Bowling Club site to be state headquarters of Volunteer Marine Rescue NSW

Minister for Lands, Tony Kelly, today announced he has allocated land and buildings on the old Henley Bowling Club site at Gladesville for the state headquarters of Volunteer Marine Rescue NSW.

“The Volunteer Marine Rescue NSW performs a vital service on the marine waters around our state and this site will provide an ideal location for their headquarters,” Mr Kelly said.

“It has now been allocated primarily for marine rescue but there will be ancillary community use for recreation and sporting activities.

“It is important that we find ways that Crown Land sites can be used for the maximum benefit of the community.

‘I am conscious that the community has used the site, particularly in later months for bridge and other activities and this use will continue under these new arrangements, albeit in a different part of the building .

“I have also allocated $100,000 to improve the physical structure of the building to facilitate both the establishment of the HQ and also to allow for ongoing community use of parts of the premises.

“The money will primarily be used to improve the, kitchen and utility areas and to fund some structural changes to allow improved use by community groups,” Mr Kelly said.

Commissioner Glenn Finniss, from Volunteer Marine Rescue NSW, welcomed the announcement.

“The new headquarters will allow us to develop and provide additional services to the people of NSW, while also providing a headquarters to support our valued volunteers and local community groups,” Commissioner Finniss said.

Mr Kelly said the allocation of these facilities for Volunteer Marine Rescue NSW builds on the long term relationship between volunteer marine rescue organisations and Crown land, with a vast majority of their facilities across NSW being associated with Crown land.

“Volunteer Marine Rescue NSW provides a very valuable service to NSW and their use of these facilities along with the compatible use of other parts of the buildings for other community groups is a good example of how Crown land can work for the community,” Mr Kelly said.