

The Hon Gabrielle Upton MP

Minister for the Environment Minister for Local Government Minister for Heritage

> MD18/2560 18/92230

Councillor Peter Cavanagh Mayor Woollahra Municipal Council PO Box 61 DOUBLE BAY NSW 1360

By email: records@woollahra.nsw.gov.au

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Dear Cr Cavanagh

Thank you for your letter about heritage protection of pubs in NSW. I appreciate you bringing this matter to my attention.

I appreciate council's efforts to respond to community concerns about the future of historic pubs in the local area. It is encouraging that council and the community are committed to protecting our important local heritage, and I assure you that I take protection and recognition of NSW's heritage very seriously.

I understand that council is preparing an assessment of local historic pubs. I commend this proactive step towards heritage protection of these buildings. NSW has a long history of protecting our heritage items and I am proud to contribute to this legacy as Minister for Heritage.

As you are aware, there are several statutory protections for heritage items in NSW. Councils can add items of local significance to their local environmental plans and items of state heritage significance can be nominated for inclusion on the State Heritage Register for protection under the *Heritage Act 1977*.

While listing on statutory heritage registers does not restrict items to one use, it provides a legal framework for managing the approval of major changes so that heritage significance is retained and not diminished. This ensures sympathetic future use, provides public recognition to heritage places under law and prevents demolition and neglected maintenance of important heritage items.

Should council determine that any local pubs may have state heritage significance, council can nominate these for listing on the State Heritage Register. Information on the listing process including application forms can be found at www.environment.nsw.gov.au/Heritage/listings/nominateshr.htm.

I have arranged for Mr Tim Smith OAM, Director Heritage Operations, Heritage Division, Office of Environment and Heritage, to be available to speak with council should it have any further questions or concerns. Mr Smith can be contacted on 0419 648 933 or at tim.smith@environment.nsw.gov.au.

Yours sincerely

Gabrielle Upton MP

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23-6-18