

## **Dominic Perrottet**

**NSW Treasurer** 

## **Natalie Ward**

Minister for Sport, Multiculturalism, Seniors and Veterans

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

Sunday, 6 June 2021

## NSW SURF LIFE SAVING CLUBS RECEIVE FUNDING BOOST

NSW Treasurer Dominic Perrottet, Minister for Sport Natalie Ward and Member for Pittwater Rob Stokes today announced \$16 million in funding, over four years, for the Surf Club Facility Program as part of the 2021-22 NSW Budget to support the upgrade, restoration, or construction of surf life saving facilities.

NSW Treasurer Dominic Perrottet said the Surf Club Facility Program played a vital role in ensuring our surf life saving volunteers had access to the facilities they needed to keep our communities active and safe.

"The NSW Government recognises the critical role Surf Life Saving Clubs play in communities up and down the coast in allowing people to enjoy our world-class beaches," Mr Perrottet said.

"Whether you hit the surf every day or build sandcastles on the sand with your kids this funding will mean our life saving facilities are fit-for-purpose and our volunteers can continue to keep people safe on our beaches."

The additional funding in this year's Budget comes off the back of \$3.5 million being awarded to 29 clubs through the 2020-21 Program. Grants are valued between \$30,000 and \$350,000 per project.

"These grants will help to increase participation across NSW by creating inclusive and accessible surf life saving facilities," Mrs Ward said.

"I congratulate all the successful applicants in this year's program."

Highlights of the 2020/21 program include:

- \$300,689 to Warriewood Surf Life Saving Club resurfacing works and redirection of public walkway and beach access.
- \$302,406 to Redhead Surf Life Saving Club for upgrades to the club's observation area, radio room and first aid room.
- \$223,687 to Cabarita Surf Life Saving Club for upgrades to the club, including a new training room.

Member for Pittwater Rob Stokes said Warriewood Surf Life Saving Club is part of the fabric of the Northern Beaches community.

"Warriewood surf life saving volunteers are on the beaches every weekend – rain, hail or shine – protecting our community," Mr Stokes said.

"The grant of \$300,689 will really help improve facilities so that our volunteers can keep beach goers safe here on the Northern Beaches."

President of Surf Life Saving NSW, George Shales OAM, said safe, accessible and secure rescue facilities across the State remain a top priority.

"Surf Life Saving Clubs are often the hub of communities and our volunteer lifesavers require access to fit-for-purpose facilities so they can focus on saving lives. The funding will allow significant upgrades to surf club facilities to improve access for our 75,000 members," Mr Shales said.

"We have 129 clubs across the State, volunteer surf lifesavers who performed over 2,500 rescues, 141,000 preventative actions and 7,000 first aid treatments last year."

For further information about the Surf Club Facility Program, including the list of recipients visit: https://sport.nsw.gov.au/clubs/grants/SCFP

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