

STATEMENT BY VICTORIA DAVIDSON RE HERITAGE – TO THE NATIONAL TRUST 8 March 23

1. I have a strong commitment to heritage conservation. I am a community Independent candidate for the State seat of Lane Cove, a place that includes Lane Cove National Park, Kelly's Bush and the conservation areas of Hunters Hill.
2. In my view, the built, cultural and natural heritage, State and local, should be properly protected and conserved. Many in the community also hold this view.
3. As to the National Trust's Policy Platform, as on its website under 'NSW State Election: Make Heritage Matter', I generally support the eight policies as stated, with the following comments:
 - a) A NSW Government should ensure that all developments, small and large, including those involving infrastructure and the State, are subject to proper heritage controls.
 - b) Aboriginal Cultural Heritage needs to be protected given its significance and fragility. The best way, subject to further debate, may be by specific legislation.
 - c) Areas of natural significance, including remnant urban bushland and important trees, need to be valued and protected.
 - d) The Government Architect's Design Guide for Heritage should be respected and used by Government as an aid for heritage conservation.
 - e) Heritage organisations, museums and galleries play an important role in our society and should be consistently supported, including with funding, by the Government.
 - f) The Government should be encouraging adaptive reuse of not only heritage buildings, but generally.
 - g) The Government has not been properly protecting and maintaining its own heritage properties. It should be a leader and set an example for all other sectors.
 - h) Local Government has been starved of funds by Government through rate pegging and cost shifting. This needs to change. Funding from Government should include local heritage advisors.
4. If elected I will consult with the National Trust on these and other heritage and environmental issues.

Victoria Davidson

Candidate for Lane Cove

8 March 2023