

SOUTH AUSTRALIAN HERITAGE COUNCIL**MINUTES**

The 166th Meeting of the South Australian Heritage Council (the Council) was held at the Drill Hall, Torrens Parade Ground, Victoria Avenue, Adelaide on Thursday 28 May 2026.

Statement of Acknowledgement

The Chairperson acknowledged that the land that the Council members meet on today is the traditional lands for Kurna people and that the Council respect their spiritual relationship with their country. The Chairperson also acknowledged the Kurna people as the custodians of the Adelaide region and that their cultural and heritage beliefs are still as important to the living Kurna people today.

Heritage Council: Chair: Ms Sandy Verschoor Members: Mr David Brooks, Ms Eleanor Walters, Mr Jamie Botten, Ms Ellen Liebelt, Ms Michelle Toft and Mr Tim Lloyd.

Secretariat: Mr David Hanna, Executive Officer, Heritage South Australia, Department for Environment and Water (DEW) and Ms Bev Voigt Manager, Heritage South Australia (DEW).

Guests and DEW staff: Hon Emily Bourke MLC, Minister for Climate Environment and Water; Mr Ashley Natt, Adviser to the Minister; Ms Kym Pryde, Director, Planning and Heritage, DEW; Mr Tim Ryan, Executive Director, Corporate, Heritage and Climate Change, DEW; Mr Leonard Blazeby, Principal Policy Officer, DEW; Dr Louise Bird, Principal Heritage Assessment Officer, DEW, Dr Thomas Mackay, Senior Heritage Assessment Officer, DEW; Travis Ford-Franz, Stenning & Associates; Andrew Roberts, Stenning & Associates.

1. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

Ms Verschoor, Chair, welcomed all to the 166th meeting of the Council.

There were apologies from Professor Gini Lee.

2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA AND DECLARATION OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST**Agenda**

The agenda was adopted.

Declarations of conflict of interest

Nil.

3. PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES

The Council considered the draft minutes of the 30 April 2026 meeting and approved them with the following amendments:

- In relation to page 10, remove the reference to individual names in relation to voting.

RESOLUTION:

The South Australian Heritage Council:

- **Approved** the minutes of the 30 April 2026 meeting subject to the amendment described above.

4. ACTION ITEMS

The Council noted the status of the action items.

Action: It was noted that Mr Hanna would seek to reschedule a meeting with the Chair of the State Aboriginal Heritage Committee.

RESOLUTION:

The South Australian Heritage Council:

- **Noted** the action items.

5. IN CAMERA DISCUSSION

The Council had an in-camera discussion pursuant to section 7 (6) of the *Heritage Places Act 1993*.

Text removed for the purposes of publication.

6. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION / DECISION

6.1 Presentation from researcher on Economic Value of Heritage

Mr Blazeby noted that the South Australian Heritage Council approved a research project to provide evidence of the economic benefit of heritage, at the 26 June 2025 meeting.

Stenning and Associates were awarded the service contract and have prepared a draft final report for feedback and comments from the Council before providing a final report.

Stenning and Associates were welcomed to the meeting, and they provided a power point presentation to summarise the findings in the report.

Ms Verschoor thanked the researchers.

RESOLUTIONS

The South Australian Heritage Council:

- **Noted** the presentation provided by Stenning & Associates.
- **Agreed** that comments on the draft report or companion document be provided to DEW out of session by Wednesday 3 June 2026.

6.2 Strategic Session

Ms Kym Pryde provided a presentation on the work of Heritage SA, including its work priorities for 2026/27.

It was noted that Heritage SA's purpose is "SA is a place where people value, benefit and care for our State, National and World Heritage."

The Council noted the work program of Heritage SA and discussed how its work aligns with it.

The Council discussed and agreed its priorities for 2026/27 are:

- State Heritage listing of the Adelaide Park Lands and City Layout
- Finalisation of the Heritage Strategy for South Australia
- To seek an integrated state and local heritage listing approach
- A fit for purpose SA Heritage Register.
- Heritage listing and adaptive reuse of the Keswick Barracks site.
- Review of the *Heritage Places Act 1993*
- To seek additional resource allocation for DEW staff relating to assessments

It was noted that the draft Heritage Strategy for South Australia requires graphic design work to make it presentable for public consultation purposes.

The Council discussed key stakeholders to engage in 2026/27. These included but were not limited to:

- Property Council of SA
- Valuer General
- Adelaide University
- TICSA and Tourism SA
- State Aboriginal Heritage Committee
- Premier's Climate Change Council
- Office of Design Architecture SA (ODASA) and Urban Development Institute of SA (UDIA)

The Council discussed ways to enhance community engagement including:

- Promote what it means to have a heritage property – video or talk.
- Heritage spokesperson / influencer / public relations person.
- Case studies - web site, flyers for distribution.
- Heritage economic research – killer facts.
- Case study for grants from start to finish.
- A logo for the Council.

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- Events that the Minister can attend and create publicity for heritage
- Engage on social media. Like and share Heritage SA posts.

The Council discussed areas where it could influence:

- Housing (TAFE and Trades, Architecture, Property Council / Valuer General, Renewal SA, UDIA, ODASA. Heritage grants, blue plaques, student scholarship / university research, PhD opportunities)
- Tourism (TICSA, Tourism SA)
- Climate Change (Premiers Climate Change Council)
- Community (Outback Areas Authority)

RESOLUTIONS

The South Australian Heritage Council:

- **Discussed** its strategic direction for 2026/27

7 Any Other Business**7.1 Fracking in the South East**

The Council discussed its concerns relating to the government's intention to lift the 10-year fracking moratorium in the Limestone Coast region two years ahead of its scheduled 2028 expiration.

It was noted there are several State Heritage Places that could possibly be impacted by fracking.

The Council indicated it would revisit this matter, if required, at a later date.

CLOSE OF MEETING

Ms Sandy Verschoor closed the meeting at 4:30pm.



Ms Sandy Verschoor
Chair

Date: 18 June 2026