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\$46,000 for local Scouts

THE NSW Government has allocated \$46,000 towards the upgrading of Scouts NSW facilities at Coffs Harbour, Sawtell and Woolgoolga.

Member for Coffs Harbour Gurmeh Singh said the funding was part of \$7.75 million being provided, under the NSW Government's COVID-19 stimulus program, for projects at Scouts facilities on Crown land.

"Scouts NSW is one of our State's largest and most popular youth organisations that helps communities build leadership skills, resilience and friendship through healthy activities for young people, so it's great to support them," Mr Singh said.

"Scouting has been operating in Australia since 1908 and this funding will help ensure a range of Scout NSW facilities are in good

shape for future generations."

Local upgrades to be funded by the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment - Crown Lands include:

- \$26,000 to repaint Coffs Harbour Scout Hall, enclose an outside storage area, and safely remove old asbestos building materials;
- \$17,000 to repaint Sawtell Scout Hall and safely remove asbestos building materials to keep it safe, protected from the elements and looking good; and
- \$3,000 for Woolgoolga Scout Hall for electrical upgrades and to safely remove asbestos material from a meter box.

Minister for Water, Property and Housing Melinda Pavey said communities had done it tough during COVID-19, including organisations like Scouts NSW whose activities

have been disrupted.

"This funding will help Scouts NSW bounce back with improvements to facilities throughout the State, many of which are also used by other community organisations," Mrs Pavey said.

"Upgrade work will also support local economies with work for tradies and material suppliers."

Scouts NSW Chief Commissioner Neville Tomkins OAM welcomed the announcement.

"We are delighted with the NSW Government support that will assist an enormous number of communities," Mr Tomkins said.

Strengthening and supporting community connections is one of the key priorities of the newly launched Crown Land State Strategic Plan.