

Good afternoon.

Thank you for the invitation to attend the AGM on Wednesday and also the opportunity to comment on questions put to candidates in the forthcoming Local Government Election.

I have an existing commitment and will be unable to attend the AGM – my apologies.

Regarding the questions posed:

1. Are you in favour of increasing that proportion to target building a better community?

We have four Community Centres that operate under different management models. They also operate differently with varying activities and cost needs. Therefore, I do not think it appropriate to necessarily provide all centres with an increase in funding. Council must address the needs of the community and provide funds where they are best applied.

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

As indicated in my answer to the previous question, each Community Centre has different arrangements and needs, hence it is not a 'one size fits all' funding arrangement.

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

Council has been pro-active installing solar panels on Council owned buildings where the maximum benefit can be obtained. The Climate and Energy plan adopted by Council in 2021 provides for Council to continue to install solar across Council buildings. This includes offering incentives to not-for-profit lessees to improve the energy efficiencies of the individual facilities.

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

Unley Life magazine is published quarterly and provides an opportunity for community notices. The issue of enhancing/expanding Council's methods of communication is a topic that has been raised and under regular consideration. Costs need to be managed, so it would not be appropriate to suggest that all community notices be issued at no cost to the provider.

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

While I support the co-naming of facilities, this matter needs to be carefully considered. I believe this will be addressed in conjunction with the Reconciliation Action Plan that is being developed.

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?

I cannot support such a matter without further information. My response would be influenced by the offering from the GCS, including programmes and services provided to the community and of course, the financial viability of the centre.

Kind regards,

Michael Rabbitt
Candidate for Unley Park Ward