



## LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

SELECT COMMITTEE ON THE GOVERNMENT'S MANAGEMENT OF THE POWERHOUSE MUSEUM  
AND OTHER MUSEUMS AND CULTURAL PROJECTS IN NEW SOUTH WALES

### **Inquiry into the Government's management of the Powerhouse Museum and other museums and cultural projects in New South Wales**

#### **TERMS OF REFERENCE**

1. That a select committee be established to inquire into and report on:
  - (a) the proposed move of the Museum of Applied Arts and Sciences, the Powerhouse Museum, from Ultimo to Parramatta, including:
    - (i) the core visions behind the move,
    - (ii) the governance of the project, including the effectiveness and adequacy of planning, business cases, design briefs, project management, public reporting, consultant selection and costs, project costing and cultural and demographic justifications,
    - (iii) the risks in the move, including damage to collections, cost overruns and the future cost of operations at Parramatta,
    - (iv) the consequences of flood at the site at Parramatta in light of the flood event in February 2020,
    - (v) the impact on the heritage status of the site at Ultimo and heritage items at Willow Grove and the Fleet Street precinct at Parramatta,
    - (vi) the use of the proceeds from the proposed sale of the site at Ultimo,
    - (vii) the Government's response to the previous recommendations of the Portfolio Committee No. 4 in Report 40 entitled 'Museums and Galleries in New South Wales',
  - (b) the Government's management of all museums and cultural projects in New South Wales, including
    - (i) current Government policy, funding and support for museums and galleries across regional New South Wales,
    - (ii) whether there is equitable access to collections across New South Wales, including at the Powerhouse Museum and the Australian Museum,
    - (iii) whether comprehensive consultation with communities and experts has informed cultural policy and projects across New South Wales, such as that applying to heritage arms and armour collections,
    - (iv) the continuing impact of the efficiency dividend on the budgets of museums and galleries over the last 10 years,
    - (v) funding levels for museums and galleries in New South Wales compared with other states,

(vi) whether there are other more cost effective strategies than the sale of the Powerhouse Museum site at Ultimo to support museum development across New South Wales, including consideration of the new Parramatta site and the proposed standalone Western Sydney Museum at the Cumberland Hospital site,

(c) any other related matter.

### Committee membership

<b>Hon Robert Borsak MLC</b>	Shooters Fishers and Farmers Party	<i>Chair</i>
<b>Ms Cate Faehrmann MLC*</b>	The Greens	<i>Deputy Chair</i>
<b>Hon Rose Jackson MLC</b>	Australian Labor Party	
<b>Hon Taylor Martin MLC</b>	Liberal Party	
<b>Hon Peter Poulos MLC**</b>	Liberal Party	
<b>Hon Chris Rath MLC***</b>	Liberal Party	
<b>Hon Walt Secord MLC</b>	Australian Labor Party	

\* Ms Cate Faehrmann MLC replaced Mr David Shoebridge MLC as a substantive member of the committee from 30 March 2022.

\*\* The Hon Peter Poulos MLC replaced the Hon Trevor Khan MLC as a substantive member of the committee from 20 May 2021.

\*\*\* The Hon Chris Rath MLC replaced the Hon Don Harwin MLC as a substantive member of the committee from 29 March 2022. The Hon Don Harwin MLC was a substantive member of the committee to 22 March 2022. The Hon Don Harwin MLC replaced the Hon Ben Franklin MLC as a substantive member of the committee from 25 January 2022.