Attachment A

Question:

Mr DAVID SHOEBRIDGE: The question is: As it crystallises into more specific options once you have got some figures and much more detail about the proposal, will you then go out and say to the community "These are the realistic options in front of us. We want to talk to you about them"? Tuesday, 6 June 2017 Legislative Council

MR LIMKIN: That is obviously a decision for government because the standard Treasury process does not require that. I will be following the standard Treasury process where you engage with the community to develop the option and then you let the Government decide.

Mr DAVID SHOEBRIDGE: Minister, do you understand the difficulty the community has at this stage? They do not know what the budget is, they do not know how much you are proposing to spend, and they do not really know what the viable options are out there to engage in. It is almost impossible for the community to give you informed views at this stage. Is there openness in the Government, once it gets a bit further down the track and it has fleshed out the options in more detail, to then go to the community and say, "Okay, \$800 million for this, \$1.2 billion for this, \$400 million for this. What do you think?"?

The Hon. DON HARWIN: I will take that question on notice.

Answer:

The Department of Planning and Environment commenced engagement with the community in June 2017. This engagement will continue over the coming months to allow the community to have their say on the elements that will be considered by Government. The consultation mechanisms will include stakeholder meetings, community outreach activities, an online survey, focus groups and a community deliberative forum to ensure the new museum meets community needs. Community consultation opportunities commenced 20 June 2017.

The Government would encourage all interested parties to register at www.create.nsw.gov.au to be involved in the community consultation associated with the New Museum in Western Sydney.

Mr DAVID SHOEBRIDGE: Can you think of any better place to communicate and consult with the Friends of the Powerhouse and the Ultimo community about the Powerhouse than right there at the place they are troubled by and at the place they love?

Mr LIMKIN: As I said, I am happy to take the question on notice and consider it with the project team and also in conversation with the Museum of Applied Arts and Sciences because obviously that is just as important.

Answer:

After consultation with the Director of the Museum of Applied Arts and Sciences, the Department of Planning and Environment will hold a forum for community consultation at the Museum of Applied Arts and Sciences in late July 2017. The Government would encourage all interested parties to register at www.create.nsw.gov.au to be involved in the community consultation.

Mr DAVID SHOEBRIDGE: It is hard to understand those three different layers. I am not criticising you for your answers but it is hard to understand how this project is being assessed. Will you provide a diagram to explain how it works, on notice?

Mr LIMKIN: Just to clarify, are you asking for a project governance diagram?

Mr DAVID SHOEBRIDGE: Who is running the business case? How is the business case being finalised? Please start with the Department of Planning and Environment and all the way down and explain the checks and balances, the decision-makers and the consultants at the various levels.

The Hon. DON HARWIN: I think the Acting Deputy Secretary might like to comment on that.

Ms O'MARA: Yes, we are happy to take that on notice and provide a diagram, if that would be helpful.

Answer:



The Hon. WALT SECORD: Mr Limkin, how many people are actually working on the project team? Is there a secretariat? Is there a formal structure? Is there a floor of bureaucrats working on this?

Mr LIMKIN: No.

The Hon. WALT SECORD: How many people are working on this?

Mr LIMKIN: I will have to take that on notice. I do not know off the top of my head and I would rather give you a—

Answer:

The number of people currently working on this project who are employed by the Department of Planning and Environment is five. The Secretary and the Deputy Secretary of Arts and Culture of the Department of Planning and Environment are also involved in oversight of the project as part of their ongoing roles. JohnStaff, the consultants preparing the business case, have five staff working on the project. Advice is sought from other consultants as required. There are seven staff from the Museum of Applied Arts and Sciences working on the project for the new museum in Western Sydney. In addition, the Director of the Museum and 2 of her executive team provide oversight of the project as part of their ongoing roles.

The Hon. WALT SECORD: Can you also take on notice the budget allocated to you, the project team, the people working on the project steering committee and the project control group?

Mr LIMKIN: Can you clarify?

The Hon. WALT SECORD: To assist you, I am trying to find out how much is being spent on bureaucrats and staff that are working the final business case, the project team, the project steering committee and the project control group. Is there any other group that I need to be aware of that is working on this project? You have the project team, project steering committee and the project control group; is there another body working on it?

Mr LIMKIN: No, there is not.

The Hon. WALT SECORD: Could I have the budget and the number of people working in all of those three bodies?

Mr LIMKIN: I am happy to take that on notice.

Mr DAVID SHOEBRIDGE: I think it might be useful, rather than trying to suggest this group and that group, how much has been spent to date on the preliminary draft and draft final business case?

The Hon. WALT SECORD: Thank you, Mr Shoebridge.

Mr LIMKIN: I am going to take that on notice.

The Hon. DON HARWIN: We will certainly take that one on notice.

Answer:

The Government has allocated \$10 million for the business case associated with the New Museum in Western Sydney. The Department of Planning and Environment has spent \$1.6 million in associated project costs for the project since it became accountable for the project in April 2017. Any questions on cost prior to this time will need to be directed to the Museum of Applied Arts and Sciences.

The project structure has been provided to this Committee.