

Hearing – 24 August 2021 – additional information to be submitted by Monday 27th September

Supplementary questions to Ms Elizabeth Vines, Heritage Adviser, Broken Hill Council

1. Ms Elizabeth Vines, I noted your recommendations “for ongoing and increased financial support for all aspects of heritage management are requested including:

Skills training (practical workshops on heritage)

Boost support for heritage advisory services, and annual skills training workshops (can be remote or in Sydney)”

1. (a) With regards to training could TAFE NSW tailor programs that would suit your needs?

ANSWER – In theory, yes this sounds like a good idea. However, it is very important that it is actual tradesmen who do the training, ie really practical hands on builders. There is a very good training model which exists in South Australia, which I think could and should be rolled out across the country. A Heritage Cert III Stonemasonry has been developed in SA as part of the CITB (Construction Industry Training Board) in collaboration with the Dept of Environment and Water (DEW) . The curriculum has been developed in collaboration with a training provider, ABCT (Applied Building Conservation Training) which was established in 2009 to provide a range of conservation training services. These courses use the CITB training levy to assist with the delivery of these programs, so that building tradies in fact have access to a subsidised course, making it more financially accessible. The ABCT training is also anchored in the *Burra Charter* process, so that conservation is seen as a holistic process which retains the unique heritage values of a place.

I am very hopeful that the newly created Certificate III in Heritage Trades skills will generate more localised skills in younger tradesmen here in South Australia, and that this model can be extended further into NSW and other states. We have seen a lot of great project outcomes in South Australia, where government owned buildings are physically worked on as part of the training program with the costs of materials supplied by Government and the labour and training teaching met through the existing CITB training levy. This then makes conservation really achievable within modest budgets. The need for heritage skills qualifications is urgent to address the current skills shortages for conservation and adaptive reuse projects. The traditional trades required to do these projects, particularly stonemasonry, heritage bricklaying, carpentry, solid plastering, painting and other skills are now in short supply. This is a key in Broken Hill, an outback city, now with National Heritage Listing. We need to undertake heritage conservation to the highest quality and standard, and training up local tradesmen makes sense, and is less expensive than bringing in tradies from the capital cities (Adelaide, Sydney or Melbourne)

Included at the end of this document is an example of a recent training program in South Australia at a government owned heritage building, Martindale Hall. Also attached is an expression of interest by ABCT which shows the approach to training provided in South Australia by ABCT

(b) TAFE NSW have government funding for businesses, maybe there should be specific funding for the training you outline?

ANSWER - Yes I believe there should be specific funding and it needs to be directed to really practical training programs. I provide the SA example to show how a program already exists in that state. I know that ABCT company also operates in Victoria and NSW – I am not promoting them as the only provider at all, but they could assist in setting up a coordinated program in NSW (they have

already run three such training sessions in Wilcannia, in Central Darling Shire, at Holy Trinity Church Hall in Grafton NSW, and at the Grand Guest House in Broken Hill). If funding is allocated to TAFE I do see some problems if teachers are not practising builders, and I would recommend using the CITB model of using skilled heritage trades to run these courses. If the TAFE program is pursued, it is essential that teachers are skilled tradies who are practically engaged in conservation projects, not just teachers.

EXAMPLE OF TRAINING PROGRAMS IN ACTION - *Martindale Hall, South Australia, 2021*

HERITAGE TRADES PROGRAM 22 - 26 MARCH, 2021

This five day training course is aimed at developing the knowledge of heritage trades amongst people who are working in the construction industry to extend their understanding of materials, building conservation techniques and heritage issues.




The program is part of the Construction Industry Training Board (CITB) Heritage Trades Program, and offers participants subsidised fees if current CITB number is held.

Led by Keith McAllister of Applied Building Conservation Training (ABCT), the training will provide participants with the following theoretical and hands-on experience.

- Lath & Plaster Ceiling Stabilisation
- Stone Conservation
 - * Lime Mortar Technology
 - * Repointing Techniques
 - * Traditional lime wash application
- Heritage Painting
 - * Removal of paints
 - * Lead Paint Management
 - * Paint application

Overnight accommodation will be provided by the Department of Environment & Water (DEW). All catering will be delivered by Chef Gary Farmer who started his career in Europe, where he worked alongside top chefs and mastered culinary skills of the highest level. He is currently Senior chef at the Intercontinental Hotel, Adelaide

This is a great opportunity for construction workers (up-skill), apprentices and heritage professionals. Upon completion of the course, you will receive a certificate of completion in Heritage Trades.

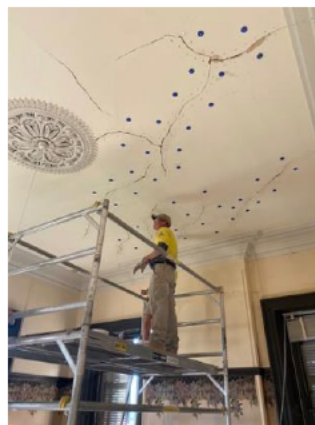
For expressions of interest and further information, please contact Applied Building Conservation Training (ABCT) during business hours on 0403 705 602, or Mark Gosden at CITB on 8172 9500. Places for this course are limited.

All training and practical sessions are to be held at Martindale Hall, Mintaro in the Clare Valley. You will need to provide your own transport to Mintaro and be available for the full five days of training.

The cost of training will be:
CITB Members—\$300
Non-CITB Members—\$1,500







This conservation program included many trades required for a heritage building, including stone masonry, use of lime mortar not damaging cement mortar, carpentry, internal wall plastering, lath and plaster ceiling repairs by adhesion, painting.

EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST TO LOCAL COUNCILS

TRADITIONAL STONEMASONRY / CONSERVATION 1 DAY COURSES

Traditional stonemasonry / conservation courses have been run since 2009 by Applied Building Conservation Training. The course illustrates by lectures and practical examples the manner in which the conservation repair of historical buildings can be achieved. The methods demonstrated include those evolved and approved by the Construction Industry Training Board (CITB) and the Department of Environment, Water and Natural Resources (DEWNR). The convenor, Keith McAllister (ABC Training), is a qualified conservator with long experience in this field of work, and will provide the participants with the following hands-on experience:

- Principles of repair and conservation
- Techniques in stone and brick conservation
- Understanding lime mortar and its use in repair
- Basic stone construction and repair.
- Damp issues

ABC Training has recently successfully completed these courses with the Alexandrina Council, Onkaparinga Council, Mid-Murray Council and Central Darling Shire Council NSW.



These courses may be eligible for relevant funding resources through the provision of assistance in promoting sound heritage conservation and management. South Australian local Councils are encouraged to negotiate avenues for funding.

The venues to be worked on are generally a significant building of State or Local interest, supplied by Councils and/or State owned heritage listed buildings.

Participants and course convening fees will be provided upon request.

ABC Training has an existing data base of previous course attendees, however local Councils are encouraged to promote these workshops with known local tradespeople, heritage owners, architects, surveyors, urban and policy planners, structural engineers, heritage advisors and similarly aligned stakeholders. Should you require assistance in promoting these workshops, please contact ABC T.

All participants will receive a certificate of attendance upon completion.

For Expressions of Interest and further information, please contact Keith McAllister, ABC Training on 8297 0700 or 0414 584 272.

SA HERITAGE HEROES AWARD 2013

For valued contribution to the conservation of South Australia's heritage and the recording of its history.

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