MEDIA RELEASE
The Hon Tony Kelly MLC
Minister for Lands
Leader of the House in the Legislative Council
Deputy Leader of the Government in the Legislative Council

Tuesday, 27 October 2009

Amendment to Acts will improve heritage outcomes

Minister for Lands, Tony Kelly today announced amendments to the Valuation of Land Act 1916 and the Heritage Act 1977 will ensure consistency regarding valuation of improvements made to Heritage restricted land.

“Recent judgments prompted by a series of Court of Appeal decisions, will have a significant impact on the current accepted practice of valuing heritage restricted properties,” Mr Kelly said.

Mr Kelly said the amendments would mean that when a valuation of heritage land is carried out, the age, state of repair and condition of any improvements will not be required to be taken into account, to ensure more predictable land tax revenues can be planned.

“It’s important the Government respond to the flow on effects to the amount and predictability of land tax revenue collected from heritage properties.

“It’s important to ensure that age, state of repair and condition of any improvements on the land is not to be taken into account when assessing the value of heritage restricted land.

“These changes will reflect the Valuer General’s long-standing practice when valuing heritage restricted land.

“A more consistent statewide application of planning laws with regard to heritage property will flow from these amendments and deliver improved planning outcomes,” Mr Kelly said.

The new valuations will be used for rating and taxing land after 1 January 2010.

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