

Hon Vickie Chapman MP

Deputy Premier
Attorney-General

Planning and Local Government Minister

Thursday 29th October 2020

Contributory Items will count.

Attorney-General and Planning Minister Vickie Chapman has welcomed today's decision by the State Planning Commission to include existing contributory items in the draft Planning and Design Code.

“Contributory items are specific building design elements that represent a particular period or architectural character, and provide visual reminders of our history,” Ms Chapman says.

“Councils and the community have been united in their call to have them included in the Code - as concerns were raised that the existing protection of these items would be diminished.”

The Commission's revised draft Planning and Design Code will be released for six weeks for a final round of public consultation in early November.

It will include changes to ensure the vast majority of existing contributory items are transitioned into the Code and individually identified under the new category of Representative Buildings.

These Representative Buildings will be referred to in both Historic Area and Character Area Statements, and mapped in the South Australian Planning and Property Atlas.

“Most contributory items are located within a Historic Area Overlay and will already be afforded a level of protection due to the demolition controls that apply to that Overlay,” Ms Chapman said.

“In most cases where this does not apply, existing Historic Area Overlays will be expanded, or new Character Area Overlays will be created to capture them.

“As is the case today, properties within the Character Area Overlay will not have demolition control, while those in the Historic Areas Overlay will.

“I believe it is important that many decades of local council efforts in assessing and acknowledging the values that contributory items offer to the local character of an area should be preserved.

“Both as a local MP and in my new role as Minister for Planning and Local Government, I am aware of concerns from local councils and others in the community about removing all references to contributory items in the new planning system.

“I’m pleased to see the State Planning Commission has acted on those concerns and agreed to reflect contributory items in the draft code.”

The Code is in place in outback and regional areas, and is set to be implemented in large regional towns and metropolitan areas next year – delivering a simpler, more effective planning system across the State.

“This final consultation on the draft Code will be a chance for the community to see how the State Planning Commission has incorporated feedback from the initial consultation, before finalising its recommendations to Government,” Ms Chapman said.

“I encourage all South Australians with an interest in planning and the ‘look and feel’ of their local neighbourhoods to have their say.”