

2 March 2023

Kathryn Pitkin AM
President
National Trust of Australia (NSW)
Sent via: president@nationaltrust.com.au

Dear Ms Pitkin

National Trust of Australia (NSW) 2023 State Election Priorities

I refer to the priorities set out by the National Trust of Australia to protect the state's important heritage for future generations. I am sorry that I am unable to attend your forum and I wish you success for the event.

Heritage protection is an important issue to my constituents and I have a long history of defending inner city heritage in development submissions. I thank the National Trust of Australia (NSW) for the extensive work to protect inner city heritage and provide the community with expert information to conserve their local heritage. Your organisation's contribution to Central Barangaroo Modification 9 was invaluable and was a significant part in encouraging the minister to publicly reject overdevelopment of the land.

I support all eight recommendations in your platform and am committed to advocating for them if I am re-elected. Mandatory consideration of heritage laws in state significant development assessments should be restored; it is regularly used to destroy our history to fast track development. I co-sponsored the Honourable Fred Nile MLC's Aboriginal Cultural Heritage (Culture is Identity) Bill 2022 to give decisions about First Nations heritage back to First Nations people and am committed to supporting standalone Aboriginal cultural heritage legislation.

I have repeatedly called on the government to protect urban bushland and trees. Metropolitan areas still have remnants of bushland that provide vital habitat for threatened species including the koala, and should not be cleared. The proposals to encroach on inner city parklands must also cease.

I support your proposal to mandate consideration of the Government Architect's Design Guide for Heritage for work on buildings, sites and precincts that contribute to heritage. The government should provide incentives to help owners of heritage buildings adapt to modern use and make the buildings sustainable not only to preserve heritage but also to preserve embedded carbon.

State funding to help all councils employ a local heritage advisor will ensure that all regions across the state have the opportunity to recognise and preserve local heritage. I support grants to ensure heritage organisations and museums can operate.

I am committed to advocating to whoever is in government to be good custodians of our heritage and if re-elected hope to work with you in achieving this outcome.

Yours sincerely

Alex Greenwich

Member for Sydney