INQUIRY INTO SYDNEY STADIUMS STRATEGY

Name: Dr Stewart Whittlestone

Date Received: 24 May 2018

Submission to the NSW Upper House Parliamentary Inquiry into the Government's decision to spend billions of dollars on stadiums.

I not support the Goverment's proposal to re-develop stadiums at Moore Park. To me, it is a shocking waste of public funding. The secrecy surrounding the process is appalling.

My objection is based on:

- 1)The choice of location: why is Government policy focused on creating major sports and entertainment facilities on the edge of a congested city & eastern suburbs with inadequate public transport, when the larger population and demand for such facilities is in Western Sydney?
- 2) The proposal is Misleading: This rebuild is not just about sports it's about creating a multi-complex entertainment precinct.
- 3) The planning process has been unnecessarily fast-tracked: Infrastructure NSW has given a timeframe of 6 months to assess the project. This is an unusually fast determination for a project of this size and complexity.
- 4) The Government has failed to engage in any meaningful community consultation.
- 5) Mature trees will be removed to facilitate an expanded footprint of the new stadium.
- 6)Increased traffic congestion: the combination of the sporting stadia and the widened road to accommodate the Alexandria to Moore Park Connector from St Peters Interchange to Anzac Parade is a recipe for further gridlock.
- 7) There is a need to preserve the former Sydney Showground, which is now under threat of commercialisation and appropriation for professional sport, for much-needed community/amateur sports use (both indoor and outdoor).