

Resolution of Council

17 November 2025

Item 11.3

Guiding Principles for Victoria Barracks

It is resolved that:

- (A) Council note that Victoria Barracks:
 - (i) is set on a portion of the original 1,000 acres of land that Governor Macquarie bequeathed to the people of Sydney;
 - (ii) is one of Sydney's most significant heritage sites, a symbol of 175 years of military service and an integral part of Australia's defence history;
 - (iii) is on the Commonwealth Heritage List and is locally heritage listed;
 - (iv) contains the finest complex of colonial barracks in Australia, with an important collection of late Georgian sandstone buildings that served military purposes for almost 2 centuries; and
 - (v) is still owned and operated by the Australian Defence Force and remains an active military site today, with many of its original buildings still in use and adapted for modern military administrative uses;
- (B) Council note the findings of the Victoria Barracks Engagement Outcomes Report as shown at Attachment B to the subject report, subject to the following amendments:
 - (i) update the guiding principle which reads "Maximise public accessibility" to also include "and maintain public ownership"; and
 - (ii) update the detailed "Victoria Barracks Guiding Principles" document dated November 2025 to clarify that the guiding principle which reads "incorporate housing including diverse housing" includes public housing;

- (C) Council endorse the Victoria Barracks Guiding Principles as shown at Attachment A to the subject report, which prioritise the conservation and enhancement of the heritage and military significance of the site and note that they will be sent to the Department of Defence with an invitation for City of Sydney staff to provide a briefing; and
- (D) the Lord Mayor be requested to send the Victoria Barracks Guiding Principles as shown at Attachment A to the subject report to the Minister for Defence Richard Marles with an invitation to further discuss should divestment be contemplated.

The amended motion was carried unanimously.

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