



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

QTON No. 1

STANDING COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT, CLIMATE CHANGE AND BIODIVERSITY
Dr Marisa Paterson MLA (Chair), Ms Jo Clay MLA (Deputy Chair),
Mr Ed Cocks MLA

Inquiry into ACT's heritage arrangements
ANSWER TO QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE
16 May 2023

Asked by Dr Marisa Paterson MLA on 16 May 2023: Professor Tracy Ireland took on notice the following question:

In relation to providing a copy of the Burra Charter (Page 34-35 Uncorrected Proof Transcript):

THE CHAIR: That is exactly what my follow up question was going to be. Because of just the framing of your organisation being monuments and sites, you must have had to have grappled with that regularly, the shifting idea. You know, I guess, there are song lines, storylines, there is country and they are not necessarily a particular site; it is—

Ms Ireland: Exactly.

THE CHAIR: And yes, I guess do you have any further advice of how the government could do that? Is that in a statement, as you said, sort of clarifying that heritage can be all these different things?

Ms Ireland: Yes, yes. Yes, we have picked up on a key dynamic in our international organisation and Australia has had a national chapter of ICOMOS since the 1970s and one of the concepts we—my fellow Australian members at that time—introduced to ICOMOS was the concept of place rather than monuments and sites and that concept of place is articulated through our key doctrinal document called the Burra Charter, which is a key kind of policy statement and approach to heritage that has been reviewed several times over the years, but is actually a very influential document all around the world. In framing up this idea of place, it sets out an approach that sees human values, natural values, stories, meanings and beliefs as entangled and experienced through place, and so the Burra Charter I think has stood the test of time. As I said, it has become very influential in many other countries around the world.

THE CHAIR: Would you be able to send that to the committee?

Ms Ireland: Of course.

THE CHAIR: Take it on notice?

Ms Ireland: Yes.

Professor Ireland: The answer to the Member's question is as follows: A copy of the Burra Charter is provided here <https://australia.icomos.org/wp-content/uploads/The-Burra-Charter-2013-Adopted-31.10.2013.pdf>

Approved for circulation to the Standing Committee on Environment, Climate Change and Biodiversity



Signature:

Date: 31 May 2023

Tracy Ireland