

Queensland Heritage Council - Role and Selection Criteria

Who is the Queensland Heritage Council?

The Queensland Heritage Council is the State's peak body on heritage matters. The Queensland Heritage Council operates in accordance with the *Queensland Heritage Act 1992*.

The Queensland Heritage Council has 12 members who represent a wide range of professional and community sector interests. The Council is the key decision-maker on places of heritage significance to Queensland. It does not generally deal with places of significance to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

The Queensland Heritage Council provides independent advice to government about heritage. The Heritage Council receives professional advice and administrative support from Department of Environment and Science.

How members are selected

When a position on the Queensland Heritage Council becomes vacant, the Minister for Environment and the Great Barrier Reef and Minister for Science and Minister for the Arts writes to organisations with an interest in heritage places and calls for nominations. Nominees are also sought from the Queensland Register of Nominees maintained by the Department of the Premier and Cabinet.

The Minister for Environment and the Great Barrier Reef and Minister for Science and Minister for the Arts reviews nominations based on the selection criteria, the requirements of the *Queensland Heritage Act 1992* and whole of government policies for appointments to statutory bodies.

Appointments to the Queensland Heritage Council are made by the Governor in Council.

Selection criteria

The following selection criteria and equity and diversity in representation are considered by the Minister for Environment and Science when reviewing nominations:

- Relevant qualifications
- Experience, including previous roles on boards
- Knowledge about heritage places
- Skills of the nominee in relation to the range of skills of current members
- Particular interest of nominee in joining the Council.

Skills

Past and current members have had skills in the following areas:

- Archaeology
- Architecture and Landscape Architecture
- Heritage Conservation
- Economics
- Education
- Engineering
- Planning
- History
- Law
- Local government
- Property management.

What will you do as a member?

The Queensland Heritage Council's most public role is deciding what is entered in the Queensland Heritage Register.

The Queensland Heritage Council aims to conserve heritage places by:

- improving the way Queenslanders understand and value their heritage
- embedding heritage in mainstream policy and planning
- strengthening the investment in managing and conserving heritage
- leading and partnering government, community and industry
- building the capacity of government, community and industry.

The Council's functions include:

- providing strategic advice to the Queensland government about heritage matters
- encouraging appropriate management of heritage places
- reviewing development of state-owned heritage places
- carrying out special projects to advance its aims.

Queensland Heritage Register

The Queensland heritage register is the broadest, most comprehensive listing of places that together tell the story of how our state has developed, the people who made it, and how life has changed.

Over 1700 places are in the Queensland Heritage Register. They include houses, rural homesteads, civic buildings, roads, bridges, workplaces, cinemas – even trees. Many are private properties. Some are public and well-known – like Brisbane's Story Bridge, Jondaryan Woolshed and Paronella Park leisure garden near Innisfail.

Meetings

The *Queensland Heritage Act 1992* requires that the Queensland Heritage Council meet at least six times a year. These meetings are generally held in Brisbane on a Friday during business hours.

Members who are unable to travel to a meeting are able to participate by teleconference.

Time involved

Queensland Heritage Council meetings are usually about four hours in duration. Preparation for these meetings includes reading of agenda papers, which may take up to two hours.

Occasionally special meetings may be called at short notice and members may also take on special assignments related to strategic goals or statutory responsibilities.

Disclosure of Interest

Nominees are required to disclose any criminal record and/or private interest which may conflict with the public interest.

Remuneration

Queensland Heritage Council members are remunerated at \$500 per full meeting (more than four hours).

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