

31 January 2006

FF.05.577

Phone: 8372 8814

Heritage Inquiry
Productivity Commission
PO Box 80
BELCONNEN ACT 2616

Dear Sir/Madam

Productivity Commission Inquiry into Heritage Conservation

At its January meeting, the Full Council of the City of Mitcham considered the Productivity Commission's Draft Report: 'Conservation of Australia's Historic Heritage Places'. At the meeting, the Council resolved as follows

that the Council makes a submission on the Productivity Commission's draft report Conservation of Australia's Historic Heritage Places, containing the following points:

- *Council does not support any changes in the South Australian Development Act or related legislation which requires a voluntary system of heritage listing.*
- *Council reiterates its submission that owners of heritage properties should be afforded access to a wider range of benefits including but not limited to tax concessions, and expanded and continued Government grant programs.*
- *Council, while supporting the concept of better information about heritage places and their future management, does not support the use of Conservation Agreements as a tool of voluntary heritage listing. Conservation Agreements may be appropriate within the context of the current conservation of heritage regimes.*
- *Development Plans should remain as the tool for assessing applications relating to heritage places.*
- *The Productivity Commission should be required to research further the wider economic and community benefits of heritage conservation.*

It would be appreciated if you could keep us informed of the progress of the Inquiry

Yours faithfully

RON MALCOLM
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER