

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

**Name:** Name suppressed

**Date Received:** 8 May 2020

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Partially  
Confidential

The Powerhouse Museum is the “child” of the Museum of Applied Arts & Sciences a nineteenth century hands on brilliant Museum established in Harris Street Pyrmont. That museum gave many previous generations a wonderful centrally located site for experiencing, learning, observing, participating & discovering. It was an institution of note.

The Powerhouse Museum opened in 1988 named so as the central building was a Power Station for Sydney’s tram network as the city grew from 1894. The Power Station houses a selection of working steam engines dating from 1837 plus the amazing Boulton & Watt engine that came from the UK. The Powerhouse Museum design prided itself & still does on many hands on activities for learning, discovering, exploring, experiences, & inspiring. It covers Science, Decorative Arts, social History & do much more. Hundreds of thousands of donations have been given in perpetuity: thousands of pieces such as An Enigma machine have been collected on behalf of the people for the pleasure of people from not only Sydney but all over Australia & the world.

To move the amazing storage areas, engines, planes, trains, Cars from Sydney CBD which is still our Central transport hub, the place where tourists arrive & mostly stay, where locals mostly travel to & through seems an extravagant unnecessary overspend if dollars that could be used so much more wisely.

With careful funding & careful direction the Powerhouse Museum can be a world standard institution of renown. To replace this honourable place with yet another ugly apartment building not only adds to overpopulation; it takes away the richness of what is on offer.

If Parramatta is considered the centre of Sydney, surely then the Art Gallery & The Australian Museum also ought you be relocated.

Parramatta needs its own centre of excellence expanding on its history which is in itself rich & already including Government House & Experiment Farm Cottage. It was an important area for food growing in the early years of a new white colony that nearly starved.

Powerhouse City is so much more: it contains a huge history of our society since we began and before, it is a place of creativity, innovation + a mere 32 years old. Let it remain to continue our collected history that began with the Exhibition Centre in Sydney’s Botanical Gardens, moved to Harris Street (now part of TAFE) in another time of innovation & then just down the road.

Please keep this iconic museum in the place it belongs to. The place where people will visit most easily. Please save the extraordinary amount of money that it would cost to move it, to go towards much needed humanity projects - housing, health, schools & all will be so much more needed as we exit slowly from the effects of Covid-19.