



Victoria Barracks Melbourne



The Australian Government recognises Victoria Barracks Melbourne as a place of significance for the local community, Defence personnel, Cadets, Reservists, veterans, and visitors. The site has strong heritage, cultural, and architectural value and plays an important role in Australia's military and national history.

Victoria Barracks Melbourne is historically notable as the location of the first Australian Government War Cabinet meeting, held on 27 September 1939 on the first-floor of the large bluestone building. Today, the site is predominantly used as office space.

The site includes eight Commonwealth Heritage Listings, all protected under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*. As part of the divestment process, the Defence and the Department of Finance have a legal obligation to protect recognised Commonwealth Heritage Values.

Victoria Barracks Melbourne also contains a range of history and heritage displays, including Large Technology Objects and the War Room. These displays are not currently open to the public. The Royal United Service Institute library is located on-site and is open two days per week, with access requiring visitor sign-in and an escort.

The Australian Government is committed to enhancing public access to Victoria Barracks Melbourne and to the collections of historic significance located at the site.

The Australian Government will work with the future owners to ensure the site's heritage is appropriately managed, protected, and conserved. Facilitating greater public access of the museum and its collections will help the community and visitors foster a greater understanding of Defence's history and recognise the service and sacrifice of our people.

Divestment

The divestment of Victoria Barracks Melbourne will occur in a manner that is sensitive to our people and their families, and to the organisations and community who support Defence.

Movement of our Personnel

People are and will remain Defence's most important capability.

Defence is committed to ensuring that the transition of personnel to alternative sites occurs in consultation with the affected workforce, on a site by site basis.

The majority of Victoria Barracks Melbourne personnel are expected to relocate to Defence Plaza Melbourne.

Childcare facility at Victoria Barracks Melbourne

Defence will work with the childcare provider to support continuity of services. Options such as relocation or access to alternative services are being explored.

Contact Defence

Online: www.defence.gov.au/delivering-future-estate
Phone: 1800 333 362
Email: estate.engagement@defence.gov.au

Department of Finance

Email: Divestment.Program@finance.gov.au
Online: www.finance.gov.au/defence-estate-audit

