

RESPONSES TO QUESTIONS TAKEN ON NOTICE

3 DECEMBER 2025



Item 5. Councillor Question Time

Question from Councillor Halliday:

Following on from Claire Mears questions in relation to CCTV. Is there publicly available reporting about the operational status of Council's CCTV network?

Response:

The Public Place CCTV system is a key component of local law enforcement and community safety efforts. It supports crime prevention by providing Victoria Police with real-time and recorded footage that helps them monitor public spaces, assess emerging situations, and respond to criminal incidents. Victoria Police oversees the monitoring and management of the CCTV network and all associated footage. Council's role focuses on maintaining the system infrastructure and ensuring its ongoing operation.

Information about system performance, including camera operational status, is not publicly reported. Victoria Police have advised that they do not support the release of this data due to operational and security considerations. As part of Council's maintenance responsibilities, the system automatically alerts Council whenever a camera or component becomes faulty. Council then notifies Victoria Police and arranges for the issue to be promptly investigated and resolved.

Item 7.1 Presentation of CEO Report – October 2025 Issue 123

Question from Councillor Thomann:

Can officers provide an update on the St Kilda Pier landside works upgrade? Is the work going to continue during the summer holidays?

Response:

Works at the St Kilda Pier landside project site will pause for a short period during the Christmas shutdown. The site will be closed from 22 December 2025 to 5 January 2026 inclusive.

Major works for the Sea Baths car park stage are expected to be completed before this shut down period, however, commissioning of the new entry and exit remains subject to final approval from the Department of Transport and Planning (DTP), which Council are currently working through.

Works will recommence on 6 January 2026. Project completion is currently scheduled for the end of February 2026, however Council are assessing the impact of the delay in obtaining final approval from DTP on the broader schedule. Council will provide an update on the revised completion date as soon as it is confirmed.

Question from Councillor Jay:

The report refers to 80 cages being installed on public bins as part of the initiative to support the container deposit scheme. Is this an additional 80 to what we've already put on, and where did the funding come from?

Response:

This reference is to the number of planned cages as part of the trial and not any additional cages. In this respect, there is no additional funding, with the trial within the original budget allocation consisting of grand funding from Vic Return and Council's operational budget.

*Please note: Responses to any questions during Public Question Time and Councillor Question Time which were responded to during the meeting are included in the minutes of that meeting.

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Item 12.1 Community Engagement Policy

Question from Councillor Thomann:

How much does Council spend on community consultation?

Response:

Investment:

- Project teams across Council have \$387,000 budgeted under the Communications and Engagement line item spread across various projects. This funding typically covers:
 - *Printing and distribution costs*
 - *Advertising and media placement*
 - *Venue hire and catering for community meetings or workshops*
 - *Translation and accessibility services to ensure inclusive engagement*
 - *Community engagement consultant fees*
 - *Development and production of communications collateral when outsourced (e.g., brochures, fact sheets, posters)*
- The subscription to the Have Your Say platform costs \$35,000 per year.
- The Engagement Team consists of 6.6FTE (\$1,050,000) and provides services across the organisation, including:
 - *Engagement planning*
 - *Engagement activity delivery (pop-ups, workshops, information sessions etc)*
 - *Data analysis and reporting on engagement programs*
 - *Internal capacity building and organisational uplift in relation to community engagement.*

Output:

Statistics	Result 2023/24	Result 2024/25
<i>Community engagement programs delivered</i>	40	40
<i>Pop-up conversations</i>	60	125
<i>Have your say websites visits</i>	51,313	51,267
<i>Feedback contributions</i>	9,775	9,931
<i>Other face to face activities</i>	86	131
<i>Interviews (with individuals most affected)</i>	112	15
<i>Subscribers to monthly newsletter</i>	3,278 ¹	4,161 ¹

¹June in relevant year

These investments help ensure that Council communicates effectively and engages meaningfully with the community on projects and initiatives.