1. The Minister for Environment and Heritage Protection has initiated a review of the *Queensland Heritage Act 1992* (the Heritage Act)that will put it at the forefront of innovation in state heritage legislation in Australia, while also contributing to Queensland Government’s ongoing commitment to greentape reduction.
2. In 2013 the Minister invited the Queensland Heritage Council to provide advice about ways to improve the protection of Queensland’s heritage and to assist with review of the Heritage Act.
3. The Queensland Heritage Council made a range of suggestions, which included reviewing how the object of the Heritage Act is achieved, refining Heritage Register provisions, improving recognition of local government’s role in local heritage, and reconsidering of register appeal provisions.
4. Issues and suggestions have also been raised by the National Trust of Queensland, property owners, local government and members of the community. These, combined with matters identified by the Department of Environment and Heritage Protection in administration of the Heritage Act, underlie the reforms proposed.
5. Broadly, the proposed reforms would: ensure the pivotal role played by local government in the protection of Queensland’s heritage is recognised; further modernise the language of the Heritage Act and clarify its intent; reduce unnecessary regulatory burden in line with the Queensland Government’s commitment to cut greentape; and strengthen legislative protections for Queensland’s heritage places while also promoting development.
6. The Minister for Environment and Heritage Protection has released a discussion paper to seek feedback on the proposed reforms from all sectors of the community and inform the review.
7. Cabinet approved the release of the discussion paper for public consultation on the proposed changes to the *Queensland Heritage Act 1992*.
8. *Attachment*
* [Our heritage: A collaborative effort. Discussion paper – Review of the *Queensland Heritage Act 1992*](Attachments/Paper.PDF)