

# Media Release

**The Hon Natalie Suleyman MP**

Minister for Veterans

Minister for Small Business and Employment

Minister for Youth



Friday, 28 February 2025

## NEW HALL DELIVERED FOR SCOUTS IN SPRINGVALE

Scouts in Springvale will now have an upgraded hall to develop leadership skills, connect with community, participate and grow – thanks to a \$200,000 investment from the Allan Labor Government.

Minister for Youth Natalie Suleyman and Member for Mulgrave Eden Foster today toured the upgraded Sandown Scouts Hall to announce it is officially open for Scouts and the community to enjoy.

The hall is a hub for local scouting activities, providing young people with a base to connect, develop, thrive and engage with their community in a safe and accessible space.

The hall, located at Dowling Avenue, is a short stroll from public transport and is available for other groups in the local area to hold events and meetings – strengthening ties between Scouts and the broader community.

The upgrades include a brand-new kitchen, walls and ceilings, a suite of appliances and new toilet facilities.

The Sandown Scout Hall is part of the Labor Government's \$942,000 investment in Scouts Hall upgrades made through the *Victorian Budget 2023/24*, ensuring young Victorians have modern spaces to support their activities.

This builds on the Labor Government's previous \$5.5 million investment in Scouts facilities across the state – matched by Scouts Victoria. The funding has supported the recent upgrades to Scout halls in Albert Park, Strathfieldsaye, Epping North, and Frankston South.

Participation in scouting has increased by 30 per cent over the past decade, demonstrating its enduring appeal and role equipping young people with valuable life skills and confidence.

With more than 20,000 young members and 5,000 adult volunteers, Scouts Victoria continues to thrive as one of the state's largest youth organisations.

### Quotes attributable to Minister for Youth Natalie Suleyman

*"The upgraded Sandown Scout Hall is more than a building – it is a place where young people can gather, try new things and grow into confident leaders."*

*"Our investment in the upgrade of Scout Halls across Victoria ensures our young people have the resources they need to succeed and make a positive impact on their communities."*

### Quote attributable to Member for Mulgrave Eden Foster

*"The Sandown Scout Hall is an important place for scouts, local families, and the wider community to come together and connect – and the Allan Labor Government is delivering these opportunities for future generations."*