

**Submission
No 67
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**INQUIRY INTO ENROLMENT CAPACITY IN INNER CITY
PUBLIC PRIMARY SCHOOLS**

Name: NSW Department of Education

Date received: 27 September 2016

Partially
Confidential



Minister's Visit to Ultimo Public School – Monday 15 December 2014

The Minister will visit Ultimo Public School on Monday 15 December 2014 at 9:30am to announce new educational facilities in Ultimo.

Key Information

On 9 December 2014, the City of Sydney resolved to accept the Department's offer of \$74 million for the Wattle, Fig and Jones Streets, Ultimo site, net of the cost of construction of an 80 space childcare centre (a condition of sale), estimated to be \$8 million, and the cost of decontaminating the site, estimated to be between \$18 million and \$25 million.

While the final terms of the sale are yet to be agreed, the Department does not foresee any insurmountable barriers to a successful outcome.

Electorate Information

Ultimo Public School is located in the State electorate of Sydney, represented by Mr Alex Greenwich MP, Member for Sydney, and the Federal electorate of Sydney, Represented by the Hon Tanya Plibersek MP, Deputy Leader of the Opposition.

Enrolment details

Ultimo Public School currently has 335 students enrolled. 68% of students are from a non-English speaking background. 7% of students identify as Indigenous. The school has 14 classes in 2014.

Due to the introduction and implementation of tightened enrolment procedures the school will have 13 classes in 2015 but will increase again to 14 classes in 2016.

Logistical Details

Logistical details and the school profile are attached.

A contentions issue briefing on secondary school provision is attached.

Financial Implications

Not applicable.

Recommendation

That the Minister notes this information.

Endorsed
Murat Dizdar, Executive Director, Public Schools NSW,
12 December 2014
Anthony Perrau, Executive Director, Asset Management,

Approved
Deputy Secretary,
12 December 2014
R/Deputy Secretary,
12 December 2014

MINISTER PICCOLI

17 DEC 2014
17 DEC 2014

Context

Ultimo Public School is located in the inner city of Sydney. It has had a steadily increasing student population with numbers growing from 270 in 2008 to 335 in 2014. The original school was established in 1858 and moved to its current location in 1914. On Friday 12 December 2014 the school celebrated its 100th year on the current site. With a growing student population the main classroom block was built in the 1960s; the school was refurbished in 2003 to accommodate up to 300 students.

The Inner City Schools Working Party was established late 2012 to consider options for growing student numbers in the Ultimo/Pymont area and to provide advice to the Minister. On Monday 15 December 2014 the Minister will make an announcement about the site for a new Ultimo/Pymont Public School. The Director understands the visit is to remain confidential until Sunday 14 December 2014 when she will contact the members of the Inner City Schools Working Party to invite them to meet with the Minister on Monday 15 December 2014 at the school.

Following protracted negotiations, the Department made an offer to purchase the City of Sydney's Wattle, Fig and Jones Streets, Ultimo site for \$74 million in September 2014. This offer was rejected by the City of Sydney and subsequently the Department withdrew from negotiations and commenced investigating other alternatives for the provision of a new school for the Ultimo/Pymont area.

Author

Consultation

**Media release/
Communication
Strategy**

- Not required Media Unit briefing being prepared
- This briefing sent to Media Unit
- Communication Strategy attached