



Hon Lizzie Blandthorn MP

Minister for Planning

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East Melbourne, Victoria 3002  
DX210098

Mr Steven Avery  
Executive Director  
Heritage Victoria  
PO Box 500  
EAST MELBOURNE VIC 8002

Ref: MBR048275



Dear Mr Avery

### STATEMENT OF EXPECTATIONS FOR HERITAGE VICTORIA

I am pleased to provide you with my expectations for Heritage 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 Heritage Victoria.

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

- acknowledge concurrent Aboriginal heritage values and joint management agreements for places and objects included in the Victorian Heritage Register;
- deliver the Living Heritage Program to protect and re-activate Victoria's key heritage resources subject to funding;
- review and revise the World Heritage Management Plan for the Royal Exhibition Building and Carlton Gardens to ensure the Outstanding Universal Values of the site are managed for current and future generations;
- deliver the '*Incentivising low harm proposals and reducing regulatory burden*' project for improved regulatory performance and streamlined processes for stakeholders;
- implement heritage disaster recovery initiatives to mitigate risks to historic heritage assets in areas prone to bushfires and floods;
- deliver the Maritime Heritage at Risk and Shipwreck Discovery Programs to support communities in monitoring shipwrecks at risk and to encourage and simplify the reporting of shipwreck discoveries in Victoria;
- undertake risk-based enforcement in accordance with Heritage Victoria's Compliance and Enforcement Strategy to target registered places and objects with little or no record of regulatory compliance;
- support government heritage asset managers to adopt strategic approaches to maintaining and conserving places and objects in accordance with the requirements of the *Heritage Act 2017*; and
- progress digital uplifts to heritage systems to improve data quality, regulatory compliance capabilities and user experience.

I request that Heritage Victoria incorporate these expectations into its business plans and include milestones for when Heritage Victoria will meet these expectations. Business plans 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 Heritage Victoria, in conjunction with DELWP, to undertake a light touch review of the expectations in this letter as part of its annual reporting obligations and to advise me if there are any refinements Heritage Victoria would recommend.

Yours sincerely



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

10 / 10 / 22