

**Supplementary  
Submission  
No 137e**

**INQUIRY INTO INQUIRY INTO MUSEUMS AND  
GALLERIES**

**Name:** Mr Tom Lockley

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Late submission to the NSW Legislative Council Inquiry into museums and galleries, General Purpose Standing Committee No. 4.

Submitted by Tom Lockley, Pyrmont History Group,

27 August 2018

## The lack of proper appraisal is exemplified in the negligible activities of the Expert Advisory Panel / Group.

On 29 August 2017 Mr Harwin advised us of the membership of an Expert Advisory Group / Panel, mentioned by Ms Torres on 30 June 2017 who 'provided guidance throughout the process.' (We assume that the group named as the Expert Advisory Panel shown in the diagram provided to the Inquiry by Ms Torres on 30 June 2017, is the same entity as MAAS Project Expert Advisory Group which met on 25/09/2017 and 7/9/2017).

The Government's claims:

1. *CIPMO has sought advice ... through peer review processes and expert advisory panels.* (so-called Final Business Case Summary, April 2018)
2. The Government website at <https://new.maas.museum/faq/> states that an *Expert Advisory Panel of world renowned museum experts provided their input and guidance throughout the process.*
3. Members of the group were listed by Mr Harwin as Dr Patrick Greene, previously the chief executive officer of Museum Victoria; Professor Graham Durant, the Director of Questacon; Mr Mark Carnegie, well-known as an arts philanthropist, Doug Hall; director Art Gallery and GOMA, Brisbane; Peter Root, the Managing Director of Root Partnerships who has had an extensive involvement with the Powerhouse Museum; Penny Hutchinson, previously the

head of Arts Victoria; and Edmund Capon, former director of the Art Gallery of NSW.

The facts are as follow:

1. The first time peer review of any kind mentioned by the Government was the involvement of Mr Greene, June 2017, so any 'input and guidance' from museum experts was not present for the first two and a half years of the project. No details of his terms of engagement, his involvement or his findings can be found, and his expertise is not in the museum field.
2. Only two meetings of the Advisory Group are listed in the Business Case Stakeholder Involvement Ret:7/09/2017 (held at The Mint, Macquarie Street) and 25/09/2017 (held at Parramatta City Council). CIPMO, the Arts Minsiter's office and the New MAAS Museum website have been contacted by email and phone and have not been able to provide details of any other meetings.
3. Attendance at these meetings was as follows:

Attendee	7/9/2017	25/9/2017
Limkin (CIPMO)	Yes	Yes
O'Mara (DPE)	Yes	Yes
Parry (MAAS)	Yes	Yes
Hutchinson*	Yes	Yes
Greene*	No	Yes
Root* (Root Partnerships)	Yes	Yes
Durant* (Questacon)	Yes	Yes
McNally (Planning)	Yes	Yes
Merrilees (MAAS)	Yes	No
Denham (MAAS)	Yes	No
Frew (Treasury)	Yes	No
Walcom (DPC)	Yes	No
Carnegie*	No	No
Hall*	No	No
Capon*	No	No

Attendance 7/9/2017 Experts 3/6 others 8 total 11; Attendance 25/9/2017 Experts 4/6, others 4, total 8.

4. There is no evidence that the panel / group (with the exception of Peter Root) made special efforts to become familiar with the particular circumstances of PHM and the 'move' process. On 1/8/2016 Professor Durant was briefed on the Commissioning

process (*Attachment CC, Commissioning Plan*) and Doug Hall attended a Workshop on 20/06/2017 at Arts & Culture NSW, Level 5, 323 Castlereagh Street, Sydney (*Stakeholder Engagement Register*) but these are the only cases of members of the Expert Group that we can identify as having had any relevant interaction at all with the museum outside of the two meetings listed above.

5. Former Museum trustee Trevor Kennedy has been informed by Mark Carnegie that he knows nothing about this matter and that Edmund Capon has had no involvement as member of the Expert Advisory Group. No members of the Group / Panel are mentioned as contributors to any Business Case document, and indeed the phrases 'Expert Advisory Panel' or 'Expert Advisory Group') are only mentioned within the Inquiry evidence as stated and within the *Stakeholder Engagement Register* as stated.
6. We have formally asked for details of the involvement of outside museum experts on four occasions since July 2017 with no response.

Tab	Attachment	Heritage Report	Date	Contributor
Tab 26	Attachment Y – Flood Study		November 2016	JohnStaff, contributor Taylor Whitting
Tab 27	Attachment Z – Traffic and Transport Assessment		November 2016	JohnStaff, contributor Taylor Whitting
Tab 28	Attachment AA – Geotechnical Investigation		2 September 2016	JohnStaff, contributor Pe Meynink
Tab 29	Attachment BB – New Museum Rationale		14 February 2017	MAAS
Tab 30	Attachment CC – Commissioning and Launch Plan		21 February 2016	JohnStaff
	Attachment EE – Consultants and Peer Review Schedule		12 January 2018	

7. The released Business Case does not contain *Attachment EE, Consultants and Review Schedule*. (picture above). Legislative Council office staff have confirmed that it was not received in the released documents, and CIPMO, the Arts Minister's office and the Premier's office are unable to assist. The logical conclusion is that it was not released, and other evidence indicates that it would have only the few interactions noted above.