

Dear Michael

Thank you for the invitation to attend the GCS AGM. Unfortunately, I will be an apology as I have a prior commitment. My responses to your questions are set out below.

Best Regards

Dr Jennifer Bonham

12 October 2022

1. Are you in favour of increasing the proportion of funding to Community Centres to target building a better community?

Community Centres are an important component of Council's overall community services and development budget. The 2022-23 Budget has allocated over \$8m (15%) to community services and development (library, arts and events grants, etc. etc.) including over \$1m to the four Community Centres. I would be happy to consider an increase in funding for Community Centres during the Annual Budget deliberations taking into account the overall community services provided by Council, the programs offered by Community Centres, and the role that other Council activities (e.g. maintaining parks, open space, footpaths etc.) play in contributing to community well-being, engagement and development.

2. Will you support equitable funding of all community centres?

The City of Unley's four Community Centres operate under different models and 'equitable' funding must take account of the Management model and distribution of costs and income. The Fullarton Park and Unley Community Centres are fully operated by Council with all costs met and income retained by Council. The Clarence Park Community Centre is managed under a partnership agreement with Council where the roles and responsibilities – including programming, staffing, assets, and costs and distribution of income – of each partner are clearly set out (see Council Agenda July 2022). Currently, the Goodwood Community Centre is managed by an Independent Board (that controls programming, staffing, etc.) rather than through a partnership arrangement with Council. Council maintains fixed assets and GCS retains all income. Any discussion of equitable funding would need to take into account these differences.

3. Would you support a policy that all Council owned buildings, particularly those used by community-based not-for-profits organisations will have solar installations installed at Council expense as a matter of ecological priority?

Installing solar panels on Council owned buildings is part of Council's Climate and Energy Plan. Lessees of Council premises can partner with Council to install solar panels or otherwise improve energy efficiency of the premises. This arrangement has financial benefits for lessees in terms of utilities costs so sharing installation costs seems reasonable. I am open to a good argument as to why Council should shoulder the entire cost or what arrangements could be made to make purchase of solar panels easier for lessees.

4. Will you support the provision of community notices and programs at no cost to the provider?

Council's 'Community Centre Program Guide' is produced annually and sets out the activities and events available at each Centre. Unley Life, Council's quarterly publication, includes articles on local activities and I would welcome contributions from the Goodwood Community Centre on issues of community interest.

5. Are you in favour of co-naming Council facilities with Kurna naming as a priority?

I have long been in favour of co-naming as an important step in the reconciliation process. As I see it, co-naming must form part of Council's broader Reconciliation Action Plan. The Co-naming process must be determined by Kurna peoples as culturally appropriate.

6. Do you support GCS Inc being given a long-term lease from the Council so that it can continue to operate as an independent community centre?

There is a process already underway regarding the long-term operation of the Goodwood Community Centre. I am obliged to wait until the outcome of that process before making any comment.