

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

Name: Name suppressed

Date Received: 6 April 2020

Partially
Confidential

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We are strongly opposed to the proposed relocation of the Powerhouse Museum from its present site in Darling Harbour to a space in Paramatta. Our reasons are as follows:

1. It has operated at or near its current site for many years, catering for the needs and convenience of many residents and visitors in Sydney.
2. The current building is itself a historic place and enhances the character of the Museum.
3. Moving it from its present site would make visits from the CBD of Sydney more difficult, expensive and time consuming for those in the City and any visitors to our shores.
4. If there is a desire for a Museum in the Paramatta region, there is no compelling reason to move the current Museum. This could be achieved by establishing a new satellite or branch Museum there. This is effectively done by the storage area already in Castle Hill.
5. Displays in any new Museum could be selected from the Castle Hill stock, plus some items selected from the current Museum in Darling Harbour.
6. The proposed site for the Paramatta version of the Museum is well known as flood prone and therefore poses a danger to the Museum's contents, as well as to any visitors who may be there.
7. The proposal to demolish two historic buildings for this proposal is in conflict with the purposes of a museum, namely to preserve historic items.

We also offer the following

- Why cannot a new Museum be built in Paramatta, on a more suitable site, and leave the present one where it is?
- The proposal to relocate at the present time and in the current economic climate is morally and ethically wrong.
- It is ethically untenable that the inquiry process is allowed to continue under the current health conditions, without allowing normal attendance at a public meeting; a virtual attendance would not fulfil that role.

We do not wish to have our names published.