

Planning (Social Impact and Community Benefit) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2025

Submission No:	459
Submitted by:	Queensland Heritage Council
Publication:	Making the submission and your name public
Attachments:	See attachment
Submitter Comments:	

19 May 2025

State Development, Infrastructure and Works Committee
Queensland Parliamentary Service
Parliament House
Cnr George and Alice Streets Brisbane Qld 4000

Dear Sir or Madam

On behalf of the Queensland Heritage Council (Heritage Council) I thank the State Development, Infrastructure and Works Committee for the opportunity to make a submission on the *Planning (Social Impact and Community Benefit) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2025* (the Bill).

The Queensland Heritage Council

The Heritage Council is a 12-person statutory authority established under the *Queensland Heritage Act 1992* (Heritage Act) to help conserve Queensland's cultural heritage for the benefit of the community and future generations.

The Heritage Council provides strategic advice to the Minister for the Environment and Tourism and Minister for Science and Innovation about Queensland's historic cultural heritage and makes decisions about places being entered in, or removed from, the Queensland heritage register. It also makes recommendations to responsible Ministers about development on State heritage places being proposed by the Queensland Government (Government), provides heritage advice to government entities and community organisations, and encourages the appropriate management of places of cultural heritage significance.

Amendments to the *Brisbane Olympic and Paralympic Games Arrangements Act 2021*

This submission on the Bill relates to the proposed amendments to the *Brisbane Olympic and Paralympic Games Arrangements Act 2021* (BOPGA) and its interaction with the Heritage Act. The amendments relating to the *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Act 2003* and the *Torres Strait Islander Cultural Heritage Act 2003* are not within the remit of the Heritage Council.

As outlined in the call for submissions on the Bill, among other proposals, the amendment seeks to provide 'an expedited pathway for the delivery of Games venues and villages and the construction of Games-related transport infrastructure identified in the Act by removing the requirements for compliance with relevant Acts relating to development and use (other than building work and cultural heritage) and limiting review rights'. This is to be facilitated by provisions declaring development, use or activity as lawful, despite several currently relevant Acts, including the Heritage Act.

The Heritage Council appreciates the critical importance of timely delivery of infrastructure for the 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games (the Games). It also

acknowledges there is considerable concern in the community about the potential impacts on places of historic cultural heritage significance.

Delivering a world class legacy from the Games does not have to occur through diminished heritage outcomes. There are numerous examples in Queensland and elsewhere of large-scale development that has respectfully retained and integrated heritage places through design excellence and sensitive adaptation, while conserving their significance. The Government's Priority Development Areas, which provide for streamlined processes in relation to regulation under the Heritage Act, readily demonstrate how heritage and new development can successfully integrate.

Recommendations

The Heritage Council strongly recommends the Games Independent Infrastructure and Coordination Authority's (GIICA) proactively engages person(s) with appropriate qualifications and technical expertise to advise on heritage matters, particularly during the planning and design phases, and beyond.

Further, the Heritage Council respectfully requests GIICA and other relevant Government entities undertake meaningful consultation with the Heritage Council during the delivery phases of the Games.

The Games provide an unparalleled opportunity to showcase Queensland, including its diverse heritage, to the world and deliver a lasting legacy across the State. In addition to 2032 being the year of the Games, it will also mark 40 years of the Heritage Act in Queensland. The Heritage Council trusts at this time we will be proudly demonstrating how Queensland conserves its cultural heritage for the benefit of the community and future generations.

Yours sincerely



Stuart Lummis
Chair