Frequently Asked Questions

Purpose of the review

1. **Why is the World Heritage Management Plan for the Royal Exhibition Building and Carlton Gardens (‘REB&CG’) being reviewed?**
   
   In accordance with the *Heritage Act 2017*, a World Heritage Management Plan for a place included in the UNESCO World Heritage List, that is also included in the Victorian Heritage Register, needs to be reviewed every seven years. The current World Heritage Management Plan for the REB&CG was approved by the Minister for Planning in 2013, so it will be reviewed in 2020.

2. **What organisations are leading the review?**
   
   Heritage Victoria within the Department of Land, Environment, Water and Planning (‘DELWP’), the City of Melbourne and Museums Victoria are jointly coordinating the review, with input from the City of Yarra and the National Trust of Australia (Victoria).

3. **How long will the review process take?**
   
   The review process will involve a number of different stages. This is because the current World Heritage Management Plan for the REB&CG includes several documents as attachments, all of which need to be individually reviewed before the new World Heritage Management Plan can be finalised.
   
   It is expected that the complete review process will conclude in late 2021.
   

Participating in the review

4. **What opportunities will there be to participate in the review?**
   
   There will be several opportunities to participate in the review of the World Heritage Management Plan for the REB&CG. These include:
   
   - Participating in online information sessions in June 2020;
Having your say on what you value about the site and how the site is currently managed and what we can do better, by completing the online survey at engage.vic.gov.au/rebcgreview;

Providing your feedback in response to the draft reviews of attachment documents, including the Heritage Management Plan, the Carlton Gardens Master Plan, and the Royal Exhibition Building and Exhibition Reserve Master Plan; and

Making a submission in response to the draft review of the World Heritage Strategy Plan for the World Heritage Environs Area (‘WHEA’) and the World Heritage Management Plan. The review process for both the World Heritage Strategy Plan and the World Heritage Management Plan may also include opportunities to participate in any hearings held in accordance with the Heritage Act 2017.

For more information about how and when you can participate in the review process, including dates and times for online information sessions, please continue to visit engage.vic.gov.au/rebcgreview for the latest update, and to access the review Discussion Paper.

Do I need to submit my responses to the survey questions online?

Survey questions should be completed online, using engage.vic.gov.au/rebcgreview. However, if you would like to complete the survey but are not able to access the internet, please contact Heritage Victoria on 03 7022 6390.

Must I respond to every survey question, and how long will the online survey take me to complete?

We look forward to hearing from you about how the REB&CG is currently managed, and what we can do better! We want to receive as much information as possible, from how the buildings are conserved, to how the parks are accessed, and how well the World Heritage Environs Area is understood.

If you complete the survey in full, it will take you approximately 10 minutes.

However, you do not have to answer every question in order to have your say. Please feel free to only respond to the sections that concern and interest you most.

Do I need to attend an information session?

Participating in the online information sessions will give you the opportunity to hear from representatives of Heritage Victoria, Museums Victoria and the City of Melbourne about the different stages of this review, and how you can take part. It is a good opportunity for you to ask any questions you may have about the review.

However, it is not compulsory for you to participate in an online information session in order to complete the online survey or participate in this review at a later stage.

Where can I find updates about forthcoming participation opportunities?

Please continue to visit engage.vic.gov.au/rebcgreview for the latest information about how and when you can participate in the review process, including dates and times for online information sessions, and to access the review Discussion Paper.

If you have any further enquiries about how you may participate in any stage of this review, please contact Heritage Victoria (heritage.policy@delwp.vic.gov.au or 03 7022 6390).

How your information is used

Do I have to provide my personal details in order to participate in the online survey?

No, you do not have to provide your personal details in order to complete the online survey.

However, if you would like to be personally notified of future review stages, then you will be asked to provide your email address.

Any personal information you provide will be protected in accordance with DELWP’s privacy policy. For more information, please visit engage.vic.gov.au/rebcgreview.
10. Will my information appear on the internet?

No personal information you provide as part of the online survey will be published on the internet.

Your responses will provide us with valuable data about how you use and value the REB&CG site. While DELWP will report on the results of this data, it will be done so in strict accordance with DELWP’s privacy policy and without disclosing the personal details of anyone who completed the survey.

11. Will I be notified of the results of the public consultation process?

The results of the online survey will be analysed and reported on by DELWP. Please continue to refer to engage.vic.gov.au/rebcgreview for the latest review updates.

Outcomes of the review

12. What might change as a result of this review?

The World Heritage Management Plan and its attachment documents identify the World Heritage values of the REB&CG and provide management policies for all areas of the site, including the Carlton Gardens, the Exhibition Reserve, the Royal Exhibition Buildings and the WHEA.

As a result of the feedback you provide, our understanding of what the community values most about the REB&CG may change, and this may lead to changes to the policies that guide use, management and access of and to the site.

Changes might include new identified priorities for conservation works to the buildings and gardens, new policies to address changing climate conditions, and/or the identification of projects to improve visitor experiences.

To learn more, and to have your say, please visit engage.vic.gov.au/rebcgreview.

If you have any further questions about this review, please contact Heritage Victoria (heritage.policy@delwp.vic.gov.au or 03 7022 6390).

13. My property is located within the World Heritage Environs Area (‘WHEA’) – how might I be affected?

If your property is located within the WHEA, then you may be affected by a change to the planning controls that apply to your property.

Any proposed changes to these planning controls will be included in the draft review of the World Heritage Strategy Plan, which will be advertised for public comment in mid-2020. You will have the opportunity to make a submission to the Heritage Council of Victoria in response to the draft review of the World Heritage Strategy Plan, if you wish to do so.

Please continue to visit engage.vic.gov.au/rebcgreview for the latest review updates, and to read the Discussion Paper. If you have any questions, please contact Heritage Victoria (heritage.policy@delwp.vic.gov.au or 03 7022 6390).

14. Who can I contact for more information?

If you have any further enquiries about REB&CG World Heritage Management Plan review please contact Heritage Victoria (heritage.policy@delwp.vic.gov.au or 03 7022 6390).