

Attachment B

Victoria Barracks Engagement Outcomes Report
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Engagement report – Victoria Barracks vision



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Overview

Background

In 2023 the Federal Government undertook an audit of Australian Defence Force (ADF) land, including Victoria Barracks in Paddington, assessing whether Defence's high-density urban sites still meet military needs. The recommendations of the audit have not been made public.

Victoria Barracks is a 15 hectare site located on Oxford Street near Moore Park, in a densely populated area of Paddington and currently has limited public access.

If the site is no longer required for Defence purposes, it could offer new opportunities to meet local housing demand and provide much-needed public amenities including improved access to green space, cultural activities and deliver broader benefits for the City of Sydney's diverse community.

Notice of Motion moved by Deputy Lord Mayor Councillor Maxwell on 25 November 2024 was carried unanimously, and it resolved that:

- *City of Sydney staff to establish a set of guiding principles for the potential use of the Victoria Barracks site should the land be up for divestment. These principles will provide the Council with a framework should divestment come up in future;*
- *recommend that these principles should consider the high heritage value of the site and should also be open to meeting the needs of the community. This should include prioritising considerations of public greenspace, cultural uses and affordable housing, as well as ensuring there is meaningful community engagement in decision making processes; and*
- *prepare initial guidelines for community consultation on potential land use of the site for maximum public benefit. These and the guiding principles could be used in future for a study or masterplan commissioned by the City of Sydney staff in relation to the use of the Victoria Barracks site.*

The City wants community voices to be part of the future decision-making process for the site if the land becomes available in the future.

We consulted the community throughout August and September 2025 to understand the community's vision and priorities for the site, should it become available to the public in the future. Community feedback will help develop guiding principles that could be used in future for a masterplan of the Victoria Barracks site.

This report outlines the community engagement activities that took place and summarises the key findings from the consultation.

Engagement summary

From 8 August to 19 September 2025, we invited the community to imagine Victoria Barracks as a publicly accessible precinct and tell us what they'd like to see and do there if the land is no longer required for military purposes.

Engagement activities included a Sydney Your Say project page with the opportunity to provide feedback via an interactive map and/or survey. An email was sent to 1,257 stakeholders inviting them to participate in the engagement. The consultation was also promoted through the Sydney Your Say e-newsletter, Sydney City News and community centre newsletters. Woollahra Council also promoted the consultation on their website and e-newsletters.

Purpose of engagement

- To explain that although no decision has been made by the Department of Defence to divest Victoria Barracks, the City would like to hear from the community how the site could be used if it was to become available for public use in the future.
 - To involve the community in developing guiding principles to inform the future use of Victoria Barracks for maximum community benefit, should it be divested.
 - To explain what divestment means and what the process involves.
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Engagement outcomes

We received **1,092 pieces of feedback** during the consultation period, including 102 comments posted on an online interactive map. People were able to upvote or downvote on community comments – there were a total of 876 votes posted alongside these comments. In addition to the online map, we received 30 surveys and 86 email submissions.

The Sydney You Say consultation page was viewed 3,200 times.

Figure 1: Snapshot of submissions

Quantity	Description of activity
102	Online map comments
876	Votes on map comments
30	Survey submissions
84	Email submissions
1,092	Total

Key findings

Overall summary

Feedback overwhelmingly emphasises the immense **heritage value** and significance of the Victoria Barracks site in Sydney. Respondents strongly urge that the historic buildings, sandstone architecture, and overall precinct be preserved as the foundation of any future use of the site. Many expressed opposition to any intensive new development that would compromise its heritage character and military history dating back to the 19th century. There is a clear consensus that this iconic site should be protected and maintained as a symbol of Australia's cultural and military legacy for future generations.

The feedback highlights a strong desire to preserve and **enhance the open green spaces and community areas** within the Victoria Barracks site. Respondents emphasise the importance of retaining the existing gardens, landscapes, and historic structures as public open spaces for the community to enjoy. Some feedback suggested transforming the site into an accessible public park, arts precinct, and cultural hub that can host events, exhibitions, and educational programs for the benefit of the local residents and visitors.

There are a range of perspectives on the **potential redevelopment** of the site. While some respondents support the inclusion of **housing**, particularly affordable and mixed-use options, emphasising Sydney's housing crisis. Suggestions of low-rise apartment blocks which integrate well with the surrounding neighbourhood were contrasted with opposition to residential development, citing concerns about heritage preservation, environmental impacts, and the need to maintain the site's open and green spaces. There is a clear desire to ensure that any future plans for the site prioritise public benefit, community access, and the integration of cultural and commercial uses in a sensitive and low-scale manner that respects the site's historical significance.

The feedback highlights the **historical and architectural significance** of Victoria Barracks as an important military base in Australia, dating back to the colonial era. The feedback argues the need to preserve its heritage and connection to the Australian Army, including the cadet unit currently based there.

The feedback highlights several key concerns regarding the proposed development of the site – including the potential negative impact on the local community, the heritage and character of the Paddington area, and the need for thoughtful planning to ensure the site is transformed into a valuable community asset rather than a commercial development.

Overall, the feedback suggests **a vision for Victoria Barracks** as a vibrant, publicly accessible precinct that celebrates its military heritage while serving contemporary community needs. The community wants a place that is publicly accessible, where heritage is actively conserved and interpreted, where diverse activities coexist, and where Sydney's housing needs are balanced with protecting the place's heritage significance.

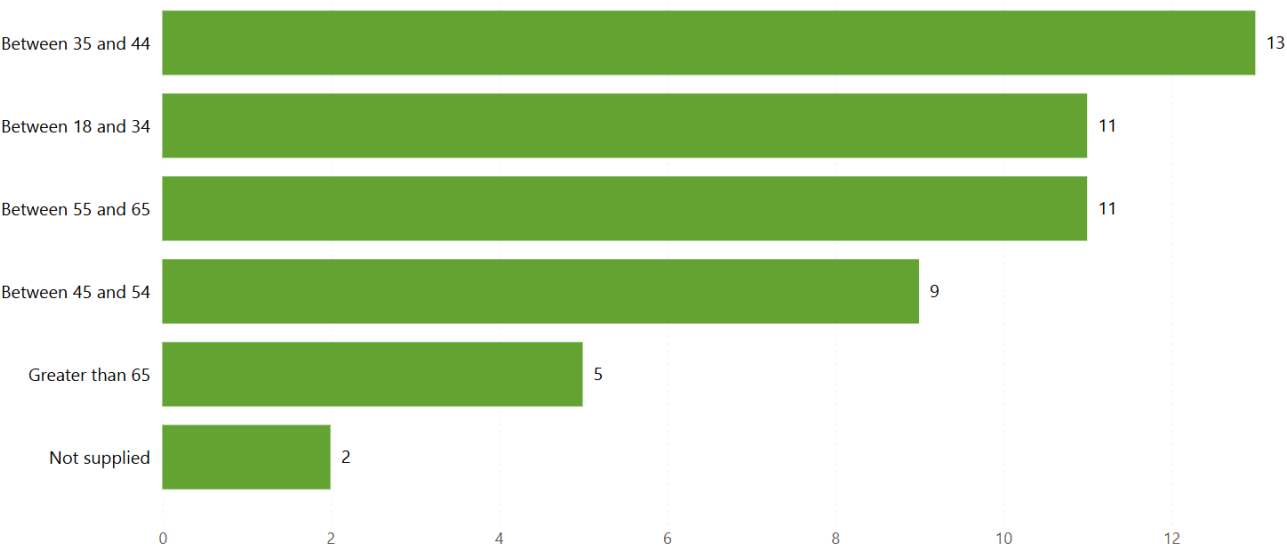
Demographics

Demographic data was collected through the online map and survey submissions (by those who chose to provide it). People who live in the local area were the largest group of people to comment on the online map and/or complete the survey. People aged 35-44 years were the largest group to comment on the map, while those aged between 45 and 54 years were the largest group to complete surveys. Refer to the below graphs for further details.

Online map demographics

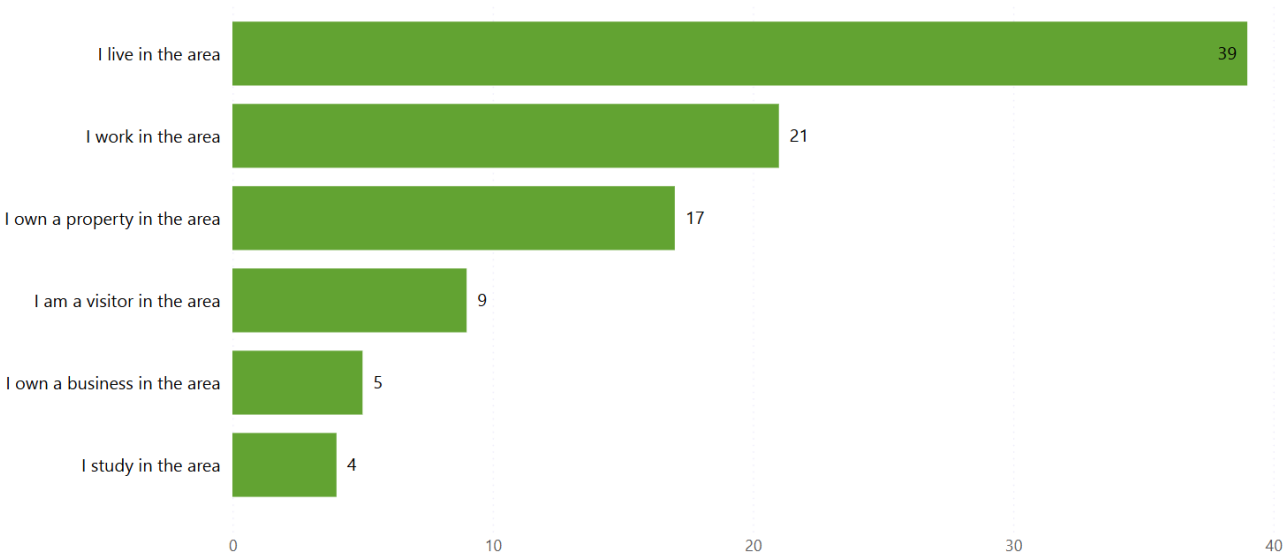
Age group – online map comments

The breakdown of people by age who commented on the online map is outlined in the below graph. People aged between 35 and 44 years were the largest group to comment, followed by those aged between 18 and 34 years, and those aged between 55 and 65 years.



Relationship to the local area – online map comments

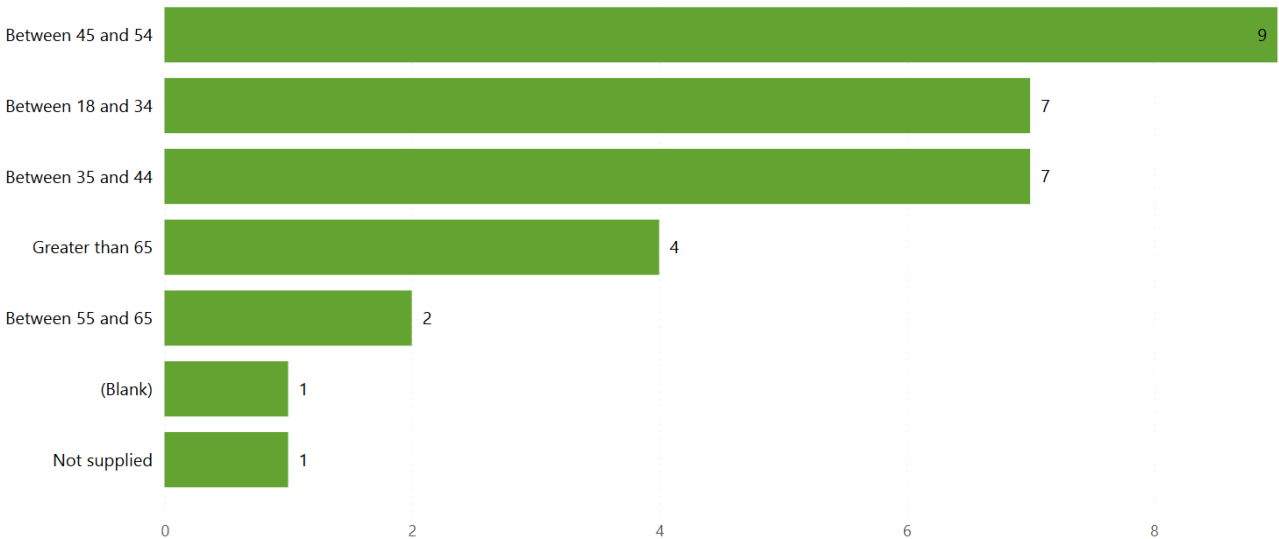
People who live in the area were the largest group of people to make a comment on the online map. This was followed by those who work in the area and then those who own a property in the area. The below graph outlines the relationship respondents have with the local area.



Survey demographics

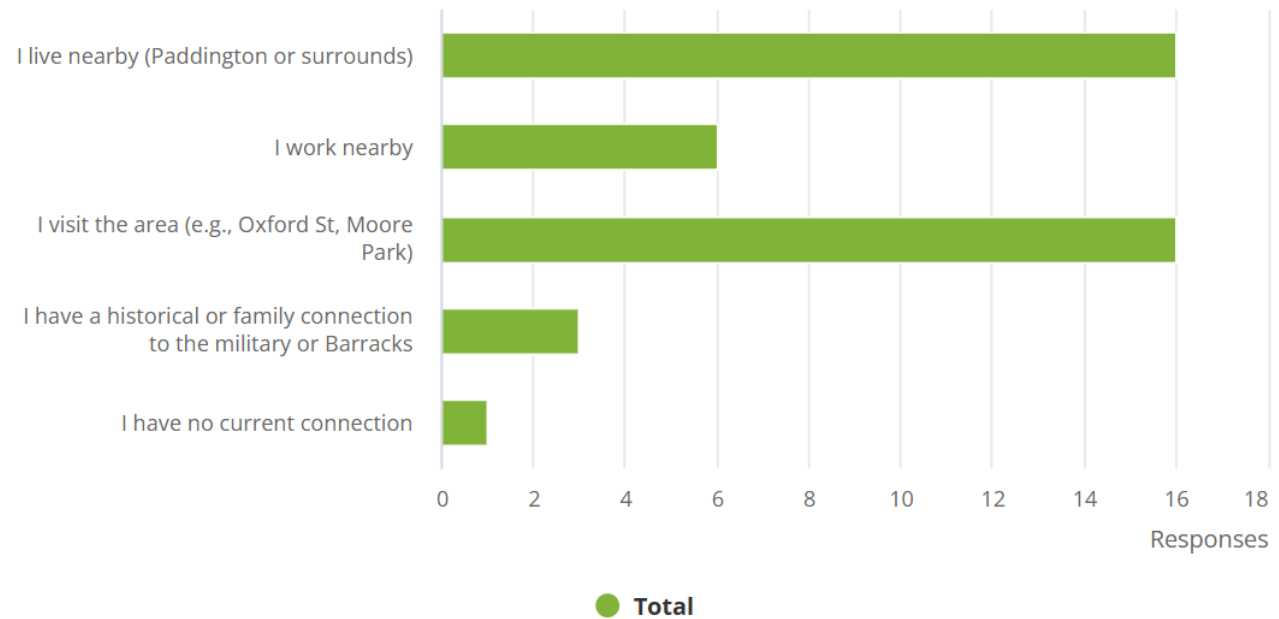
Age group – survey respondents

The breakdown of people by age who completed the survey is outlined in the below graph. Those between 45 and 54 years were the largest group to complete surveys, followed by those aged between 18 and 34 years, and those aged between 35 and 44 years.



Relationship to Victoria Barracks – survey respondents

The majority of people who responded to the survey were local residents (16 responses) and/or visitors to the area (16 responses).



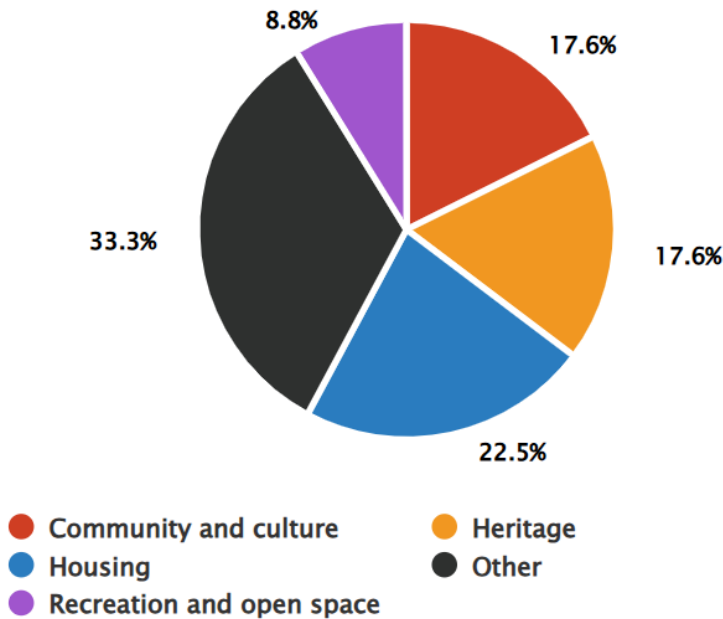
Online map

102 comments were posted on the online map, of which 22.5% were about ‘housing’, 17.6% were about ‘heritage’, 17.6% about ‘community & culture’, and 8.8% about ‘recreation and open space’. A further 33.3% were about other topics – including maximising permeability of the site, ensuring adequate infrastructure, use as an educational facility, need for health care clinics, recommendations for future governance or ownership, recognising Sydney’s Busby Bore which flowed directly under Victoria Barracks, and that Victoria Barracks is a critical Defence site.

Figure 2: Online map screenshot



Figure 3: Online map comments by theme



People could vote on comments if they agreed or disagreed by up-voting or down-voting. 876 votes were posted to online map comments, including 507 up votes and 369 down votes. The comments that drew the most overall support are listed in the below table.

Table 1: Most popular online comments

Comment	Up Votes	Down Votes
"I strongly urge that the area be preserved without adding new buildings or dense development. Instead, the space should be opened to the public and transformed into a community asset—such as a museum, park, or café precinct. This would provide recreational, cultural, and educational opportunities while protecting the site's heritage and green space."	25	5
"There should be no new development."	24	6
"Victoria Barracks is one of the most beautiful and elegant Georgian-early Victorian structures in Australia, even though its function was strictly functional as a military barracks. In accordance with its function and contemporary technology, the structures are low-rise in terms of height. We are concerned that any new buildings will be higher in a way that spoils the present silhouette, particularly from a north to south perspective. The silhouette of the Main Barracks should remain uncluttered."	23	6
"Converting Victoria Barracks into social housing risks destroying one of Sydney's most important colonial-era landmarks. Beyond its rare 19th-century military architecture, the site played a key role during World War II as a strategic command centre and continues to do so into the modern day. Addressing housing needs should not come at the sacrifice of such a vital piece of our national heritage or our military capabilities."	21	6

Online survey

30 surveys were completed. Respondents answered six questions, responses to these questions are outlined in the below graphs. People aged between 45 and 54 years were the largest group to complete surveys, followed by those aged between 18 and 34 years, and those aged between 35 and 44 years.

The below graph shows the relationship survey respondents have with Victoria Barracks. Respondents could select multiple options that were relevant to them.

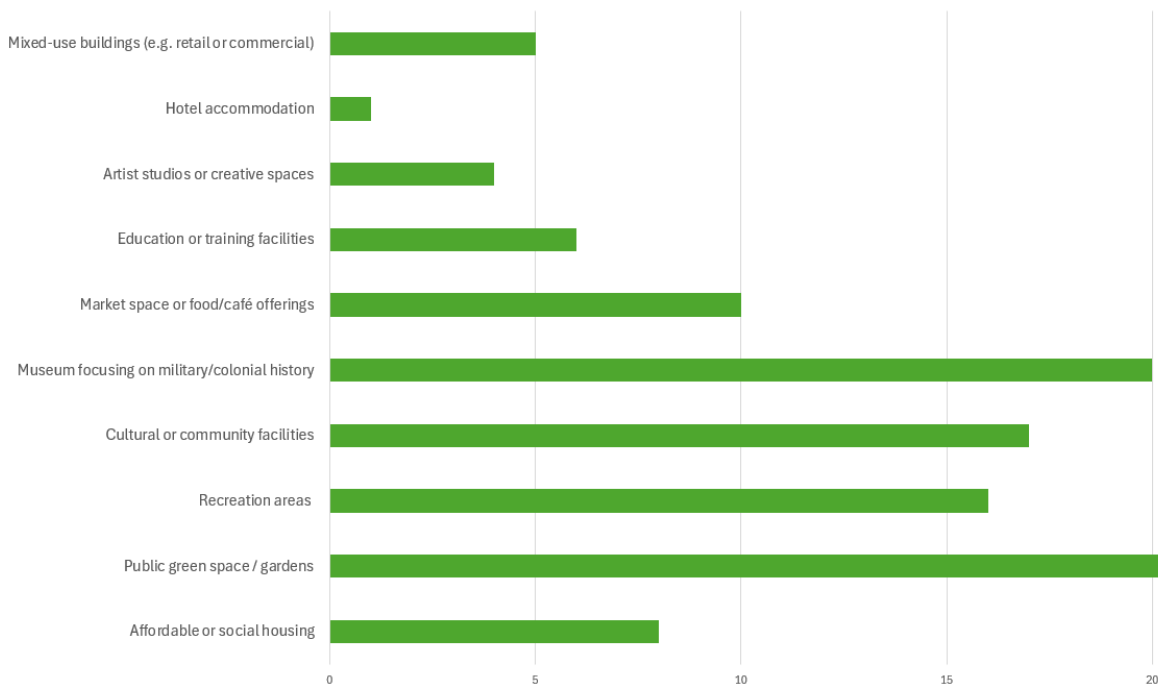
Q.2 If the site is opened to the public or repurposed, what types of uses would you like to see? (Select up to 5)

Public green space / gardens was rated the most popular use for the site should it be opened to the public (22 responses). A museum or interpretive centre focusing on military/colonial history was the second most popular use (20 responses), followed by cultural or community facilities eg.

Engagement report – Victoria Barracks vision

gallery, theatre, community centre (17 responses). Recreational areas eg. walking paths, playgrounds, sports courts was the fourth most popular use (16 responses).

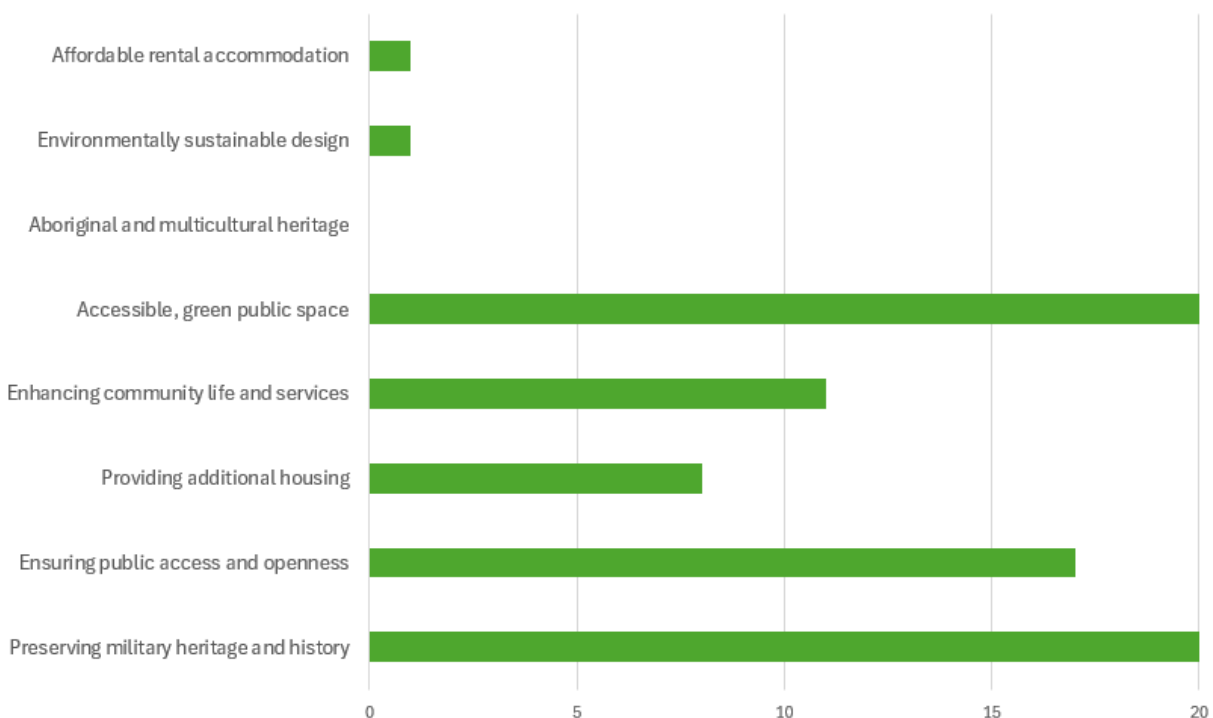
Responses to this question are shown in the below graph.



Q.3 What is most important to you in any future development of Victoria Barracks? (Select up to 3)

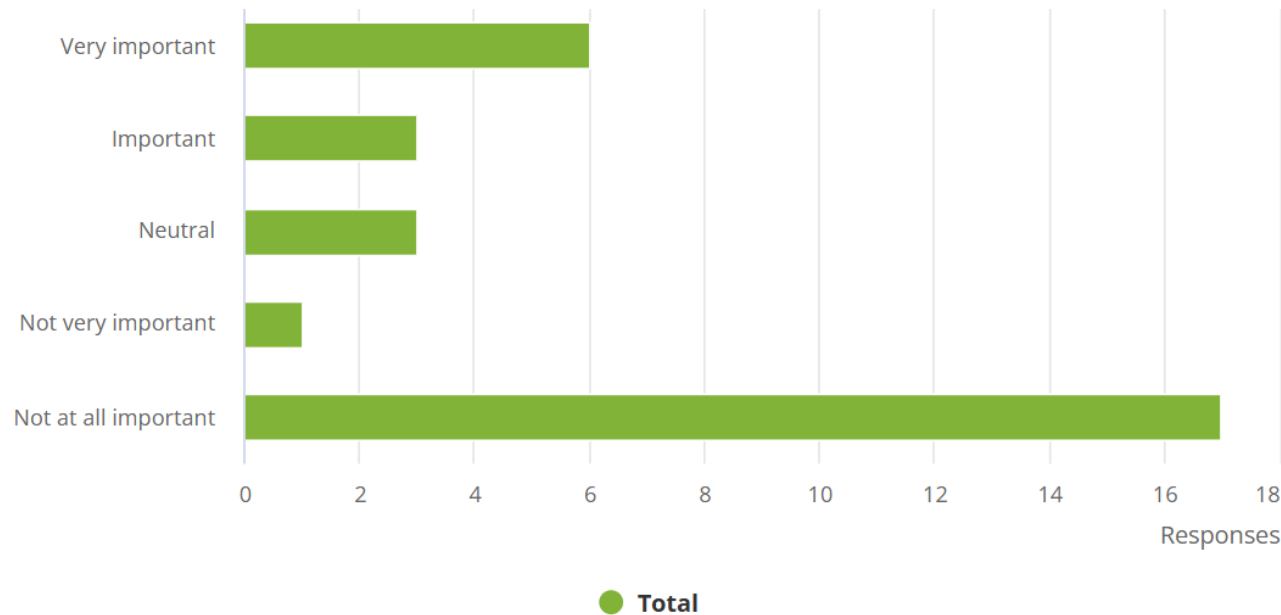
Preserving military heritage and history and providing accessible, green public space were rated equally as most important to the future development of the site (20 responses). Ensuring public access and openness was rated second most important (17 responses), followed by enhancing community life and services (11 responses). Providing additional housing (including creating affordable housing) was rated the fourth most important option (8 responses).

Responses to this question are shown in the below graph.



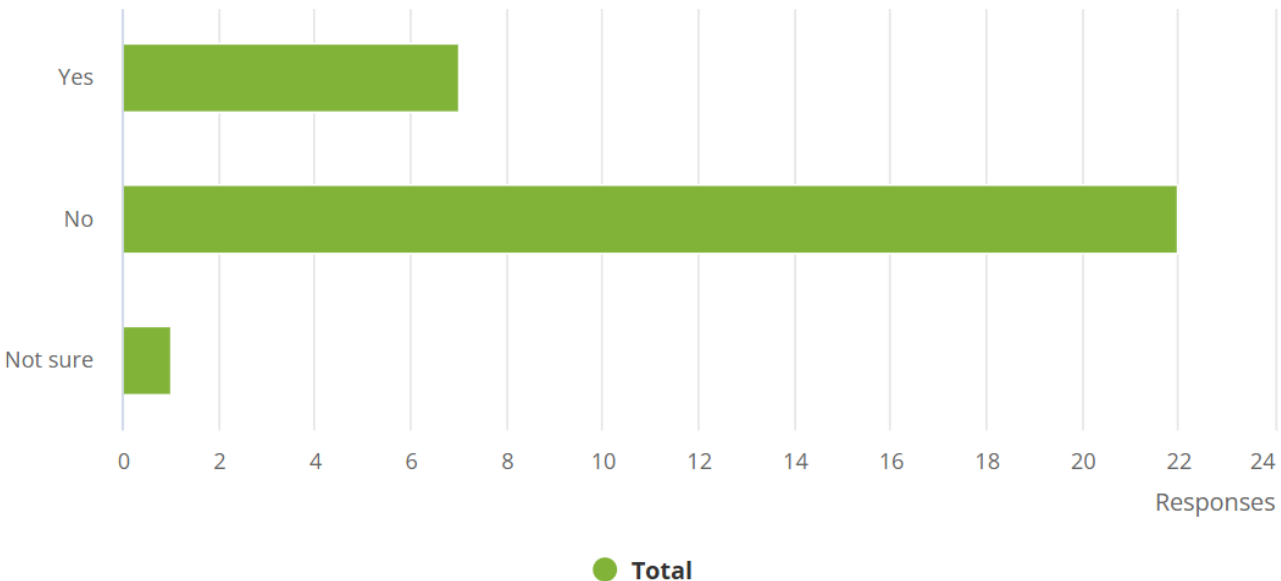
Q.4 How important is providing affordable housing as part of any redevelopment of the site?

People who responded to the survey tended to not rate providing affordable housing as important for the site, with 18 responses rating it ‘not at all important’ or ‘not very important’, compared with 9 responses rating providing affordable housing as ‘very important’ or ‘important’ for the site.



Q.5 Would you support a mix of housing types on the site (for example, market housing, affordable housing, rental, key worker housing, seniors housing)?

People who responded to the survey tended to not support a mix of housing types on the site – with 22 responses choosing ‘no’ to this question, compared with 7 responses choosing ‘yes’ to supporting a mix of housing types on the site.



Q.6 Is there anything else you’d like to say about the future of the Victoria Barracks precinct?

People who answered this survey question emphasised the need to preserve the heritage and historical significance of the Victoria Barracks site. Respondents highlighted the site's status as a heritage-listed area with immense cultural and historical value and urged that it should be used as a public heritage and community space if developed.

Comments on housing were mixed, with some respondents advocating for diverse housing types including public and affordable housing as a means to address Sydney's housing crisis. Several submissions proposed that housing could be sensitively integrated through adaptive reuse of existing buildings or low to mid-rise development that respects the site's heritage values, while others suggested local government ownership of any market-rate housing to support ongoing site maintenance.

Comments indicated a clear consensus that the unique Georgian sandstone heritage and the precinct as a whole should be protected, and that any development should respect and enhance the site's legacy rather than compromise it.

There is a preference for a diversified site with a mix of uses, rather than a residential-only development – which is seen as potentially damaging to the surrounding Paddington area.

Respondents also highlighted the importance of maintaining the open green spaces, sports and recreation areas, and to transform the site into a community asset such as a museum, park, or café precinct. There is a strong desire to make the site accessible to the public and avoid developing it solely for housing, in order to preserve the distinctive character and open spaces.

“Victoria Barracks is a heritage-listed site of historical and cultural importance. Its military architecture and grounds tell a vital story about Sydney's history and the Australian Defence Force. Developing the site for housing risks damaging this heritage and diminishing its cultural value.”
Community comment

“While we do need more housing, I think we need to preserve this lot and turn it into something community can use and encourage more businesses and visitors ie cafes, markets, gallery, museum, art space etc...” Community comment

“It has huge potential to integrate a wide array of uses for where there are none in surrounding areas. It can host residents, community spaces, public green space and small industry (artisanal crafts, artists, local entrepreneurs) all on the one site.” Community comment

“It would be shocking if this is all kept as is and allowed to be kept the same “for heritage”, the whole of surry hills has been frozen for this reason and it has led to many being priced out of the area. The entire spot should be rezoned for 6-12 storey apartments with shopping to allow as many people as possible to live in this central location” Community comment

“The opportunity to provide public housing here should be a number one priority. I also challenge designers to develop a masterplan that makes the Victoria Barracks Precinct a model, low rise but high density urban village that is designed with high retention of all heritage structures which give the precinct its character and cultural value” Community comment

Online map comments

Key themes

Comments posted on the online map highlight a strong desire to retain and enhance the green, open spaces within the Victoria Barracks precinct and make them available for community use. Suggestions include creating shared gardens, community sports courts, outdoor performance spaces and regular community events like farmers markets. There is also interest in integrating the precinct with the adjacent Paddington Town Hall to form a vibrant cultural and arts hub accessible to the public.

Feedback highlights a range of perspectives on the potential redevelopment of the site. Overall, key themes include balancing housing needs, heritage preservation, and community integration in any future plans for the site.

Housing

Community feedback on housing at Victoria Barracks highlighted differing views, with some seeing potential for the site to contribute to Sydney's housing needs, while others preferred it not be used for residential development. Housing proponents argued that Sydney is facing a severe housing shortage that should take priority over other considerations, with several submissions calling for high-density development including European-style 6-storey apartments and mixed-use housing with affordable and social housing components. These respondents viewed underutilised areas like the current car park as ideal locations for medium to high-rise housing that could contribute to Oxford Street's vibrancy while incorporating commercial uses and community facilities.

Opposition to housing development centred on concerns about heritage preservation, infrastructure capacity, and neighbourhood character. Many respondents argued that the site's heritage significance and colonial military history should not be compromised by residential development, with some suggesting that heritage buildings could be adaptively reused for specialist accommodation such as aged care or veterans' housing rather than general residential purposes. Several submissions raised practical concerns about the area's limited public transport links and existing traffic congestion, arguing that increased density would strain already stretched infrastructure. Others worried that any housing development would likely become high-end accommodation rather than genuinely affordable housing, potentially excluding the broader community from accessing Victoria Barracks as a public asset.

Community and Culture

Community members expressed strong support for transforming Victoria Barracks into a cultural and community hub, with many highlighting the site's potential as an arts precinct. Feedback included proposals to convert heritage buildings into artist cooperatives, exhibition spaces, and community facilities. Several respondents advocated for integration with nearby institutions, suggesting expanded partnerships with UNSW next door and enhanced connections with Paddington Town Hall to create "a world class cultural precinct." Community members also proposed specialist facilities such as a music education centre building on the existing Army Band rehearsal space, and multi-use venues that could accommodate outdoor concerts, farmers' markets, night markets, and community events while maintaining the site's heritage significance.

The feedback also demonstrated significant interest in community spaces that serve diverse age groups and activities. Suggestions included youth recreational facilities, adventure playgrounds, quiet study spaces for students, community sports courts, and community gardens or urban farms.

Heritage

Community members expressed strong concerns about preserving Victoria Barracks' heritage significance, with many emphasising its status as one of Australia's most important colonial-era military sites. Feedback highlighted the site's exceptional Georgian and early Victorian sandstone architecture, noting its rare convict-built construction and role in Sydney's military history. Many respondents stressed the importance of protecting the existing building heights and silhouette, particularly the main barracks building, with concerns that new development could compromise the site's historic character and visual integrity. Several submissions called for the site to be transferred to organisations such as the Sydney Harbour Federation Trust or National Trust to ensure proper protection and maintenance.

The community feedback revealed strong opposition to residential development that could diminish the site's heritage value, with many advocating for adaptive reuse that respects the original architecture and historical significance. Respondents supported repurposing heritage buildings for public uses such as museums, educational facilities, galleries, and cultural spaces, while maintaining the site's connection to military history through interpretive methods. There were calls for comprehensive archaeological investigation given the site's convict construction history and relatively undisturbed nature. Community members emphasised that any future development must prioritise heritage preservation in public ownership to ensure ongoing access for education and cultural appreciation.

Recreation and Open Space

Community responses expressed strong support for preserving and enhancing the existing green spaces at Victoria Barracks and making them available for recreation and community use. The highest priority themes centred on retaining the parade ground and open areas as public parkland, with many comments emphasising the importance of keeping these spaces for "gardens and place to enjoy for the community." Community members envisioned the parade ground being transformed into "a local park and gathering ground for events and community activities," with suggestions for communal gardens that could "support inclusive community actions for future residents and serve as a quiet area of respite."

The feedback also highlighted significant interest in improving site accessibility and connectivity, with calls to make the site "much more permeable" through "pedestrian openings in walls at strategic points on all sides" and creating clear sightlines and walking/cycling routes across the site. Several respondents suggested specific recreational amenities including outdoor event spaces, and a public outdoor pool. While there was general consensus on preserving green space, some community members expressed concern that the heritage wall creates barriers, and advocating for measures to "activate the southern wall more" while maintaining heritage values.

Other

A diverse range of perspectives and suggestions were provided that didn't fit neatly into the primary consultation themes. Several respondents emphasised the site's ongoing strategic importance, noting its critical role in emergency response capacity, ceremonial heritage, and as the only security-controlled area in the Eastern suburbs capable of staging emergency services and helicopter operations for St Vincent's Hospital.

Infrastructure and connectivity concerns featured prominently, with suggestions for light rail connections to Bondi Junction, concerns about overdevelopment pressures on neighbouring Surry Hills, and calls to maximise site permeability through new entry points and connections to Paddington Town Hall. Other notable suggestions included specialised uses such as artist studio complexes, health care clinics, recognition of the historic Busby's Bore water supply system, and calls for international design competitions should redevelopment proceed. Several comments highlighted the need for careful urban planning that prioritises connectivity and public space structure before considering commercial or housing development, with references to successful international examples like Bryant Park in New York as potential models for community-focused redevelopment.

Email submissions

Submissions table

We received 84 email submissions during the consultation period. The majority of these were from individuals, however, we also received 7 written submissions from the following organisations: AFL NSW/ACT, Historic Houses Association, National Trust of Australia (NSW), The Paddington Society, Paddington-Darlinghurst Community Group, UTS Centre for Social Justice and Inclusion, and the Strata Committee for the Paddington Barracks (representing 71 owners).

Written submissions overwhelmingly emphasised the importance of preserving the heritage and historical significance of the Victoria Barracks site. Respondents highlight the site's architectural, cultural, and military history, stressing that it is a powerful symbol of Australia's national identity and a cornerstone of the Paddington community. There is a strong sentiment that the site should be protected, with any future development being sensitive to its heritage values and avoiding the destruction of the iconic sandstone buildings and walls.

Written submissions express opposition to the redevelopment of the Victoria Barracks site for high-density housing or commercial purposes. Respondents emphasise the need to preserve the site's heritage, open space, and environmental values, and suggest alternative uses such as community, cultural, and low-rise residential development that would be more in keeping with the character of the area.

The below email submissions tables list key themes and issues raised by organisations and community members, along with the City's response.

Table 2: Submissions table - organisations

Organisation	Themes / issues raised
AFL NSW/ACT	Submission encouraged retention and enhancement of the existing sporting field, and recommended opening up the space for community use and organised sport.
Historic Houses Association	Submission stressed that preservation of built heritage and historic site significance was a priority. The submission also advocated for sensitive adaptive reuse, public accessibility, open space, connection to the surrounding area and activation ideas such as cafes and events, Sustainable funding and governance was also raised.
National Trust of Australia (NSW)	The heritage significance of the site was emphasised and sensitive conservation of heritage was recommended in this submission.
The Paddington Society	Submission expressed preference for the retention of ADF ownership and use on site, alongside increasing public accessibility to green spaces, museums and adaptively reused buildings. It was also recommended that any new development and housing provision be respectful and of low scale.
Paddington-Darlinghurst Community Group	Submission raised opposition to affordable housing on site, and promoted the retention of existing military use and protection of the heritage significance of the site.

Organisation	Themes / issues raised
UTS Centre for Social Justice and Inclusion	Submission expressed support for increasing public accessibility and prioritising inclusive design and social infrastructure, a welcoming environment, Indigenous perspectives, financial accessibility and community participation
Strata Committee for the Paddington Barracks apartment complex	Submission expressed the preference for low scale intervention which prioritises public benefit, preserves heritage value, protects biodiversity and green open space, sensitively reuses heritage buildings for community use, provides low density context-sensitive housing, and consults with Indigenous communities.

Table 3: Submissions table - individuals

Themes / issues raised
Heritage - Submissions emphasised preserving Victoria Barracks' colonial and military heritage and highlighted the need to protect the sandstone buildings, perimeter walls, and maintain the site's character.
Open/Public Space - Submissions noted importance of maintaining and expanding green space, with suggestions for parks, gardens, and recreational areas. Many opposed any reduction of green areas.
Housing - Submissions on housing were divided, with some supporting affordable and social housing for essential workers while others strongly opposed any residential development. Many expressed concern that high-density housing would destroy the site's heritage value.
Transport/Movement – Submissions raised issues of existing traffic congestion and inadequate public transport infrastructure. Respondents worried that development would worsen traffic problems without corresponding transport improvements.
Community/Cultural - Suggestions included museums, art galleries, creative studios, and performance spaces. Several submissions proposed expanding the Army Museum or creating new cultural institutions to celebrate military history. Some submissions also suggested community gathering spaces and educational facilities.
Defence/Military Use - Several submissions raised that the barracks should remain in military use, citing its strategic importance and ongoing operational functions.
Economic and Employment - Some submissions focused on supporting creative industries, providing artist studios at affordable rates, and creating a screen sector hub. Respondents raised the need for economic sustainability while preserving heritage.
Governance and Process - Some submissions recommended transferring the site to the Sydney Harbour Federation Trust if divested.
Access - Submissions supported opening the site to public access while respecting heritage values. Suggestions included creating pedestrian connections through the site to link Paddington with Moore Park.

Engagement activities

Media and communications

The below table presents an overview of communications activities during the consultation period.

Activity	Outcome
Sydney Your Say webpage	• 3,200 views
Media coverage	• 24 media items • 13 social media • 6 online • 3 print • 1 radio • 1 television
Email to key stakeholders	• To 1,257 recipients on 8 August 2025
eNewsletters	
Sydney Your Say August and September editions	• 5,136 subscribers sent on 26 August 2025 • 4,940 subscribers sent on 15 September 2025
City of Sydney News (Planning)	• 3,856 subscribers sent on 12 August 2025
Community centre e-newsletters (Ron Williams & Reginald Murphy)	• 536 subscribers (Ron Williams) • 615 subscribers (Reginald Murphy)

Appendices

Appendix 1: Sydney Your Say page

Developing a community vision for Victoria Barracks

We'd like to hear any ideas you have for Victoria Park Barracks.

Paddington

Open for feedback

We invite you to share your feedback on the vision for Victoria Barracks.

Public Consultation Period
8 August 2025 to 10 September 2025

Why we're doing this

Victoria Barracks is a 15ha site on Oxford Street near Moore Park. It's located in a densely populated area of Paddington and currently has limited public access.

In 2023 the federal government carried out an audit of Australian Defence Force (ADF) land, including Victoria Barracks in Paddington. The audit assessed if its sites still met military needs. The recommendations of the audit have not been made public.

If the site is no longer required for ADF purposes, it could offer new opportunities for housing, improved access to green space, cultural activities and other uses.

A key consideration for any future use of Victoria Barracks is how to fund the ongoing maintenance of its historic buildings and the site. Long-term maintenance will need sustainable funding – through government investment or where appropriate, compatible commercial uses.

If the site becomes available for the future, we're inviting the community to help shape the vision for the site.

Use our interactive map to have your say

The your feedback by Open on Friday 10 September

Have your say

Strategic Planning and Urban Design

☎ 02 9265 9333

✉ sydneyyoursay@cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au

CITY OF SYDNEY

What we're doing

We're developing guiding principles for how the Victoria Barracks site could be used if it is divested by the ADF.

If adopted by Council, these principles will guide our efforts to ensure any future redevelopment of Victoria Barracks meets community needs and aligns with City of Sydney goals.

The guiding principles will reflect the site's significant heritage value and will be shaped by community priorities.

We invite you to tell us what you'd like to see and do at Victoria Barracks.

Next steps

Your feedback will help us create a community vision and guiding principles for Victoria Barracks.

The draft vision and principles will be reported to Council in late 2025.



Appendix 3: Stakeholder email

Sydney Your Say

CITY OF SYDNEY 

Help shape a future vision for Victoria Barracks

Victoria Barracks is a 15ha site on Oxford Street, near Moore Park in Paddington. It's an important heritage site but currently has limited public access as an active military barracks.

In 2023 the federal government reviewed Australian Defence Force (ADF) sites, including Victoria Barracks. The review assessed if they're still needed for military purposes. The results of this review have not been made public.

If Victoria Barracks is no longer required for ADF purposes, it could offer new opportunities for housing, improved access to green space, cultural activities and other uses.

We're inviting the community to help shape a long-term vision for Victoria Barracks if it becomes available in future.

Your ideas will help us develop guiding principles for how the site could be used in a way that respects its heritage, meets community needs and supports sustainable long-term maintenance of the precinct.

Tell us what you'd like to see and do there.

Your feedback will help us prepare a draft community vision and guiding principles, which will be reported to Council in late 2025.

How you can give feedback

We invite you to share your feedback by 5pm, Friday 19 September 2025.

More information

Contact our senior specialist planner Joe Burraston on 02 9265 9333 or at sydneyyoursay@cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au.

Appendix 4: City of Sydney News story

CITY OF SYDNEY

City of Sydney News

12 August 2025

Welcome to City of Sydney News

Each edition will bring you stories of innovation, community and growth, showcasing the people and projects that make Sydney a great place to live, work and explore.

Discover the latest opportunities, get involved in local projects and stay connected.



Clover Moore
Clover Moore AO
Lord Mayor of Sydney

Planning & building



Reimagining Victoria Barracks

What would you like Victoria Barracks to become if it wasn't an army base?

The Department of Defence is reviewing how it uses its military facilities, including Victoria Barracks.

[Share your thoughts about the future of the 15-hectare site.](#)

