

The Hon. Adrian Piccoli MP Minister for Education

Mr A H Greenwich MP Member for Sydney 58 Oxford Street PADDINGTON NSW 2021 RML13/5398

Dear Mr Greenwich

I write in response to your letter of 12 December 2013, regarding the work of the Inner City Schools Working Party.

Thank you for your ongoing interest in and commitment to the work of the Department of Education and Communities as it monitors enrolment demands and trends, makes recommendations and takes action to ensure that adequate accommodation and sufficient learning spaces are available for all students in the public education system now and into the future.

I am aware of your strong commitment to the Ultimo/Pyrmont community and your interest in the work of the Inner City Schools Working Party as it has come to an agreed recommendation for the future of primary schooling in the area. Government processes are underway to assess the feasibility of the recommendation. I am advised that school and community consultation played an important role in assisting the working party to come to an agreed position.

The composition and membership of the Inner City Schools Working Party reflected its initial task of considering primary school provision in the Ultimo/Pyrmont area. A Project Control Group will be formed in 2014 to continue working on the proposal. I am advised that Ultimo Public School Parents and Citizens Association has elected Ms Janine Barrett, President and Mr Bill d'Anthes, parent representative and both former members of the Inner City Schools Working Party to be members of the newly formed Project Control Group for the Ultimo/Pyrmont project.

The Inner City Schools Working Party will now turn its attention to the provision of secondary schooling in inner Sydney. Membership of the group has been reconfigured to include a number of secondary school principals from across the city. Mr Murat Dizdar, Executive Director, Public Schools, NSW, Ultimo Office will continue to be a member of the group and Dr Sylvia Corish, Director, Public Schools, NSW, Port Jackson Network will remain as the chairperson. Mr Rod Megahey, Director, Public Schools NSW, Marrickville Network has also been invited to join the group.

The first meeting of the reconfigured Inner City Schools Working Party will be held on 4 February 2014. The terms of reference and working structures for the group will be confirmed at the meeting. Given the potentially large number of individuals and groups with an interest in this area, strategies will be determined and advertised for interested individuals or groups to present their ideas and/or options to the Inner City Schools Working Party.

Mr Dizdar and Dr Corish look forward to input from the Community for Local Options for Secondary Education (CLOSE) and others. Would you kindly ask the Chair of CLOSE to please make contact with Dr Corish and to provide their contact details. Dr Corish can be contacted at the department's Bondi Office by telephone on 9298 6900.

Thank you again for your ongoing support.

Yours sincerely

Adrian Piccoli MP \
Minister for Education

15 JAN 2014