

Report on the Heritage Office meetings with Braidwood Businesses on Wednesday 17 August and Tuesday 6 September 2005

Dear participant

Thank you for attending the Heritage Office meeting on Wednesday, 17 August 2005 or Tuesday 6 September 2005. I appreciated the opportunity to meet with you and hear first hand about your issues and questions, concerning the proposed listing of Braidwood and Its Setting on the State Heritage Register.

Since these meetings we have compiled the various issues and questions raised and grouped them under broad categories. This information and our response are included in the attached report. We will also be disseminating this information in our upcoming newsletters and via the Heritage Office website.

We are still working on responses to some additional issues raised at our September meeting with businesses, which I was unable to attend because of other commitments, and hope to reply to you shortly.

I would like to reiterate some key points which I made at the August meeting:

- ◆ I do not expect any negative effects for the majority of businesses in Braidwood to flow from the listing of Braidwood on the State Heritage Register. Indeed, I believe the reverse to be the case. I consider the listing offers Braidwood businesses a marketing opportunity – properly promoted the listing could attract more visitors and hence custom for the town;
- ◆ The focus for the Heritage Office, if the town is listed, will be on three issues: new buildings, new subdivisions and demolitions. All other matters would be dealt with by Palerang Council;
- ◆ I have had discussions with Palerang Council about the Heritage Office funding a tourism marketing strategy, which they would manage, to look at marketing opportunities for Braidwood and Its Setting, should the listing proceed;
- ◆ The Heritage Office has also offered to provide \$20,000 to the council for a Braidwood heritage fund.

Thank you once again for the opportunity to meet with you. I found it particularly useful in understanding the range of issues associated with the proposal to list the town and its setting.

Yours sincerely



Reece McDougall
Director