The State Government is the largest single owner of heritage places in Western Australia and sets the standard for observing good heritage management and conservation practice.

The purpose of this policy is to identify and assess the heritage value of government property under consideration for disposal, and to provide relevant protection where appropriate.

“Disposal” includes the sale, transfer or lease of a place outside the State Government sector (where transfer or lease is for a duration of at least 10 years), and includes the demolition of places.

This policy applies to all State Government agencies and to all statutory authorities as listed in Schedule 1 of the Financial Management Act 2006.

What type of places should be considered?
Places will generally need to be considered as part of this process if they:

- Are more than 60 years old
- Are already listed on an existing heritage list such as a local government inventory (Municipal Inventory)
- Display other evidence of potential significance in terms of aesthetic, historic, social or scientific value

The State Heritage Office can assist agencies in making a decision as to whether a notification is warranted and provide advice on the material required when notifying the Heritage Council of the proposed disposal.

Prior notification to the State Heritage Office
The State Heritage Office should be notified of a proposed disposal a minimum of four months prior to the property being transferred or prior to a proposed demolition.

Assessments – who commissions?
Assessments are normally commissioned by the agency responsible for the disposal, but may sometimes be commissioned jointly or in conjunction with the State Heritage Office.

The Heritage Council must be supplied with a copy of the assessment when it is commissioned by another body. The Heritage Council may request that the assessment be augmented or revised at the agency’s cost if the assessment is insufficient to make an informed decision.

The Heritage Council is responsible for recommending which of the action “streams” the property will be allocated to.

Recording a place
A record of a place can take a number of forms such as an archival record or interpretation. The Heritage Council will advise what type of recording is required.

State Heritage Registered Places
If a place is included in the State Register of Heritage Places, the disposing agency needs to contact the Development branch of the State Heritage Office to ascertain whether additional protection is required (eg. a Conservation Management Plan (CMP) or Conservation Management Strategy (CMS) and/or a heritage agreement) prior to disposal.

Local Government liaison
Demolition and redevelopment of buildings and places of local heritage significance are important local town planning issues. An agency contemplating demolition or major redevelopment affecting a heritage place is encouraged to consult with the relevant local government authority.
AGENCY RESPONSIBLE FOR DISPOSAL SENDS THE STATE HERITAGE OFFICE DETAILS OF THE PROPERTY BEING CONSIDERED FOR DISPOSAL.

PLACE IS NOT IN THE STATE REGISTER OF HERITAGE PLACES

A preliminary review is presented to Heritage Council to determine if a heritage assessment is warranted.

Heritage Council concludes that the place warrants full assessment. THE AGENCY RESPONSIBLE FOR DISPOSAL PAYS FOR THE ASSESSMENT.

Heritage Council concludes that the place does NOT warrant an assessment.

Place may be sold or transferred after it has been listed in the State Register of Heritage Places. Protection of the Heritage of Western Australia Act 1990 applies for all proposed development or demolition.

Place may be sold, transferred or demolished without further reference to Heritage Council.

PLACES ON THE STATE REGISTER OF HERITAGE PLACES

Heritage Council concludes that the place requires special protection through a CMP or CMS and/or a Heritage Agreement. THE AGENCY RESPONSIBLE FOR DISPOSAL PAYS THE COST.

Heritage Council concludes that the place does not require any further assessment or action and advises the agency.

Heritage Council concludes that the place warrants entry in the Register. Special protection through a CMP or CMS and/or Heritage Agreement may be required. THE AGENCY RESPONSIBLE FOR DISPOSAL PAYS ANY COSTS.

Place may be sold, transferred or demolished without further reference to Heritage Council.

Heritage Council concludes that the place does NOT warrant entry on the Register. RECORDING MAY BE REQUIRED AND THE AGENCY RESPONSIBLE FOR DISPOSAL PAYS ANY COSTS.

Place may be sold, transferred or demolished but the protection of the Heritage of Western Australia Act 1990 applies for all proposed development or demolition.