Sooty Mould growth. This infestation, which is a major problem across Sydney, will be treated by Council with chemicals and it is hoped this will address the problem. Council is currently conducting a trial using chemicals suggested by tree surgeons and approved by State authorities. The efficacy of the chemical trial will be assessed after Spring and reported to Council. Having to remove the trees would be a big task that would significantly change the North Sydney streetscape and would result in significant costs.</p>
<p><b>6. Council's water reticulation project is quoted as capturing 10 mega litres of water a year. Is this equal to 10 Olympic-sized swimming pools and if so it doesn't seem very much?</b></p>	<p>The expected annual potable water saving from the reticulation scheme is approximately 75 mega litres. This equates to \$150,900 of water if it were purchased from Sydney Water (current rate is \$2.012 per kilolitre). One mega litre of water is approx 40% of an Olympic-sized swimming pool (sized 50m by 25m by 2m). Therefore the water captured by Council's stormwater reuse scheme at the Cammeray golf course equates to approximately 30 swimming pools. Council's Parks and Reserves staff recommend our required watering frequency and have determined this amount to be satisfactory.</p>
<p><b>7. Regarding proposed Cremorne Point suburb boundary change, how has the proposal got to the stage it is at? There has been no community consultation and local residents are largely unaware of the proposal.</b></p>	<p>Council was approached by Bennett Precinct in July 2010 to consider re-defining the boundary of Cremorne Point. Council has not made any decisions regarding changes to the Cremorne Point suburb boundary.</p> <p>On 30 August Council resolved to commence consultation with the community regarding the proposal. For more information refer to the full report: <a href="http://www.northsydney.nsw.gov.au/resources/documents/EPS05_Proposal_to_redefine_Cremorne_Point_boundary.pdf">http://www.northsydney.nsw.gov.au/resources/documents/EPS05_Proposal_to_redefine_Cremorne_Point_boundary.pdf</a></p> <p>Extensive community consultation will take place and Council expects that several proposals will be presented and consulted on before an agreed outcome is achieved. Letters will be sent to all affected residents and landowners as well as the local Precincts advising of the public exhibition period.</p>

<p><b>8. There is confusion as to which suburb Bogota Avenue falls within?</b></p>	<p>The creation of Kurraba Point as a suburb in 2009/10 has created problems with the Neutral Bay suburb boundary. An area of Neutral Bay was effectively cut off from the main suburb in the current boundary distribution following the introduction of Kurraba Point. Creating an ‘island’ pocket (i.e. surrounded by other suburbs) is illogical and Council is recommending this matter be looked as part of the proposed Cremorne Point suburb boundary change.</p> <p>For more information refer to the full report: <a href="http://www.northsydney.nsw.gov.au/resources/documents/EPS05_Proposal_to_redefine_Cremorne_Point_boundary.pdf">http://www.northsydney.nsw.gov.au/resources/documents/EPS05_Proposal_to_redefine_Cremorne_Point_boundary.pdf</a></p>
<p><b>9. What is the timeframe for consultation about proposed changes to the Cremorne Point suburb boundary?</b></p>	<p>Community consultation is scheduled to take place from November 2010, with submissions accepted until late January 2011. The proposal will be on public exhibition for approximately 2.5 months. Council expects several stages of consultation will need to take place. A report summarising the community’s feedback will put to Council in February 2011. The process to gazette changes is the responsibility of the Geographical Names Board and can take 12 to 18 months to finalise.</p> <p>Information packs will be prepared and distributed to all affected Precinct Committees in addition to information distributed to affected residents. The Mayor has suggested Council help the affected Precinct Committees (including Bennett and Cremorne Point) coordinate a joint meeting to discuss the matter. This joint meeting could coincide with the public meeting as it is the same target audience.</p>
<p><b>10. In conjunction with consultation regarding the proposed changes to the Cremorne Point suburb boundary, will Council consider reviewing the Precinct boundaries as well? Possible consolidation of the number of Precinct Committees and Precinct boundaries should be reviewed in line with suburb boundary changes.</b></p>	<p>Council has not resolved, at this point in time, to review the Precinct Committee suburb boundaries. Council may consider doing so in the future. Such a proposal would require extensive consultation with key stakeholders including all Precinct Committees, local residents and the business community.</p>
<p><b>11. Are these proposed boundary changes being brought about because of exclusivity and property prices?</b></p>	<p>Council does not have this impression. Money and exclusivity may be important to some, but Council perceives the request to review the boundaries is being driven by a sense of belonging. It is where residents feel they belong and the area they identify with that’s most important. The outcome will come down to what the community wants to do. Council’s position is to facilitate the consultation and application process.</p>
<p><b>12. This issue was raised at the previous ward forum and a progress update is requested. What is the status of the Cremorne Point Interchange and wharf</b></p>	<p>Council is in ongoing discussion with Maritime NSW regarding the wharf upgrade and interchange (bus turn-around). Architects from Maritime NSW have prepared plans. Several options for the interchange were suggested</p>

<p><b>upgrade project?</b></p>	<p>including extending the current sea wall and suspending the turning circle several metres out over the water. The project is expected to cost \$3M. State Government funding was recently applied for, but was unsuccessful. Maritime NSW has made a Federal funding application and this is yet to be determined.</p> <p>The wharf upgrade will proceed. However, the issue with proceeding with the interchange redevelopment is funding. Council is arguing that developing the interchange and wharf is desirable. However, the design has been prepared so that if the interchange upgrade can not be done at the same time as the wharf upgrade, it can be built separately.</p>
<p><b>13. Could Cremorne Point wharf be relocated to the other side of Robertson's point?</b></p>	<p>This would be a decision for Maritime NSW not Council. Moving the wharf will have a big impact on local people and the environment and connections to other modes of public transport. Conditions on the other side of the point may also be unsuitable.</p>
<p><b>14. Who can residents write to about the State Government's cuts to ferry services along the lower North Shore?</b></p>	<p>Your local members and relevant Ministers:</p> <p>Member for Willoughby &amp; Shadow Minister for Transport Ms Gladys Berejiklian, MP 280 Willoughby Road NAREMBURN NSW 2065 Ph 9439 4199 Fax 9439 9299 Email <a href="mailto:willoughby@parliament.nsw.gov.au">willoughby@parliament.nsw.gov.au</a></p> <p>Member for North Shore &amp; Deputy Leader of the NSW Opposition Ms Jillian Skinner MP 3/40 Yeo Street NEUTRAL BAY NSW 2089 Ph 9909 2594 Fax 9909 2654 Email <a href="mailto:Jillian.Skinner@parliament.nsw.gov.au">Jillian.Skinner@parliament.nsw.gov.au</a></p> <p>The Hon. John Robertson MLC Minister for Transport Governor Macquarie Tower Level 30, 1 Farrer Place SYDNEY NSW 2000 Ph 9228 5661 Fax 9228 5168 Email <a href="mailto:office@robertson.minister.nsw.gov.au">office@robertson.minister.nsw.gov.au</a></p>
<p><b>15. There was talk of privatising the ferry services a couple of years ago. Is this not an option now?</b></p>	<p>A private ferry service is currently operating out of Manly which has reportedly received positive reviews. A similar arrangement was suggested in lieu of service costs but was subsequently rejected by the current State Government. Gladys Berejiklian, Member for Willoughby and Shadow Minister for Transport has advised that the Liberals will</p>

	look at privatising ferry services if they win the next election. Residents are encouraged to lobby their local State MPs to ensure that levels of service are maintained.
<b>16. What can be done about the damp in the sandstone rock face opposite Cremorne Point Interchange?</b>	There is little that can be done about the damp in the sandstone rock face as this is caused by natural geological processes. However, should problems arise from the water flows Council can investigate options to manage drainage.
<b>17. Has the bus depot next to the Big Bear shopping centre, Neutral Bay been sold by the State Government?</b>	Council is unaware of such a sale.
<b>18. What's happening with the Draft Local Environment Plan 2009 (DLEP) and s.65 certificate?</b>	<p>DLEP 2009 has not yet been publicly exhibited. Council is awaiting certification from the NSW Department of Planning to do so. Once exhibition has been undertaken, Council will consider all submissions, and subject to any changes made, will return the DLEP to the Minister for Planning to make the plan. Unfortunately it is not possible to give a realistic time frame in which the above steps will occur.</p> <p>To keep up to date with consultation opportunities subscribe to Council's LEP e-newsletters via Council's website; refer to <a href="http://www.northsydney.nsw.gov.au/www/html/5647-overview.asp">http://www.northsydney.nsw.gov.au/www/html/5647-overview.asp</a></p>
<b>19. What is the current LEP zoning in Cremorne Point?</b>	<p>The zone for Cremorne Point is Residential G Zone (Cremorne Point) as per the 2001 LEP. The proposed zoning under the DLEP 2009 is R2 low density residential zoning (pending public exhibition).</p> <p>For information about the current zoning of other suburbs refer to <a href="http://www.northsydney.nsw.gov.au/www/html/2040-maps.asp">http://www.northsydney.nsw.gov.au/www/html/2040-maps.asp</a></p>
<b>20. Residents on Cremorne Point were informed a couple of years ago about heritage listing changes that were proposed in the area. What happened with that?</b>	<p>The North Sydney Heritage Review was undertaken in 2008, with an external consultant reviewing all heritage listed residential properties in North Sydney. A series of recommendations were made, including recommendations to downgrade or remove several properties from the heritage schedule.</p> <p>A consultation period was undertaken in early 2009, advising owners of heritage items of the recommendations and seeking submissions to those recommendations.</p> <p>In May 2009, Council resolved to adopt a revised list of recommended changes to the heritage schedule, and to incorporate those changes into the heritage schedule in the DLEP 2009. Contributory items will be listed in Council's new Development Control Plan, which will be exhibited concurrently with the DLEP.</p>

	<p>It should be noted though that until the new comprehensive DLEP 2009 comes into force, all heritage items listed under LEP 2001 will remain as such.</p> <p>For clarification of the above or further information, please call Brad Stafford of Council's Strategic Planning Department on 9936 8100.</p>
<p><b>21. How can residents support the Save Berry's Bay Campaign?</b></p>	<p>North Sydney Council and Waverton Precinct are calling on North Sydney residents to support the campaign to save Berrys Bay from over-development. The State Government is negotiating with Meridien Marinas, its preferred proponent, to lease the industrial site near Carradah Park (the former BP site), despite the fact that the Meridien proposal breaches both the Masterplan and Council's planning controls for the site. For more information <a href="http://www.northsydney.nsw.gov.au/www/html/6772-save-berrys-bay.asp?intSiteID=1">http://www.northsydney.nsw.gov.au/www/html/6772-save-berrys-bay.asp?intSiteID=1</a></p>
<p><b>22. How can concerned residents get involved in the campaign against the proposed Barrangaroo development?</b></p>	<p>The Barangaroo Action Group is campaigning against development of the Barangaroo site, Darling Harbour. For more information visit <a href="http://www.barangarooaction.com.au">www.barangarooaction.com.au</a></p>
<p><b>23. Where do I find out when and where my local Precinct Committee meets?</b></p>	<p>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 <a href="mailto:precincts@northsydney.nsw.gov.au">precincts@northsydney.nsw.gov.au</a>; website <a href="http://www.northsydney.nsw.gov.au/precincts">http://www.northsydney.nsw.gov.au/precincts</a></p>