



12 May 2017

Update on Hackett Hall lease

The City of Nedlands has moved to progress matters relating to Hackett Hall, following its closure in August last year due to public safety concerns.

Theatre group Playlovers has held the lease for the hall since March 2009 – they did not have to pay rent under the lease but were required to maintain the premises.

“The lessee will maintain, at its own expense, the premises including, but not limited to, any structural parts, plate glass, electrical installations, gas and water pipes and fittings, toilets, sanitary appliances, drains, septic tanks, leach drains, paths, paving, park or garden furniture, retaining walls, fences and reticulation in good, safe order, repair and condition,” the lease states.

Chief Executive Officer Greg Trevaskis said a report from Engineering Design Consultancy found the building was in a dilapidated state and urgent repairs were required to ensure the structural integrity of the building.

“The report also noted there were fire and electrocution risks and the window glass in the hall and green room presented a serious danger, should it break or collapse,” he said.

“Roof beams in the hall part of the building are not structurally adequate and require urgent remedial works or replacement.

“As result of the lease conditions not being met, the City of Nedlands has issued Playlovers with a notice of breach of lease.

“We met with the president of Playlovers to advise this would be happening and they now have 28 days to rectify the situation, which is the legal standard in these matters.

“Public safety has always been first and foremost our concern in relation to Hackett Hall.”

Mr Trevaskis said the City has engaged a consultant to complete a needs-analysis in relation to Hackett Hall, who will liaise with the community and other stakeholders.

“We welcome Playlovers as a key stakeholder in that process and maintain our commitment to giving them entry to the building as required, should they need to access costumes, props or other theatre items,” he said.

Information relating to the Hackett Hall needs-analysis is scheduled to appear on yourvoice.nedlands.wa.gov.au later this month.

ENDS

About the City of Nedlands

The City of Nedlands is situated 7km from Perth and stretches from the banks of the Swan River to the edge of the Indian Ocean. A population of more than 21,000 lives in the suburbs of Nedlands, Dalkeith, Mt Claremont, Swanbourne, Karrakatta and parts of Floreat and Shenton Park.

For further information, please contact communications@nedlands.wa.gov.au or 9273 3500.