



Hon Lizzie Blandthorn MP

Minister for Planning

8 Nicholson Street  
East Melbourne, Victoria 3002  
DX210098

Professor Philip Goad  
Chair  
Heritage Council of Victoria  
2 Lonsdale St  
MELBOURNE VIC 3000

Ref: MBR048275



Dear Professor Goad

### STATEMENT OF EXPECTATIONS FOR THE HERITAGE COUNCIL OF VICTORIA

I am pleased to provide you with my expectations for the Heritage Council of Victoria to guide your business planning processes.

As Minister for Planning, I am responsible for administering the *Heritage Act 2017* and this guidance should be read in the context of the objectives, obligations and functions outlined in this Act.

This guidance should also be read in the context of any other legislative and non-legislative obligations on the council.

Based on consultation with the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP) and the council about the government's priorities and emerging risks, my expectations for the council are as follows:

- that, following launch, the council continue to update the user platform (HCV HUB) for stakeholders involved in council hearings, reviews and other regulatory matters under the *Heritage Act 2017*. Updates should ensure that the platform is user friendly, information is easily understood and accessible, and incorporates all the council's regulatory processes;
- improve the IT platforms used to provide publicly accessible information and manage regulatory processes, including through the Heritage Council website;
- develop guidance for applicants seeking fee waivers under the Heritage Regulations; and
- develop communication products to ensure information regarding the council's statutory responsibilities under the *Heritage Act 2017* are clearly articulated to its stakeholders and differentiate between regulatory activities under the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*.

I request that the council incorporate these expectations into its business plans and include milestones for when the council will meet these expectations. The business plan should also include appropriate milestones to review the content of this letter and to advise me when it needs to be updated or renewed.



I further request the board, in conjunction with DELWP, undertake a light touch review of the expectations in this letter as part of their annual reporting obligations and to advise me if there are any refinements it would recommend.

Yours sincerely



**Hon Lizzie Blandthorn MP**  
**Minister for Planning**

10 / 10 / 22