

MAAS BOARD OF TRUSTEES

NSW LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL INQUIRY INTO MUSEUMS AND GALLERIES

19 OCTOBER HEARING

RESPONSES TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

QUESTION

The Hon. WALT SECORD: Professor Glover, when was the last time you discussed the Powerhouse Museum with the Premier's department?

Professor GLOVER I have certainly had conversations with staff within the Premier's office, and with staff within the office of the Deputy Premier and Minister for the Arts. I will have to take that on notice.

RESPONSE

Telephone calls with Philippa King, Director, Social Policy, Office of the Premier
5:48 PM, 5 September 2016
8:23 PM, 5 September 2016
11:46 AM, 20 September 2016

Telephone calls with Sharne Hiscoke, Policy Advisor, Office of the Deputy Premier
11:19 AM, 3 August 2016
5:27 PM, 22 August 2016

Mr DAVID SHOEBRIDGE: Will you provide a copy of the 9 December report to this Committee, consistent with your commitment, twice under oath on the last occasion you appeared?

Professor GLOVER: As I said, we will provide the report.

RESPONSE

The following Report was provided to the 10 December 2014 meeting:

STATE INFRASTRUCTURE STRATEGY REPORT

December 2014

Recommendation

That Trust notes the information provided.

Purpose

To provide Trust with Section 9.0 of the Infrastructure NSW 2014 State Infrastructure Strategy Update. The Section addresses Culture, sport and the environment, and is attached.

Background

On 26 November the Premier, The Hon Mike Baird MP released the 2014 Strategy Update. In releasing the Update the Premier indicated the Government's acceptance of each of its recommendations.

Section Nine includes a number of recommendations of significance to the Museum. These include:

- *That the Museum occupies a constrained (but very valuable) site adjacent to Darling Harbour and will require significant reconfiguration to remain in its current location*
- *There is a strong case for moving the Museum to a new cultural precinct serving the west, and*
- *That before any further public investment is made in the Powerhouse Museum, urgent consideration be given to its potential relocation to the Parramatta Cultural Precinct.*

Status

Meetings have been scheduled with:

*Jim Betts, Chief Executive, Infrastructure NSW
Mark Paterson AO, Secretary, Department of Trade and Investment
The Hon Troy Grant MP, Deputy Premier and Minister for the Arts*

I will brief Trustees on the outcome of each of the meetings at the 10 December meeting.

Recommendation

That Trust notes the information provided.

Prepared by:

*Rose Hiscock
Director*

Section 9.0 of the Infrastructure NSW 2014 State Infrastructure Strategy Update, addressing *Culture, sport and the environment*, is provided as an attachment to this response

QUESTION

The CHAIR: I am advised that the current site is 8.3 acres and that the Parramatta David Jones car park site is approximately 2.4 acres. Will you take that question on notice and provide the Committee with a map that will verify your previous answer?

Ms MERRILLEES: Yes, I will do so.

RESPONSE

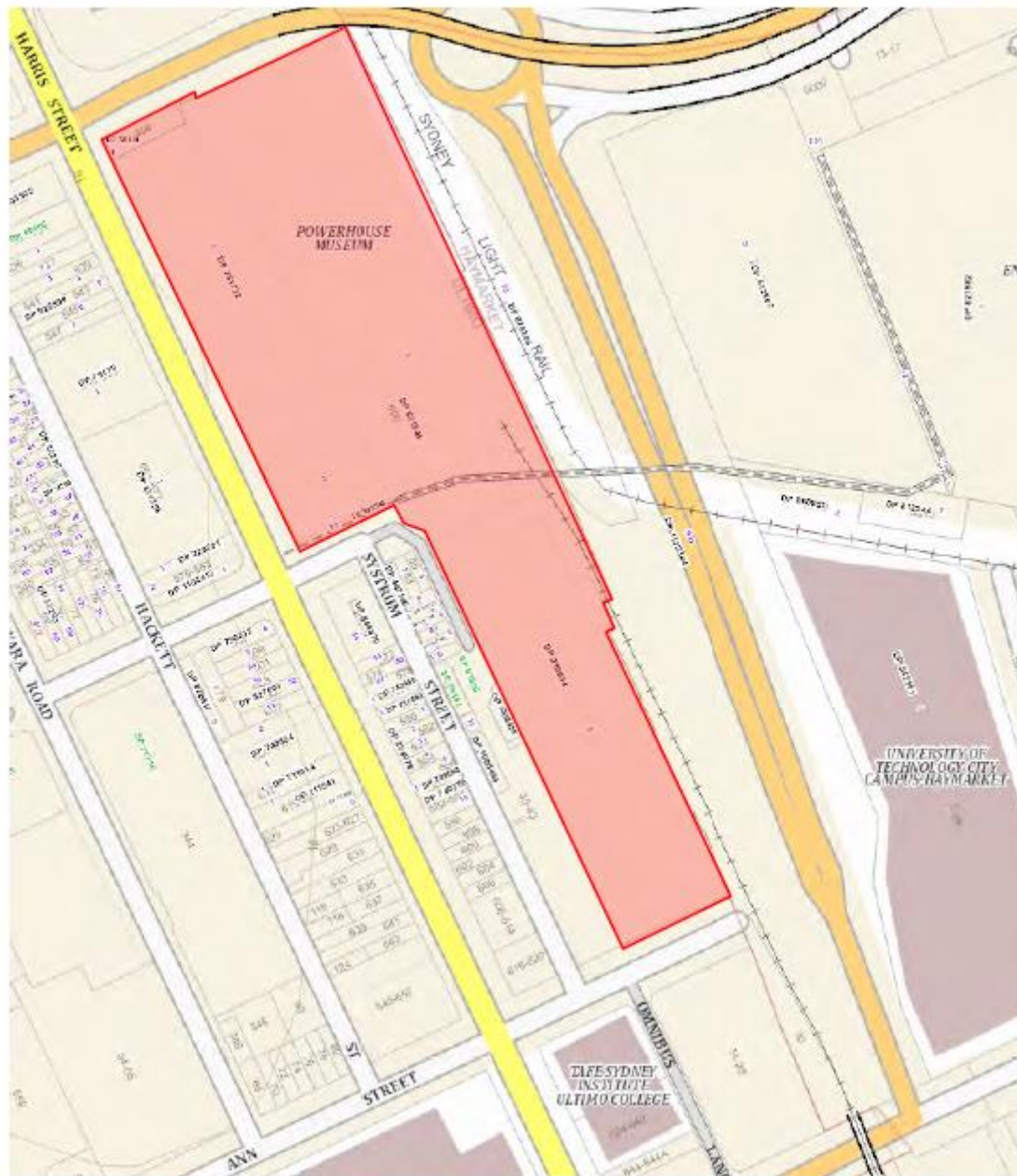
Details of the parcels of land comprising both sites, along with the maps of both site are provided.

Current Ultimo Site

Comprising:

- Lot 1 DP 770031
- Lot 1 DP 801428
- Lot 1 DP 781732
- Lots 1 and 3 DP 631345
- Lot 3 DP 216854
- Lot 37 DP 822345

Total area of approximately 22,900sqm



Proposed Parramatta Site

Comprising:

- **30B Phillip Street**
- **34 Phillip Street**
- **36 Phillip Street**
- **38 Phillip Street**
- **42 Phillip Street**
- **44 Phillip Street**
- **46 Phillip Street**
- **47 Smith Street**

Totalling approximately 20,160sqm



QUESTION

The CHAIR: From my review of having been out to the site I cannot see how it is the same, or at least only 3,000 square metres less, unless you are talking about a high-rise building.

Ms MERRILLEES: I am happy to take that on notice and provide that information.

RESPONSE

The maps provided in response to the previous question provide the details on the comparative size of both sites, which is consistent with Ms Merrillees response that the Ultimo site is 22,900sq metres and the proposed Parramatta site is 20,160 sq metres, meaning the difference is 2,740sq metres, close to the approximately 3,000 sq metres referred to.

QUESTION

The CHAIR: I want you to show the Committee on a map how the two sites compare. My advice is that the site is only 2.4 acres, which is less than 30 per cent of the large area that is currently available. You have to address the amount of cubic volume in the existing comparative arrangements compared to the new building. Will you take that on notice?

RESPONSE

The maps provided for the earlier question provide site size comparisons. The cubic volumes are detailed in response to the following question.

QUESTION

The CHAIR: The Ultimo public display area is approximately 15,000 square metres. It would be nice to know how much you contemplate with the new building in comparison.

Ms MERRILLEES: Yes. As I said, that spatial analysis is part of the final business case, but I am happy to take that on notice as you have requested.

RESPONSE

The number suggested by the Chair is incorrect.

The table below provides the detail of the Public Space types, areas and volumes (cubic volumes) for the Ultimo site.

	Area (Square Metres)	Volume (Cubic Metres)
<i>Permanent Display</i>	5,969	81,594
<i>Temporary Display</i>	5,462	54,447
Total Public Display Spaces	11,431	136,041

In addition, there are other public, non-display spaces, such as education labs, theatres, cafes, shops, members lounge etc.

NSW Treasury requirements for undertaking Business Cases require that multiple options are assessed as part of the process, so each option modelled for the New Museum in Parramatta has differing areas and volumes of public display space.

Options within the Business Case provide comparable spaces and volumes to the areas in Ultimo in order to ensure that the breadth of the collection can be exhibited, and that adequate heights, volumes and weight loadings are allowed for to support their display.

The details of the modelling and options form part of the Business Case, and are Cabinet in Confidence.

QUESTION

The Hon. WALT SECORD: I would like the information that is referred to on page 24 of an article in the *Sydney Morning Herald* on 14 October which refers to international travel involving Argentina, Singapore, Korea, Greece, Sweden, France, Germany and Vietnam. Will you take it on notice and provide it to the Committee, and save me \$1,020?

Ms MERRILLEES: I am happy to provide that on notice.

RESPONSE

The following tables provide details of MAAS staff overseas travel for the period 20111 to 2016.

MAAS Overseas Travel 2011-2016

Year	Total cost	Budget
2011-12	\$57,510.93	\$83,350
2012-13	\$26,462.99	\$83,148
2013-14	\$26,872.42	\$60,000
2014-15	\$66,487.35	\$60,000
2015-16	\$90,745.00	\$110,000

Individual trips to specified destinations listed in SMH article

Country	Year	Person & role	Details of trip	External funding source	MAAS funding
Argentina	2011-12	Acting Manager Digital Social and Emerging Technologies	Invited to be a keynote speaker at a conference in Buenos Aires	Fully funded by the conference	No expense to MAAS.
Singapore	2011-12	Science Education Officer	Attended conference	Predominately funded by ASTEN fellowship.	Partially funded by MAAS. (Total expenditure \$3,391.35)
Singapore	2011-12	Director and Manager, Exhibitions & Festivals, and Interactives	Exhibition development for Narnia		Funded by MAAS. (Total expenditure for whole trip \$9,603.28)
Singapore	2015-16	Manager Education & Digital Learning	Invited to Microsoft Enabling Opportunities Summit	Predominately funded by Microsoft.	Partially funded by MAAS. (Total expenditure \$1,356.15).
Singapore	2015-16	Director Curatorial	A trip to Singapore and Milan for		Funded by MAAS.

		<i>Collections & Exhibitions.</i>	<i>exhibition development and negotiations.</i>		<i>(Total expenditure for whole trip including Singapore and Milan was \$12,100.65).</i>
<i>Korea</i>	<i>2011-12</i>	<i>Director and Manager Corporate Development</i>	<i>Exhibition development for Spirit of Jang-in: Treasures from Korean metal craft.</i>		<i>Funded by MAAS. (Total expenditure was \$13,293.86)</i>
<i>Korea</i>	<i>2011-12</i>	<i>Conservator and Assistant Registrar</i>	<i>Packed and couriered exhibition from National Museum of Korea to MAAS</i>		<i>Funded by MAAS. (Total expenditure was \$9,306.75)</i>
<i>Korea</i>	<i>2011-12</i>	<i>Conservator and Registrar</i>	<i>Couriered exhibition back to National Museum of Korea from MAAS</i>		<i>Funded by MAAS. (Total expenditure was \$9,150.76)</i>
<i>Korea</i>	<i>2012-13</i>	<i>Principal Curator</i>	<i>Invited by Korean Cultural and Information Service (KOCIS)</i>	<i>Fully funded by KOCIS</i>	<i>Incidental costs incurred by MAAS. (Total expenditure \$62.55).</i>
<i>Korea</i>	<i>2012-13</i>	<i>Curator of Asian Arts & Design</i>	<i>Invited to workshop for Korean art curators at overseas museums</i>	<i>Predominantly funded by the Korea Foundation.</i>	<i>Partially funded by MAAS. (Total expenditure \$2,445.94)</i>
<i>Korea</i>	<i>2013-14</i>	<i>Curator of Asian Arts & Design</i>	<i>Invited to workshop for Korean art curators at overseas museums</i>	<i>Predominantly funded by the Korea Foundation.</i>	<i>Partially funded by MAAS. (Total expenditure \$1,815.41).</i>
<i>Korea</i>	<i>2013-14</i>	<i>Director Curatorial Collections & Exhibitions,</i>	<i>Invited to opening of Dongdaemum Design Plaza</i>	<i>Predominantly funded by Seoul Design Foundation</i>	<i>Partially funded by MAAS. (Total expenditure \$4,758.11)</i>
<i>Korea</i>	<i>2014-15</i>	<i>Curator of Asian Arts & Design</i>	<i>At invitation of Korean Government to attend K Fellowship program.</i>	<i>Predominantly funded by the Korea Foundation.</i>	<i>Partially funded by MAAS. (Total expenditure \$2,661.10)</i>
<i>Korea and France</i>	<i>2014-15</i>	<i>Director MAAS</i>	<i>At invitation of Korean Government to</i>	<i>Predominantly funded by the Korea</i>	<i>Partially funded by MAAS.</i>

			<i>attend K Fellowship. Then travelled to London and France to negotiate exhibitions</i>	<i>Foundation.</i>	<i>(Total expenditure for whole trip, including Korea, London and France was \$11,635.12).</i>
<i>Greece</i>	<i>2012-13</i>	<i>Curator and Online Producer</i>	<i>Participate in the Zagora archaeological dig and develop associated educational website in partnership with Sydney University</i>	<i>Fully funded by an Australian Research Council (ARC) grant.</i>	<i>Incidental costs incurred by MAAS. (Total expenditure \$780).</i>
<i>Greece</i>	<i>2013-14</i>	<i>Curator and Online Producer</i>	<i>Participate in the Zagora archaeological dig and develop associated educational website in partnership with Sydney University</i>	<i>Fully funded by an Australian Research Council (ARC) grant.</i>	<i>Incidental costs incurred by MAAS. (Total expenditure \$800).</i>
<i>Greece</i>	<i>2014-15</i>	<i>Curator</i>	<i>Participate in the Zagora archaeological dig and develop associated educational website in partnership with Sydney University</i>	<i>Fully funded by an Australian Research Council (ARC) grant.</i>	<i>Incidental costs incurred by MAAS. (Total expenditure \$400).</i>
<i>Sweden</i>	<i>2012-13</i>	<i>General Manager Marketing Museum Experience & Commercial Services</i>	<i>Presented paper at conference in Stockholm and then travelled to London</i>		<i>Funded by MAAS. (Total expenditure by MAAS for whole trip including Stockholm and London was \$12,504.22).</i>
<i>France and Germany</i>	<i>2013-14</i>	<i>Director MAAS,</i>	<i>A trip to London, Paris and Germany for relationship and exhibition development.</i>	<i>Predominantly funded by the by French Consulate.</i>	<i>Partially funded by MAAS. (Total expenditure including London, Paris and Germany was \$4,889.39).</i>
<i>France</i>	<i>2014-15</i>	<i>Director</i>	<i>Paris for exhibition</i>		<i>Funded by</i>

		<i>Curatorial Collections & Exhibitions</i>	<i>development and meeting potential sponsors as part of a trip including attending the Applied Arts Museums Directors conference in Vienna and London</i>		<i>MAAS. (Total expenditure including Vienna, Paris and London was \$16,706.70)</i>
<i>France</i>	<i>2015-16</i>	<i>Conservation Manager</i>	<i>Travelled to Paris from the Netherlands to visit Australian Embassy following couriering objects to the Netherland.</i>	<i>Predominantly funded by The Cube, Netherlands.</i>	<i>Partially funded by MAAS. (Total expenditure was \$2,678).</i>
<i>Vietnam</i>	<i>2014-15</i>	<i>Curator of Asian Arts & Design</i>	<i>Presented paper at ICOM ICTOP conference</i>		<i>Funded by MAAS. (Total expenditure \$2,480.56)</i>

No investigations related overseas travel were undertaken by MAAS.

QUESTION

Mr DAVID SHOEBRIDGE: Professor Glover, you directed some correspondence dated 1 September 2016 to the Deputy Premier and Minister for the Arts setting out three criteria for the transfer of the museum. Is that right?

Mr DAVID SHOEBRIDGE: Will you provide the Committee with a copy of that correspondence?

Professor GLOVER: Yes, I can.

RESPONSE

The following is a copy of the letter sent to the Deputy Premier on 1 September 2016. The names of the proposed nominees to vacant positions of the Board of Trustees have been redacted.

1 September 2016

*The Hon. Troy Grant, MP
Deputy Premier
Minister for Justice and Police, Minister for the Arts, Minister for Racing
GPO Box 5341
Sydney NSW 2001*

Dear Deputy Premier

I write to thank you for our meeting of Thursday 25 August. I appreciated the opportunity to share with you the key opportunities the Board of Trustees sees for MAAS into the future.

Planning for the new Museum is of course a key priority, and this is a critical time to ensure that the Trustees' expectations for the project are clear, specifically that:

- the 'whole site' option is required, unencumbered by other commercial developments, in order to realise an architecturally iconic, world-class flagship Museum;*
- the New Museum will improve the exhibition and programs we presently provide the people of NSW, and not diminish the scale and scope of the museum, or opportunities we are able to provide to our audiences that are currently afforded at Ultimo; and*
- sufficient funding is provided by the NSW Government in order for us to meet these requirements, as well as effectively and safely transition our collection and operations to the new site.*

As I mentioned in our discussion, MAAS has enjoyed great success over the past financial year. Our Annual Report will record impressive growth in visitation and a fine program of exhibitions and programs. We are committed to sustaining a vibrant program at the Ultimo site, whilst planning proceeds for the move to Parramatta.

We discussed appointments to the two vacancies to the Board of Trustees, and agreed that consideration would be given to the nomination ofCONTENT REDACTED

to the positions.

I look forward to opportunities to welcome you to our three sites, and on behalf of my fellow Trustees, express my appreciation for the continued support offered by the NSW Government.

Yours sincerely,

*Barney Glover
President*

QUESTION

Mr DAVID SHOEBRIDGE: Ms Merrillees, was that internal meeting in August when staff were told that the new display space would be in the region of 6,500 square metres?

Ms MERRILLEES: I will have to take that on notice. I cannot recall.

Mr DAVID SHOEBRIDGE: Was there a meeting that approximated that to your memory? Do you want to take that on notice?

Ms MERRILLEES: I will take that on notice.

RESPONSE

There has been no meeting where “staff were told that the new display space would be in the region of 6,500sqm”

A project meeting (at which Ms. Merrillees was not in attendance) occurred in August 2016 where the number of 6,500 square metres was used in relation to one particular display space. This was contained within draft materials, it related to only one of the spaces contemplated, as part of one of the options under consideration.

ATTACHMENT A

STATE INFRASTRUCTURE STRATEGY REPORT