

**Submission
No 176**

INQUIRY INTO REVIEW OF THE HERITAGE ACT 1977

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Focus Question 9:

The current categories work very well and are pretty easy to understand, especially for the community in general.

- I believe there is a definite need for greater recognition of LOCAL heritage items - not less as it appears to me the current value of local heritage significance is poorly understood - very poor.
- the proposed new category system would even further undermine the ability to retain and afford appropriate significance to local heritage items/issues.

Focus Question 10:

Community engagement is important, however getting proper assessments according to the principles of the Burra Charter is the key to both local and state listings.

- Most items are at the LOCAL LEVEL and are nominated because they are important to the community that they are associated with (also heritage items are of importance to NSW and beyond as a whole in documenting significance (e.g. Pyrmont Cottages)

Focus Question 11:

NO. not if streamlining means taking short cuts, saving money and assisting developers to get there DA's approved at the expense of what the community wants. THE DEVELOPERS ONLY INTEREST IS IN THE BOTTOM LINE, and if you cannot see that we have a massive problem!

Focus Question 14:

Start certification system for heritage consultants so that we do not keep seeing the "very poor sided" heritage reports put together by "independent" reviewers who are paid by developers. (The above is so obvious that you surely must see this!)

An option may be to provide more resources to LOCAL COUNCILS for resourcing and ability to provide their own internal independent assessments. Current over reliance on "expert reports submitted by developers. provide a more robust scrutiny of processes and an independent certification system for "experts". Possibly similar to proposed reforms in Private Certifiers.