

## **Public Question Time and Submissions**

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### **Question from Adrian Jackson**

Who is paying for the renovations/repairs to the leased ANAM building (former South Melbourne Town Hall)? What is the project cost of this work? Is the work covered by insurance? If ANAM does not return to South Melbourne is consideration being given to turn the building into a shopping precinct, with market price rental income, like what has been done to the former Melbourne GPO a few decades ago? Is council aware that this would complement the nearby South Melbourne Market too?

### **Response**

The South Melbourne Town Hall is due for significant renewal, maintenance and repair. The scope and cost of this work is being finalised and will be reported to Council soon.

Council is the owner and custodian of this important heritage asset and is responsible for this work.

The cost will be partly covered by insurance - for the ceiling failure and associated damage of 2019.

In March 2020 Council directed Officers to carry out up to twelve months of negotiations with ANAM, for a potential new long term lease. The report at the time noted that the building has potential to be rented commercially, though that this potential is limited.

*\*Please note: answers to any questions in Public Question Time which were answered at the meeting are included in the minutes of that meeting.*