



PARLIAMENT OF NSW

Media Release

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CRITICAL MAINTENANCE AND RESTORATION WORK UNDERWAY AT AUSTRALIA'S OLDEST PARLIAMENT

NSW Parliament House is undergoing critical maintenance and restoration work, ensuring the historic building is preserved for the NSW public for years to come.

After extensive consultation with the parliamentary community, including members from all political groupings, this critical work has begun across the Parliamentary precinct. It is a once in a four-year opportunity to act, during the extended parliamentary break. Work includes the restoration of the heritage 'Rum Hospital' façade – dating from the building's original use as Sydney's first public hospital – and the Legislative Council and Legislative Assembly chambers.

The critical maintenance and renovation work forms part of a \$22 million allocation from the NSW Government to address an historical maintenance backlog and significant ongoing deterioration.

NSW Parliament House is the oldest legislature in Australia, and the 1816 'Rum Hospital' is the oldest surviving building in the Sydney CBD. It is the first significant remediation work performed in 40 years.

The essential running of Parliament, including committee hearings, will continue during this time.

The program of works will:

- Address extensive internal water damage and structural damage, including to both the Rum Hospital balcony and external stone columns
- Upgrade air conditioning and related measures to improve air quality and address the accumulation of dust and mould throughout the building, which will work to reduce work health and safety risks
- Repaint the building's iconic yet faded and damaged façade for the first time in 40 years
- Restore peeling wallpaper, cracked leather and worn and damaged carpet in the Parliament's historic chambers and rooms
- Provide improved accessibility.

For more information about Australia's oldest Parliament, visit www.parliament.nsw.gov.au.