

From: Kylie Winkworth [<mailto:wink8@bigpond.com>]
Sent: Thursday, 30 November 2023 10:31 AM
To: 'Jenny Leong'; Cate.Faehrmann@parliament.nsw.gov.au; 'balmain@parliament.nsw.gov.au'
Subject: closing the Powerhouse Museum by stealth

Why is the Powerhouse Museum being closed by stealth when only a few months ago the Arts Minister promised they were keeping the Powerhouse Museum open?

In September the Arts Minister announced *we promised at the election we would preserve the Wran legacy and keep the Powerhouse Museum in Ultimo open. We are doing just that.* Not true. The Wran legacy will be finished with the closure of the museum on 31 December. None of Labor's promises on the Powerhouse Museum have made it to the end of the year. But closing the Powerhouse Museum is the big one. It's even more of a shocker that this broken promise is being delivered by the Tourism Minister, closing one Sydney's tourism icons ahead of the summer holidays.

There is no credible reason for shutting the PHM. Numerous museums in much older buildings have remained open during refurbishments. The PHM does not need to be closed for three years, or longer. The Powerhouse Museum is only 35 years old. It was built with the highest quality materials and designed for a working life of more than 100 years. The only reason the Powerhouse Museum is closing is to cover the cost over runs at Parramatta, putting up the hoardings to hide their cultural scene at the Powerhouse Museum. The government never looked at options to keep the museum open. And they have failed to honour their promises of transparency. This from the Arts Minister on April 26... *I have said all along that we will be transparent with regards to the Powerhouse Ultimo Renewal.* Not true. Not a single document has been released. They are closing the museum before the redevelopment plans are approved, or even put on exhibition.

Parliament needs to see the business cases for the Powerhouse Museum and Parramatta.

Supporters of the Powerhouse Museum who trusted the Minns Government are devastated. This is Labor's secret Santa present to the people of NSW: hoardings around the Powerhouse Museum.

Kind regards, Kylie
Kylie Winkworth
Powerhouse Museum Alliance