

2026 State Election – Candidate responses

QUESTIONS WE ASKED

The following questions were sent to all candidates in the State electorates of Adelaide and Enfield, plus selected candidates for the Legislative Council

What is your Party's policy in respect of preserving history and the protection of built heritage?

2. Are there any specific programs that your Party will provide to assist the preservation of local history and built heritage?

3. What funding does your Party propose to make available for the preservation of local history and built heritage?

4. Does your Party support retention of State and local heritage registers?

5. Does your Party support retention of historic conservation zones within the City of Prospect?

6. Should demolition require approval prior to or as part of development?

RESPONSES

Stephen Pallaras (Independent)

4. Does your Party support retention of State and local heritage registers? **YES**

5. Does your Party support retention of historic conservation zones within the City of Prospect?

YES

6. Should demolition require approval prior to or as part of development? **YES**

Tammy Franks (Independent)

1 - Our shared history is an important part of who we are as a community. Heritage is the physical legacy that we hand on to future generations. It both adds to placemaking and local amenity, while offering a window to the past which can be thought-provoking and challenge us to think about how previous generations saw the world and their place in it, and how we might learn from this.

Natural heritage and Kaurna heritage are as important as built heritage, and I value efforts to retain, appreciate and promote an understanding of all three of them.

2 - If re-elected, I will push the next State government to expand current grant funding programmes and to index them to CPI. This is important as it enables worthwhile preservation work on heritage buildings, many of which are privately owned.

3 - I would push the next State government to appropriately index grant funding programmes, as these remain an effective way to protect the integrity of local heritage buildings. An increase in funding to the State Heritage Council (SHC) and broadening the scope of the SHC so that it too can support local heritage, is another key change that I would advocate for.

4 - Absolutely! State and local heritage registers are critically important, as they provide opportunities for community members to make a clear statement about the value they attach to built and other heritage. If re-elected, I will advocate for local heritage to be moved into the Planning, Development & Infrastructure Act (POI Act) and increase funding to the SHC so that it is adequately staffed to take on this extra work.

This would ensure that the important work of listing local heritage places can be undertaken in line with community expectations. The current situation sees this being done by very few councils, because of the expenses

associated with it. To make it part of the work of the SHC would be a far more democratic approach; as with State heritage listing, anybody could nominate a place for consideration, with the nomination then being researched and assessed by experts.

5 - Absolutely! Historic conservation zones are important parts of both local and State heritage, and they must be retained. We must do what we can to preserve intact areas. They can offer deeper insight into the past than isolated buildings preserved in an ad hoc manner.

6 - The capacity for private landowners to simply demolish at will does not reflect community expectations and should not be expected as a privilege that automatically goes hand in hand with land ownership.

If re-elected, I will move amendments to the POI Act so that demolition approval is required as part of the development process and, where granted, have requirements in place regarding its timing, so that the resultant empty blocks of land do not remain such for years or even decades.

ALP

Dear Mr Kilner

Thank you for your correspondence ahead of the 2026 March State Election.

We want to take this opportunity to acknowledge the important work undertaken by Prospect Local History Group and thank for your advocacy.

The Malinauskas Labor Government is committed to using the planning process to preserve the things that make our communities great places to live.

We have:

- Delivered our election commitment to strengthen our tree canopy laws by establishing tree loss regulations that meet Australia's best practice standards.
- Protected hundreds of homes as historic 'representative buildings' - providing them with extra protection against demolition.
- Adopted the Inter-War Housing Heritage code amendment to protect more homes in the City of Norwood, Payneham and St Peters and Heathpool.
- Provided grant funding of up to \$600,000 to local councils to better protect the state's heritage and streetscapes.
- Written to the State Planning Commissioner to further protect heritage from demolition by neglect.

In 2025, the Malinauskas Labor Government released the Greater Adelaide Regional Plan (GARP), setting out a once in a generation blueprint for how Greater Adelaide will grow in a managed, connected and environmentally sustainable way.

The Greater Adelaide Regional Plan (GARP) outlines six long term strategic objectives for State and Local heritage:

1. A legislative framework for heritage that provides consistency, clear governance responsibilities, supports expert advice in the decision-making process, enables transparency and accountability, and facilitates community engagement at the right time.
2. Maintain a comprehensive register of heritage places and areas with

appropriate heritage protections.

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3. Promote the use of the State Heritage Register, Statements of Significance, Conservation Management Plans, Heritage Standards and Guidelines that assist applicants and communities in understanding the values of heritage places and areas.
4. Promote the adaptive reuse of buildings that enhance areas of cultural or heritage value, capitalise on existing investment and/or contribute to vibrant and liveable places.
5. Promote the heritage values of National, State and Local heritage listed places.
6. Councils lead the identification and listing of local heritage places and historic areas to protect the local historical and attributes and themes that are important to local communities.

The Minister for Planning has approved the Representative Buildings Review code amendment which identifies 432 buildings across five historic neighbourhoods as 'representative buildings'. The five historic neighbourhoods are North Ovingham, Medindie Gardens, Ballville/Gloucester, Prospect Lanes and Highbury.

Affording these buildings this status recognises their key contribution to the character and heritage of the local area and will mean they will now be afforded extra protection under the state's planning laws.

This is in addition to other heritage code amendments which have been conducted throughout the State, inclusive of the City of Adelaide and Norwood Payneham and St Peters.

Also, of interest to you will be the State Government's Heritage for the Future \$10 million commitment which has already seen benefits and inroads being made to better preserve and protect South Australia's precious heritage.

Including:

- Assessment capacity strengthened for places of heritage significance with the South Australian Heritage Council (SAHC) applying a prioritised approach to the assessment of places for heritage significance.
- Ongoing funding of \$250,000 per year over 10 years (beginning 2022-23) for the SA Heritage Conservation Grants Program supporting conservation works to State Heritage Places and delivering positive heritage outcomes.

Work is also ongoing, including legislative reform and research, to address demolition by neglect.

Amendments to the Heritage Places Act 1993 (HP Act) were passed in Parliament in 2024 which increase penalties for damage or neglect and provides options for additional enforcement tools to be used in cases where damage or neglect has occurred.

Work to investigate other legislative and policy reform to contemporise heritage protection in South Australia remains ongoing.

Thank you again for writing to outline the Prospect Local History Group's priorities. Should the Malinauskas Labor Government be re-elected for a second term, we look forward to continuing these important conversations with you.

You may also like to keep up to date with our other 2026 State Election Policy Commitments here: <https://www.sa.alp.org.au>

Thank you again for your ongoing contribution to the state. Kind regards

SA Labor Team