

ITEM 3.1 CITIZENS' POLICY JURY RECOMMENDATIONS**FILE NO: S051491****MINUTE BY THE LORD MAYOR**

On 16 September 2013, Council unanimously agreed to contribute \$60,000 towards the cost of convening a Citizens' Policy Jury to consider how we can ensure a safe and vibrant Sydney nightlife. The Jury would be asked to come up with at least five recommendations to address this issue.

The newDemocracy Foundation and the Thomas Kelly Foundation had requested the City to formally commission the project. The NSW Government also contributed funding. newDemocracy had recently completed a similar project for the South Australian Government.

The City agreed to consider and respond to the Jury's recommendations and the then Premier agreed to table them in Parliament.

Comprising 43 participants selected to mirror the demographic profile of metropolitan Sydney, the Jury, began its deliberations in February 2013. They met six times over three months, in five full-day sessions, and a final evening session. Several jurors also took part in a late night tour of key entertainment areas on Saturday, 15 February 2014.

The Jury received 39 submissions from the public. A range of experts gave presentations to the Jury, chosen by the Jury itself. The Jury's work was supported by an ongoing, online private discussion forum and an online library.

The Sydney Citizens' Policy Jury – Final Report (Attachment A to this Minute) includes the late night tour itinerary, a list of submissions received and a list of people who presented to the Jury. Information about the Jury selection process and makeup of the Jury is contained in Attachment B.

The Jury presented its final report to me at its final session on 9 April 2014, together with its 25 recommendations. The recommendations were grouped under:

- Diversity;
- Transport;
- Policing and safety;
- Education and media; and
- Lockouts and licensing.

Of the 25 recommendations, eight relate to areas where the City is able to take action. These are:

- Support for the City of Sydney Night Time City Unit to oversee the implementation of varied night time entertainment options that are suitable for a range of age groups and cultures;

- Prioritisation of new public toilets, creative and functional lighting, better wayfinding, improved pedestrian experience and street art;
- Budget to be committed to support night time innovation and diversity;
- The NSW Government collaborate with the City of Sydney and provide financial and regulatory support for night time activities, small and major;
- The City install more water refill stations/bubblers in the public domain to allow people to hydrate;
- Support for the current City of Sydney Precinct ambassadors program with a recommendation that it be extended to a year round service;
- Acknowledgement of the City's and NSW Government's efforts using CCTV to prevent and detect crime, with a recommendation that they continue to increase CCTV cameras and staff monitoring of cameras based on NSW Police recommendations and community needs; and
- The City and other agencies install new signage to increase awareness of CCTV cameras.

I support these recommendations, many of which are already being progressed. The City's response to the eight recommendations and proposals for action are detailed in Attachment C.

Action on two of the Jury's recommendations should be prioritised:

- delivery of the City's Public Toilet Strategy; and
- installation of three new water bubblers in the City centre.

Many other actions are already being undertaken, or are soon to be undertaken, by the City including:

- design and installation of new closed circuit television camera signage;
- creative and functional lighting, better wayfinding, improved pedestrian experience and creative endeavour in the public domain, including street art, projections, murals, lighting installations and other creative initiatives;
- a night time city unit to oversee the implementation of varied night time entertainment options that are suitable for a range of age groups and cultures. This includes budget that supports "night time innovation and diversity". The City's Night Time City unit is responsible for delivering the OPEN Sydney strategy and action plan and the Jury's proposal is a priority action;
- financial and regulatory support for night time activities, both small and major, exists through the City's Grants and Sponsorships Programs. The City invests significantly in a range of large and small events with a night time element (eg, Sydney Festival, Art & About, Beams Festival and Vivid); and
- fees for use of the JCDecaux automated public toilets have been abolished and the facilities are now open 24 hours per day.

I acknowledge the commitment and considerable time given by the jurors to consider and deliberate this challenging area of policy. The jurors themselves found taking part to be a rewarding and challenging experience.

I also acknowledge the role of the Thomas Kelly Youth Foundation in progressing this important area of work.

RECOMMENDATION

It is resolved that:

- (A) the Lord Mayor write to each juror to formally thank them for their commitment and time in participating in the Sydney Citizens' Policy Jury;
- (B) Council endorse the eight recommendations in the Jury's Final Report for which the City has responsibility, as detailed in Attachment C to this Minute;
- (C) the Lord Mayor write to the NSW Premier to alert him to the fact that Council is progressing with action in relation to the eight recommendations that fall under the City's responsibility in the Jury's Final Report;
- (D) Council prioritise the commencement of the Public Toilet Strategy during 2014/15;
and
- (E) Council prioritise the installation of three new water bubblers in late night precincts of the City centre during 2014/15.

COUNCILLOR CLOVER MOORE

Lord Mayor

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment A: Sydney Citizens' Policy Jury – Final Report

Attachment B: Citizens' Jury Selection Process and Composition

Attachment C: City of Sydney response to Citizens' Jury report