



Focus on facilities

Clover Moore should ban open-air urinals in heritage-listed Fitzroy Gardens, Kings Cross (Clean up the wee hours, April 7). They are visually offensive, will add to — and not reduce — clean-up costs, and will become a haven for drug dealers.

She should fix up and erect better signage for the current public toilets and change planning laws to provide adequate toilets within the real source of the problem, pubs and clubs, and reduce their opening hours instead.

Andrew Woodhouse
Potts Point & Kings Cross Heritage Society president

Fast food clean-up

It's great that there will be open-air urinals or pissors available around the Kings Cross area on a trial basis but what really gets my blood boiling is the lack of garbage bins on our busier main streets which could solve the problem of people dumping their litter.

Where councils should also look to providing receptacles for trash is in the streets surrounding fast food outlets because there are lots of late-night revellers who who dispose of their food wrappers in a most unsightly manner. Are you listening councils?

Eric Palm
Canada Bay

Invest in children

Every child deserves a decent childhood. Children born in disadvantaged communities are often denied this right partly because they are denied access to high-quality early

childhood education. One of the areas where the new State Government can make the biggest return on investment is early childhood education.

To maximise this investment, funding needs to be targeted towards vulnerable and disadvantaged children.

If the Government provided free early childhood education and care for children from disadvantaged and low-income families in the two years prior to starting school, evidence shows this would lead to significant gains for children now and in the future.

Integrated child and family centres in all areas of identified disadvantage would go a long way to meeting the unmet needs of children.

If nothing else, the Government must increase the number of children participating in early childhood education in NSW — from 81 per cent to at least 95 per cent — just to meet the Council of Australian Government's goals of universal access for all four-year-olds in the year prior to starting school.

To do this, the costs of preschools for low-income families will need to be significantly reduced.

Without this investment we will continue to deny thousands of children the right to the best possible start in life.

Karen Bevan
UnitingCare Children, Young People and Families

Fight with facts

At first those who opposed the carbon tax were called “deniers” and “flat earthers”; then they were called