INQUIRY INTO ENROLMENT CAPACITY IN INNER CITY PUBLIC PRIMARY SCHOOLS

Name: Name suppressed

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To the General Purpose Standing Committee No. 3 (f) Any other related matters I am a grandmother of two current students attending Ultimo Public School. Both of these children have benefitted greatly from being educated at this inclusive school, and have been very happy there. However, I am concerned about the current government plan to demolish and rebuild this school. Several years ago, my grandchildren were very happy to be told that a new larger Ultimo school was being built a short distance away from their current school. The site to be built on seemed to be ideal for both a school and other much needed community facilities. I would like to know the real reason why this plan was abandoned. It is particularly hard to understand why this site (in Fig & Wattle Street) was rejected due to supposed contamination issues, and yet both the temporary school site and the current school site are likely to have similar contamination issues (given that urban areas are often contaminated). Is the real issue here contamination, or is it simply that the government is unwilling to provide the funds necessary to purchase an obviously superior site for the children of Ultimo and Pyrmont?