

Questions taken on notice

23 August 2022



At Council meetings, questions from the public and from Councillors are sometimes taken 'on notice', meaning that an answer cannot be provided at the meeting itself. When an answer is available, it is provided direct to the questioner, and is also published here.

As well as the full response, the text below includes a summary of the question and the answer provided at the meeting. A recording of the Council Meeting (including Public Question Time and Councillor Questions Without Notice) is available on Council's website for four years following the meeting.

Response to question from Dorothy James

Question

There appears to be an inequity in service delivery to the Burnley Pocket where I reside. For example, newsletter delivery is perennially late.

Response at the meeting

The Mayor took the question on notice.

Subsequent response

The Unit Manager Strategic Communications and Engagement subsequently provided the following information:

A non-delivery enquiry was followed up for the resident in September 2021. Due to COVID related travel restrictions and the inability for certain activities to take place, there were a number of delays in delivery at that time.

There have not been any further delivery complaints about non-delivery for this address, but if any resident finds their delivery delayed, they can call Council on 9205 5555 and we will follow up with the contractor and investigate.

Response to question from Martha Vazenios

Question

I use Old Heidelberg Road and Lucerne Crescent almost daily. When you approved the development at the corner of Old Heidelberg Road I assumed you considered the impact to drivers, dropping off and picking up children at Alphington Grammar School. On a couple of occasions in the last month there have been bottlenecks created on these roads by a crane inhibiting the flow of vehicles at peak times. I submit to Council that perhaps you rethink traffic management during peak times but more specifically in relation to cranes on these roads at peak times. At my last experience it took me seven minutes to roll past a stationary position while waiting for the crane to move to its desired location out of Lucerne Crescent and all this while children attempted to cross Lucerne Crescent at the end of the school day.

Response at the meeting

The Mayor took the question on notice.

Subsequent response

The Coordinator Construction Management Support subsequently provided the following information:

This site has an approved construction zone for works on Old Heidelberg Road (behind the concrete barriers); the permit does not allow for the occupation of any other parts of the road. No additional permits have been granted for works outside of the concrete barriers and given the location of the site, it's unlikely that any would be approved without thorough assessment and several conditions being applied.

The works at this site are also managed under a Construction Management Plan (CMP) which is a document that outlines how works will take place in a manner that ensures safety and reduces possible impacts to the local community. Due to this site's proximity to a retirement centre and 2 schools, the CMP specifies that during the hours of 8am-9am and 2:30pm-4:00pm, all truck movement for the site will need to cease. This includes trucks driving in or out of the Construction Zone.

Enforcement action will apply for any truck movements during those times or occupation of an area outside the approved construction zone without an appropriate permit.

Our officers endeavour to patrol construction sites as much as possible, however if anyone is aware of activity that requires enforcement, they can report those to Council; the quickest way to contact the Construction Enforcement team is to call our Customer Service team on 03 9205 5555 or lodge an Enforcement request via our website

Response to question from Martha Vazenios

Question

I sent a complaint to Council several weeks ago and it's now bordering on months and I am yet to receive a response to that complaint and given the discussion that was had earlier today, I am wondering how I can follow-up on an answer to that complaint. It concerns me on how we can all engage in the democratic process, particularly when later today you're discussing how these questions will even take place in the future for rate payers and other members of the public that are effected by decisions made by Yarra Council.

Response at the meeting

The Mayor took the question on notice.

Subsequent response

The Group Manager Chief Executive's Office subsequently advised that there are no outstanding matters raised with the Council by the questioner – with questions asked at previous Council meetings having either been answered at the meeting, or the responded to with additional information published on Council's website at <https://www.yarracity.vic.gov.au/about-us/council-and-committee-meetings/past-council-and-committee-meetings>
