30 April 2018

Ms Sally Smith  
General Manager  
Planning and Development Division  
Department of Planning Transport and Infrastructure  
GPO Box 1815, Adelaide 5001

By email: Sally.Smith@sa.gov.au

Dear Ms Smith,

Accredited Professionals Scheme Discussion Paper – Australia ICOMOS Response

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Accredited Professionals Scheme Discussion Paper. I provide this letter as a submission on behalf of Australia ICOMOS.

ICOMOS – the International Council for Monuments and Sites – is a non-government professional organisation that promotes expertise in the conservation of cultural heritage. ICOMOS is also an Advisory Body to the World Heritage Committee under the World Heritage Convention. Australia ICOMOS, formed in 1976, is one of over 100 national committees throughout the world. Australia ICOMOS has over 600 members in a range of heritage professions. We have expert members on a large number of ICOMOS International Scientific Committees, as well as on expert committees and boards in Australia. We have a particular interest in Australia’s world heritage sites.

We understand that the Planning, Development and Infrastructure Act 2016 includes provision for the accreditation of planning and building professionals. As a part of the process, Assessment Panel members will also need to be accredited through a recognised professional accreditation scheme such as the Planning Institute of Australia or the Architectural Practice Board of South Australia.

We wish to note that there may be instances when Assessment Panel members are selected because of their professional experience in built heritage management.

Heritage professionals have particular knowledge, design and other specific heritage skills. Australia ICOMOS recommends that a Planner or Assessment Panel member promoting built heritage experience should be able to illustrate these professional skills by meeting any of the following minimum competencies:

- Professional experience in built heritage management, heritage assessment, heritage planning, Heritage Advisor – at least five years
- Full membership of Australia ICOMOS, Australia’s leading NGO for heritage management. Membership is based upon peer nomination and the signing of a Code of Ethics for best-practice heritage management
- Masters degree qualification in cultural heritage management, archaeology or similar from a recognised course in Australia – for instance, Master of Cultural Heritage, Deakin University.
We trust the above provides valuable comments in relation to the Accredited Professionals Scheme Discussion Paper.

Thank you again for your consideration of the views of Australia ICOMOS in this important issue.

Yours faithfully

IAN TRAVERS
President, Australia ICOMOS