

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

MEDIA RELEASE

PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE INQUIRY INTO THE GOVERNMENT'S MANAGEMENT OF THE POWERHOUSE MUSEUM AND OTHER MUSEUMS AND CULTURAL PROJECTS IN NEW SOUTH WALES

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE 31 August 2020

The NSW Upper House committee examining the Government's proposal for the Powerhouse Museum – as well as funding issues for the State's museums and cultural projects more broadly – continues its work this week with its third public hearing on Wednesday 2 September 2020.

The committee is set to explore a number of issues facing collecting and cultural institutions in New South Wales, including the adequacy of Government support to the State's regional museums and galleries.

The Committee Chair, the Hon Robert Borsak MLC, stated: 'Many regional museums and galleries receive limited funding and often rely on the goodwill of volunteers. Yet, they're an important part of their local communities, serving to educate and inspire, tell the stories of the local area, preserve and care for significant collections and enrich the cultural life of the community – not to mention their potential to drive tourism to regional towns and cities.'

'One of the aims of this inquiry is to consider whether the NSW Government's policy settings and funding programs for the arts and cultural sector are adequate, appropriate and responsive to the needs of a broader range of museums and cultural organisations, not just those in the greater Sydney area. This is more important than ever in the current COVID-19 climate.' Mr Borsak added.

Due to COVID-19 restrictions, the committee's third hearing will be closed to the general public but will be broadcast via web stream on the Parliamentary <u>website</u>. For information about the upcoming hearing, including a hearing schedule, please visit the Select Committee's <u>website</u>. The submission period closed in May.

-ENDS-

For further information please contact Committee Chair, the Hon Robert Borsak MLC, on 9230 2573.