INQUIRY INTO REVIEW OF THE HERITAGE ACT 1977

Name: Name suppressed

Date Received: 4 July 2021

Partially Confidential

I am an owner of heritage items and so have a direct personal interest in the outcome of a review of the Heritage Act.

I consider that a holistic approach to planning is necessary with heritage issues given a heavy weighting in all planning decisions. The Environmental Planning and Assessment Act should integrate with, or incorporate the Heritage Act so that the heritage significance of a place is as much a part of the decision making process as traffic movements, height, and floor space ratios.

Also, it is matter of concern that both State Significant and SEPP 5 developments can override heritage legislation, so that the community loses the opportunity for affected heritage items to be given due deliberation with respect to protection.

Finally, with many heritage items now being incorporated into Strata developments it would be appropriate for the Strata Schemes Management Act to be amended such that the preservation of these items is assured through both the provisions regarding the duty to repair and maintain common property, and the ability to vary levies on a basis other than unit entitlements, to reflect different costs of maintaining different structures within a Strata Scheme.

Thank you.