

**Mission to the United Kingdom by the Honourable Don Harwin MLC, Special Minister of State, Minister for the Public Service and Employee Relations, Aboriginal Affairs, and the Arts**

**28 June – 5 July 2019**

**POST MISSION REPORT**

**MISSION PURPOSE**

Conduct a tour to better understand how major cultural and performing institutions are operating in an international city, discuss UK response to implementation of modern slavery legislation and discuss UK practice for both the public sector and electoral commission.

**MISSION DESCRIPTION/ BACKGROUND**

Through discussion of policy matters with officials of the UK Government and having the benefit of visiting a sample of those places and communities.

To visit these projects whilst immersed in their built environment context. This is especially valuable when considering recommendations for the determination of comparable major projects in NSW.

**KEY OUTCOMES**

New contacts have assisted in strengthening existing or building new working relationships, which will help in the formulation of new policy proposals.

These site-specific lessons are also valuable experience in the consideration of planning policy and strategic plan making for future consideration.

The outcomes are further outlined in the key meeting disclosure summary.

**OFFICIAL DELEGATION**

The Hon Donald Harwin MLC Special Minister of State, Minister for the Public Service and Employee Relations, Aboriginal Affairs, and the Arts

*Accompanied by:*

Mr Andrew Kirk, Office of the Hon. Minister Harwin MLC

Ms Kate Foy, Deputy Secretary Community Engagement, Department of Premier and Cabinet

**KEY MEETING DISCLOSURE SUMMARY**

A selection of notable meetings are listed below.

<b>Meeting</b>	<b>Objective/Learnings</b>
<b>Historic England</b> Mr Duncan Wilson	To learn from the approach taken by Historic England to protect the historical environment by preserving, managing and listing over 400,000 historic buildings, places and ancient monuments.

	<p>Discuss its role to advise central and local government about heritage management; and its administration of statutory functions, the English Heritage Trust, planning issues and grants management.</p> <p>This discussion is relevant to the Minister’s role as the Minister for Heritage.</p>
<p><b>Trafalgar Group</b> Sir Howard Panter</p>	<p>To discuss the future of live theatre in Sydney, the involvement of UK-based theatre producers.</p> <p>Discuss the conditions required to support Sydney as a preferred location to attracting major musicals.</p> <p>Sydney has insufficient venues for major performances and is in competition with Brisbane and Melbourne, and this lack of space is pushing out musical theatre.</p> <p>To be competitive, major cities require multiple lyric theatres with sufficient capacity (1500 seats), with qualified and experience theatre operators; as outlined in the NSW Cultural Infrastructure Strategy.</p> <p>There are touring events in Asia from the UK, Europe and USA, but the lack of space is impacting on performing companies to get to Australia.</p> <p>Consideration could be given to multi-purpose venues that can accommodate musical theatre and dance.</p> <p>The location of theatres is important, requiring proximity to transport links and within, or very close to, the CBD.</p>
<p><b>a-n The Artists Information Company</b> Julie Lomax</p>	<p>Discuss the Company’s role to support a broad range and number of UK visual artists, including initiatives relevant to NSW including supporting artist to exhibit in publicly funded galleries.</p>
<p><b>Sadler’s Wells Theatre</b> Mr Alistair Spalding</p>	<p>Discuss the conditions required to support Sydney as a preferred location to support and attract dance performance.</p> <p>Learn from Sadler Wells’ new theatre plans in East Bank, London; relevant to the NSW Cultural Infrastructure Plan.</p> <p>For Sydney, a venue with 800 – 900 spaces would strengthen the national and international attraction of dance companies.</p>

	<p>Venues need to consider place-making and integration into the local environment with other services and amenities – this is a priority focus for the new theatre at Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park (East Bank), in a precinct including BBC, University of the Arts’ London College of Fashion, the Victoria and Albert Museum and the University College London.</p> <p>The UK is investing in touring performance in the Asia Pacific region, and with suitable venues, could extend to Sydney.</p>
<p><b>Barbican</b> Sir Nicholas Kenyon</p>	<p>Learn from the activities and operations of the Barbican, a world-leading multi-arts venue within a wider creative precinct.</p> <p>The Barbican includes a concert hall, theatres, cinemas, performance and exhibition space, library, conservatory and customer facilities including restaurants, conference facilities and bars.</p> <p>Culture and arts, as part of city life, require venues to integrate as part of the place and its precinct.</p> <p>The Barbican’s model also supports creative learning, education and resident companies. Its programming include short and long run performances, supported by flexible commercial and pricing models.</p> <p>There is increasingly free activities on offer to activate the public and open spaces.</p> <p>The Barbican model has relevance to arts venues and precinct development in Sydney and its environs, including Parramatta.</p>
<p><b>The Royal Opera House</b> Mr Alex Beard</p>	<p>Tour of the refurbishments at the Opera House, including the front of house public spaces; tour of the Linbury Theatre, which opened in January 2019.</p> <p>Discuss the operations, including resident companies: the Royal Opera and Royal Ballet.</p> <p>The Royal Opera House has established relationships with the Sydney Opera House and Opera Australia.</p>
<p><b>Cameron Mackintosh Ltd</b> Cameron Mackintosh</p>	<p>To discuss the future of live theatre in Sydney, the involvement of UK-based theatre producers.</p> <p>Discuss the conditions required to support Sydney as a preferred location to attracting major musicals.</p>

	<p>Sydney has insufficient venues for major performances and is in competition with Brisbane and Melbourne, and this lack of space is pushing out musical theatre.</p> <p>To be competitive, major cities require multiple lyric theatres with sufficient capacity (1500 seats), with qualified and experience theatre operators; as outlined in the NSW Cultural Infrastructure Strategy.</p> <p>There are touring events in Asia from the UK, Europe and USA, but the lack of space is impacting on performing companies to get to Australia.</p> <p>Consideration could be given to multi-purpose venues that can accommodate musical theatre and dance.</p> <p>The location of theatres is important, requiring proximity to transport links and within, or very close to, the CBD.</p>
<p><b>The British Museum</b> Dr Hartwig Fischer</p>	<p>Discuss the current collections, including significant Aboriginal cultural material.</p> <p>Note that discussions regarding Aboriginal cultural material should embrace principles of self-determination for Aboriginal people and communities.</p>
<p><b>Civil Service and Permanent Secretary (Cabinet Office)</b> Mr John Manzoni, CEO,</p>	<p>Discuss UK Civil service reforms to public sector capabilities to support the work of the future.</p> <p>Discuss measurement of UK Civil service engagement as a comparison to the NSW Public Sector Engagement survey.</p>
<p><b>The Natural History Museum</b> Sir Michael Dixon</p>	<p>Strengthen relationships between the Natural History Museum and the Australian Museum as world-leaders in Museum practice.</p> <p>Share details of the significant expansion of the NSW Museums (Australian Museum and Museum of Applied Arts and Science).</p> <p>Explore opportunities for future collaboration – including major blockbuster touring exhibitions both inbound and outbound.</p> <p>Understand Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander collection material currently held at Natural History Museum.</p>

<p><b>The All - Party Parliamentary Group on Sport, Modern Slavery and Human Rights</b></p> <p>Rt Hon the Baroness Young of Hornsey</p>	<p>Receive and update on the operation of the UK Act, its cope and impact and response of business and stakeholders to its requirements.</p>
<p>Panel Discussion on Global Milestones for LGBTI Equality</p>	<p>Participate in UK Pride formal discussions and celebrations, at the invitation of the Australian High Commissioner to the United Kingdom.</p> <p>Support for the team presenting Sydney's bid for World Pride.</p>
<p><b>Department of Digital, Culture, Media and Sport</b></p> <p>Ms Emma Squire</p>	<p>Discuss the role and function of the Department as a funding entity and responsible for tourism, leisure and creative industries.</p> <p>Discuss its role in the administration of cultural funding as it aligns with Create NSW objectives for arts and culture.</p>
<p><b>V&amp;A Museum</b></p> <p>Mr Tim Reeve &amp; Mr Daniel Slater</p>	<p>Explore future collaborations with the V&amp;A and take learnings for the approach to exhibitions in NSW Museums, including the Australian Museum and the Museum of Applied Arts and Sciences.</p> <p>Discuss the Queen's Album exhibition, to mark the 200<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the birth of Queen Victoria, presented at Government House Sydney from 24 May to 16 June 2019, noting it is available for hosting in regional venues from mid-August.</p>
<p><b>Tate Modern</b></p> <p>Ms Anna Cutler &amp; Mr Achim Borchardt-Hume</p>	<p>Gather insight and experience of the development and management of the Turbine Hall and its commissioning approach to inform the approach to art galleries (including Sydney Modern) and the Museum of Applied Arts and Science Parramatta project.</p> <p>Strengthen the relationship between the Tate Modern and NSW Government and its cultural institutions, building on the Joint Acquisition Program for contemporary Australian Art with the NSW MCA, through the \$2.75M corporate gift from Qantas Foundation.</p>
<p><b>Electoral Commission</b></p> <p>Sir John Holmes</p>	<p>To discuss the operations of the Electoral Commission and the issues relating to the conduct of elections, electoral fraud and related matters.</p>
<p><b>The Design Museum</b></p> <p>Alice Black</p>	<p>The approach to design, architecture and exhibits in the Design Museum has relevance to the MAAS Powerhouse program.</p>

	<p>The Design Museum provided insights relevant to Cultural Institutions in NSW including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the precinct-based master planning for cultural institutions;</li> <li>• its experiential learning programs with artist educators</li> <li>• its approach to working with designers to support social, technological and environmental change and industry development, which leads to job creation.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Cameron Macintosh Ltd</b> Mr Bill Differ</p>	<p>Tour of the Victoria Palace Theatre upgrades to inform approaches to Lyric Theatre</p>

<b>Minister</b>	Hon. Donald Harwin MLC
<b>Portfolio</b>	Public Service and Employee Relations, Aboriginal Affairs, and the Arts
<b>Destinations visited</b> a) Countries b) Cities	a) United Kingdom b) London
<b>Dates of travel</b> a) Departure date b) Return date	a) Thursday 27 June 2019 b) Monday 8 July 2019
<b>Number of official travel days</b>	Eight
<b>Number of accompanying</b> a) Minister's staff b) Government officials	a) One b) One
<b>Accompanied by spouse</b> a) In an official capacity b) In a private capacity	a) Nil b) Nil
<b>Costs</b>	
<b>Airfares and rail</b> a) Minister and Minister's staff b) Government officials	a) \$25,263.40 b) \$11,852.55
<b>Accommodation (includes any meals/incidentals charged to room)</b> a) Minister and Minister's staff b) Government officials	a) \$15,815.42 b) \$3,619.84
<b>Official hospitality</b> a) Minister and Minister's staff b) Government officials	a) Nil b) Nil
<b>Other expenses</b> a) Official gift presentation b) Ground transport c) Meals and refreshments d) Venue hire	a) Nil b) \$554.14 ( Minister and Minister's staff) \$879.57 (Government officials) c) \$154.80 ( Minister and Minister's staff) d) n/a
<b>TOTAL estimated travel cost</b> a) Minister and Minister's staff b) Government officials	a) \$41,787.76 b) \$16,351.96
<b>Currency conversion rate</b>	1 GBP = 1.876 AUD

*This report does not include costs for data roaming, official passports, visas, vaccinations, insurance, translation or printing of business cards.*