The Department of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships (DATSIP) is responsible for administering the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Act 2003 and the Torres Strait Islander Cultural Heritage Act 2003 (the Acts).

The main purpose of the Acts is to provide effective recognition, protection and conservation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultural heritage.

DATSIP is now seeking submissions from interested parties on how Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultural heritage is managed and protected across Queensland.

Public submissions are now open as part of a review of the Cultural Heritage Duty of Care Guidelines (the Guidelines) for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultural heritage. The review is being held to ensure the Queensland Government’s Guidelines deliver practical and flexible processes for land users when dealing with cultural heritage matters.

Your submissions should relate to the performance and operation of the Guidelines with specific focus on the following questions:

• How can the Guidelines be improved to best achieve the purpose of the Acts?

• How can the current categories of activities in the Guidelines be amended to better reflect the need to manage residual cultural heritage values in developed or previously disturbed areas?

• How can the Guidelines enable greater synergy between the cultural heritage values of an area and the nature of the proposed activity?

• Are there any other elements which should be included in a revised version of the Guidelines?

Submissions for the Cultural Heritage Duty of Care Guidelines will close on 16 September 2016.

For more information on the submission process visit the Department of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships website or call the Cultural Heritage Unit on 1300 378 401.

Best wishes,

Clare O’Connor
Director-General

Department of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships