



Scout facilities to get upgrade works

STUART AYRES MP, Member for Penrith and Minister for Western Sydney has announced \$121,000 from the NSW Government towards the upgrade of local Scouts NSW facilities.

Stuart Ayres said the funding was part of \$7.75 million being provided, under the 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 which helps communities build leadership skills, resilience and friendship through healthy activities for young people, so it's great to support them," Stuart Ayres 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."

Upgrades to local Scouts NSW facilities to be funded by the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment – Crown Lands include:

- \$77,000 for Emu Plains Scout Hall for termite and storm damage works;
- \$44,000 for 1st Springwood Scout Hall for the installation of security fencing.

Minister for Planning and Public Spaces Rob Stokes 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," Mr Stokes said.

"Upgrade work will also support the economy with work for tradies and material suppliers."

Scouts NSW Chief Commissioner

Neville Tomkins OAM said the stimulus funding would improve Scout facilities and help them attract more members.

"We are delighted with the NSW Government support that will assist an enormous number of communities by upgrading Scout facilities and improving the amenity

of buildings and campsites," Mr Tomkins said.

"There are many Scout roofs that need repair, kitchen and toilet blocks that need upgrades, and facilities and campsites that we want to make more accessible including for those in wheelchairs, so this funding is very welcome."