

BACKGROUND ON SPRINGVALE RESERVE COMMUNITY FUNCTION ROOM

Springvale Reserve is a district-level recreation reserve which caters for a wide range of both formal and informal recreational activities to the community. It is located on the corner of Newcomen Road, Ericksen Street and Harris Street in Springvale. The reserve is approximately 1km from Springvale Station and the Springvale Activity Centre.

The sports facilities managed by Council's Sport and Recreation department consist of two change rooms with amenities, storages spaces, umpires change rooms, kitchen/canteen, bar and a 120 square metre social space. A heritage listed grandstand sits above the sporting facilities, limiting the scope of any future alterations to the building's footprint.

The Community Facility, which is managed by Council's Civic and Community Facilities department, comprises a large function space (290sqm), commercial kitchen, bar, and small meeting room spaces.

This is a high-quality facility available for community hire which caters for weddings, dinner dances, private parties, meetings, and education training. The venue is equipped with audio visual and sound equipment, a large dance floor and other equipment to accommodate the various hirers within the community.

Due to its multi-purpose functionality and its location in Springvale, the community facility is maintained and serviced at a higher standard when compared to a sporting facility, enabling it to service a range of community needs, including those that sit outside sport and recreation.

The community facility at Springvale Reserve is one of six community facilities with a capacity catering to 150+ people with the municipality. The Springvale Reserve community facility is one of two like facilities located in Springvale, with the other being the Springvale City Town Hall (600+ people).

The community facility at Springvale Reserve is of strategic importance to the overall provision of community facilities within Springvale. There are limited facilities owned by Council available to the community to hire for social gatherings or events.

Council's Multipurpose Use of Community Facilities Policy states that Council has a responsibility to derive maximum community benefit from its current and future stock of community facilities.

In 2009 Council received funding support from the State and Federal Government that changed the purpose of the community facility from a sports club building to a new multi-use, multi-access social and meeting space, capable of supporting a wide range of local community groups and social events.

Council's Civic and Community Facilities team currently manage the function room bookings. In 2023, the function room accommodated 72 community events and activities. At time of this report, the function room has 62 bookings for the 2024 financial year encompassing a range of community events and activities.

The SDFNC booked the community facility/function room at Springvale Reserve eleven (11) times in the 2023-24 financial year for home games and other club functions.

In recognition of the club's growth and ageing facilities, Council has worked in collaboration with the club to assist them with additional bookings throughout the year and has several operational arrangements in place to reduce the financial impact to the club.

While the club have been appreciative of these concessions, due to the shared nature of community facility, the club are still required to set-up and pack down their club memorabilia* after each home game or event to allow the community facility to be appropriately cleaned for use by other community groups/hirers.

This is physically burdensome and time consuming for club volunteers who, between bookings, transport their memorabilia and furniture approximately 45 metres between the sports pavilion and the community/function rooms.

*It is noted that the club can display their memorabilia in the sports facility/social rooms that they are allocated. These restrictions relate to the community function room only, to enable all hirers to set the room up and decorate to suit their requirements.