

New Women's and Children's Hospital Advice and Consultation

Strategic Alignment - Dynamic City Culture

Public

Tuesday, 7 March 2023
**City Planning, Development
and Business Affairs
Committee**

Program Contact:
Jeremy Phillips, Executive
Manager, Office of the Lord
Mayor

Approving Officer:
Ilia Houridis, Director, City
Shaping

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Lord Mayor received a letter from the Australian Heritage Council (AHC) on 28 February 2023.

This letter advises of the AHC's position that the new Women's and Children's Hospital (nWCH) project will compromise the values on which the National Heritage listing of the Park Lands and City Layout is based, believing the project may trigger a referral under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*.

In addition, the State Government recently opened a consultation under the *Aboriginal Heritage Act 1988 (SA)* for the New Women's and Children's Hospital (as a Supplementary Application), for the Minister for Aboriginal Affairs to consult with Traditional Owners in order to help the Minister decide whether to authorise potential excavation, damage, disturbance or interference with Aboriginal sites, objects or ancestral remains as part of the nWCH projects works.

The City of Adelaide's Reconciliation Committee have made relevant community groups aware of this consultation so they can make their own respective submissions.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT THE CITY PLANNING, DEVELOPMENT AND BUSINESS AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

1. Notes the letter from the Australian Heritage Council
 2. Notes the State Government's consultation process, under the *Aboriginal Heritage Act 1988 (SA)* for the New Women's and Children's Hospital (Supplementary Application).
-

IMPLICATIONS AND FINANCIALS

City of Adelaide 2020-2024 Strategic Plan	Strategic Alignment – Dynamic City Culture Protection, preservation and promotion of our unique built, natural and cultural heritage.
Policy	Not as a result of this report
Consultation	Not as a result of this report
Resource	Not as a result of this report
Risk / Legal / Legislative	A risk remains to the Park Lands standing and recognition as a National Heritage Place and the intention supported by State Government through the Minister for Climate, Environment and Water and the City of Adelaide and the Adelaide Hills Council representing the councils of the Mount Lofty Ranges to progress a World Heritage bid is at risk due to the development of the new Women’s and Children’s Hospital in the location identified by the State Government.
Opportunities	Not as a result of this report
22/23 Budget Allocation	Not as a result of this report
Proposed 23/24 Budget Allocation	Not as a result of this report
Life of Project, Service, Initiative or (Expectancy of) Asset	Not as a result of this report
22/23 Budget Reconsideration (if applicable)	Not as a result of this report
Ongoing Costs (eg maintenance cost)	Not as a result of this report

Other Funding Sources	Not as a result of this report
-----------------------	--------------------------------

DISCUSSION

1. On 28 February the Lord Mayor received a letter from the Hon Ted Baillieu AO, Chair of the Australian Heritage Council (AHC) **[Attachment A]**.
 - 1.1. The letter outlines AHC's position regarding the South Australian State Government's proposal for a new Women's and Children's Hospital (nWCH) on the Adelaide Park Lands, Bonython Park / Tulya Wardli (Park 27).
 - 1.2. Of particular relevance is the AHC's advice regarding its preliminary position
 - 1.3. AHC's view is that the current proposal for the nWCH will severely compromise the values on which the National Heritage listing of the Park Lands and City Layout is based, have a significant and unacceptable impact on the Park Lands, and trigger a referral under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*.
2. The State Government is currently undertaking consultation for the New Women's and Children's Hospital (Supplementary Application) [\[Link 1\]](#) with relevant Traditional Owners and any other Aboriginal people or organisations that he considers may have an interest in this matter.
 - 2.1. The Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, who is responsible for the *Aboriginal Heritage Act 1988 (SA)*, has received an application for authorisations under the Act from the Minister for Infrastructure and Transport to enable the construction of the nWCH.
 - 2.2. The Supplementary Application:
 - 2.2.1. seeks consultation in relation to the area along Bonython Park (which is inside the 800m radius support zone), but also indicates where initial support works are likely to start
 - 2.2.2. extends the Aboriginal consultation area beyond the previous proposed project site (RAH West) where consultation has already occurred and approvals already provided
 - 2.2.3. does not represent an expansion of the project site
 - 2.2.4. is limited to the works that are flagged and envisaged as support infrastructure works in the Support Zone, inclusive of the road works
 - 2.2.5. does not expand the Support Zone, nor the new Project Site that the State Government has identified in the *New Women's and Children's Hospital Act 2022*.
 - 2.3. On 24 November 2022 State Government presented to Council regarding the nWCH Project, and outlined the project site, and support zones.
 - 2.4. The City of Adelaide, through the Reconciliation Committee, has made relevant community groups aware of this consultation.

DATA AND SUPPORTING INFORMATION

Link 1 - <https://yoursay.sa.gov.au/new-wch-supplementary-application>

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment A – Letter from the Australian Heritage Council