

HERITAGE GRANTS PROGRAM 2018–19

Statement by Minister for Heritage

MR D.A. TEMPLEMAN (Mandurah — Minister for Heritage) [12.05 pm]: On the morning of Monday, 11 June, I announced at a small event at the West Australian Rowing Club that the 2018–19 heritage grants program is open for applications. The West Australian Rowing Club boatshed is one of the oldest buildings on the Perth Swan River foreshore. The club has received two grants under the heritage grants program that has helped with the critical refurbishment of the boatshed, ensuring the building remains safe and can continue to be used by the community.

The McGowan Labor government recognises the importance of encouraging private owners of state heritage properties to invest in conservation works and is committed to equipping owners with advice and support that promotes the long-term viability of our state's heritage assets. This year, \$1.22 million will be made available through the heritage grants program. The heritage grants program is highly successful in assisting private owners to meet the extra costs associated with maintaining a state registered place. Private owners are eligible to apply for individual grants of up to \$100 000 for urgent conservation works and documentation. Owners are required to provide matching funding for their project. This approach clearly signals that the grants program is intended to assist private owners to meet the extra costs that may be incurred for the specialist conservation of a state heritage-listed property, not replace their responsibility to care for and maintain their asset. Last year, 23 heritage places shared in grants totalling \$1.22 million of state government funding, which helped to generate more than \$3 million in conservation works being undertaken around the state. Since 1997, 768 heritage projects have received grants totalling more than \$19.5 million. Applications will remain open until 12 noon, Wednesday, 8 August 2018, giving owners time to consider and make an application under this year's funding round. I encourage all members in this place to engage local constituents who own state registered places to apply for a grant.