

**MM-2 MAYORAL MINUTE: YARALLA ESTATE - PARLIAMENTARY
INQUIRY INTO THE AGISTMENT OF HORSES**

Department Executive Services

Author Initials: AT

REPORT

NSW Parliament has established a Select Committee on the agistment of horses at Yaralla Estate to inquire into and report on the current and future agistment of horses, and in particular review:-

- a) the actions of the Sydney Local Health District,
- b) the eviction of community members, whose horses are agisted on the Estate lands,
- c) the independent audit of site referred to in a 19 April 2013 media release issued by the Sydney Local Health District and,
- d) any other related matter.

The inquiry is accepting written submissions until 31 July 2013.

Council has strongly supported the retention of public access to the Yaralla Estate and sought to encourage negotiation and compromise between the Sydney Local Health District and horse owners to enable agistment of horses to continue.

Unfortunately following the eviction notice issued by the Sydney Local Health District which took effect from 1 June 2013, many of the horse owners have had no option but to relocate.

It is of critical importance that Council continues to support the maintenance of public access to Yaralla Estate. Accordingly a submission should be lodged with the Select Committee, outlining Council's concerns regarding the lack of transparency and consultation that preceded the decision by the Sydney Local Health District to evict the owners who agisted horses on the Yaralla Estate and enter into an agreement with the Mounted Police, and place at risk public access to the estate.

Council should also encourage the owners of horses that were agisted at Yaralla, as well as members of our community concerned about the future of Yaralla Estate to lodge a submission with the Select Committee and attend the public hearing that is scheduled for 5 August 2013 at Concord RSL.

RECOMMENDATION

- 1. THAT Council prepare a submission to the Select Committee Inquiry supporting our community in ensuring public access is maintained to Yaralla Estate, and requesting that the continuation of agistment for local horse owners is reinstated.
- 2. Further, that Council encourage local residents, horse owners and interested parties to also lodge a submission with the Select Committee and attend the public hearing at Concord RSL on 5 August.