

Sutherland Entertainment Centre Refurbishment - Stakeholder Workshops Feedback and Outcomes

HIGH LEVEL SUMMARY		
	THE FACILITY	“Community Pride” “Transcendent” “Excellent” “Modern” “A Destination” “Vibrancy” “Safety” “Inclusive” “Welcoming” “Safe” “Modern” “Community Centre” “Green space coming in” “Impressive” “Event” “Welcoming” “Accepting” “Inspirational” “Safe” “Performance Venue”
	FOYER	Connection to Eton Street, Park / Bars
	ACCESSIBILITY	Important to all groups – disabled / elderly / parents with prams / schools / theatre
	SAFETY	Very important to school, dance and music groups – current situation is not good
	CAFE	Important to activate the area / connection to park / greater use of foyer / a destination
	FUNCTION ROOMS / MEETING ROOMS	The need for more meeting rooms which can be used by the public and Council
	THEATRE	Capacity / comfortable seats / good sight lines
	STAGE	Needs to be larger than current size
	WINGS	Need to be larger than current size
	FLY TOWER	Provides more options / opportunities / attraction to external users
	ORCHESTRA PIT	Recess / or pit?
	DRESSING ROOMS / HOLDING AREAS	Holding change areas / dressing room in the back of house area / close to toilets
	LOADING DOCK	Better loading facilities is required
STAKEHOLDER	AREA / ISSUE	COMMENTS
WORKSHOP 1 – SEC & SCC STAFF – 9 May 2019		
	Community Pride	
	Foyer	Strong connection to the park required / Hire out for functions / Council functions - Mayoral Ball / Staff Recognition? / Photo gallery
	Accessibility	Disabled Elderly – require direct / wide access from street (if lift is not working) – arrive in buses all at once / 1 lift may not suffice (lift needs to be large) / Need storage for frames, walkers & scooters / multi cushions Mothers – need storage for prams

	Seating capacity	700 seats keeps coming up / seat quality
	Cafe	Important / Strong connection to the park / would activate this area
	Bars	Big and long / serve snacks as well / restrict varieties of beverages – (feed fridge from behind?) Bar on FFL terrace looking over the park would be fantastic / spreading the load from GFL
	Bar Storage	For tables & chairs
	Box Office	Could be an extension of the bar. Tickets collected on night. Most sales on line.
	Cloak Room	Not required
	First Aid Room	Not Required - Can be located in FOH Office
	FOH Office - Operational	4 Staff / Briefing area / First Aid / Check in / Briefing / Walkie talkies
	FOH Staff lockers	10 people
	FOH Store	Tables/ chairs / catering equipment
	Toilet facilities	Ensure there are plenty of female toilets. Should look at refurbishing as many existing toilet areas as possible, rather than building new toilets
	Sound locks	To incorporate ushers cupboards
	Fly tower	Preference for full fly tower – Provide for more options / can fly things out of the way and use stage for another function. Counterweight system is cheaper. Need to price difference between counterweights and winches. Cost for additional shaft height
	Orchestra Pit	Only used by Musical Society – provide recess or full pit? If remedial work is required to the SW line under the floor in this location, could a pit be done as part of this work?
	Relocate existing administration office. Space to become leasable function / meeting room	The current area could be better utilised as another function / meeting room due to it's close relationship with the Foyer. Look at relocation into existing flat on site. Would not work well if located in main Council building – staff duplication.
	Dressing Rooms / Chorus Rooms	Can look at reducing the number of dressing rooms, maybe increase in size to double as holding areas. Schools and dance groups require about 5-6 holding areas, with toilets close by.
	Civic	Buses arrival and management is currently an issue – Maybe need to park buses elsewhere - SCC management issue. Relocating pedestrian crossing? - SCC separate issue.
	Peace Park	Water feature – Cuts off pedestrian flow. Any changes need to be handled sensitively. Children play in water feature / Maintenance is an issue. Used for performance and markets. Will be used more due to higher density residential living

WORKSHOP 2 - FRONT OF HOUSE & CIVIC – 16 May 2019		
SCC STAFF	One word description Of the proposed facility	“Transcendent” “Excellent” “Modern” “A Destination” “Vibrancy” “Safety” “Inclusive” “Welcoming”
	Top 5 things you would change	<p>1 – Welcoming & clearer orientation on arrival / Entrance into the building / Entrance & façade should be inviting and flow easily / accessibility /</p> <p>2 – Raked seating & good sight lines / More foyer space / Modernised look & feel – internally & externally / Upgrade of amenities</p> <p>3 – Appealing & improved functioning bar & F&B / Working air conditioning / Connection to park / Adequate storage to assist operations</p> <p>4 – Aesthetics of building improved / Accessibility for all people and machinery & props & BOH / More flexible – various event use / Front entrance & foyer</p> <p>5 – Accessibility to all floors / Storage that is functional / Open & lighter / make park spaces more usable – less levels / Interface & interaction with park</p>
	Core facilities SEC must provide	Theatre / diverse program experience / Cultural hub / active use by the community / Better seating & accessible seating / more room in foyer for a better dining experience / Air conditioning / Café / Bar / High level venue for live theatre & performance / High level café / restaurant experience / Destination that people want to visit & experience
	What user groups should be prioritised in the design	Local community arts groups / local school / commercial performing arts hirers / SEC programmers / External entertainment providers / community groups / elderly / disabled / Elderly / Schools / Local theatres / Well known performers encouraged to put on shows
	Other facilities that would work well in the new SEC	Riverside (Functional foyer & theatre options) / IPAC (theatre with fly tower) / Service lift / Big long bar / Need to capture the feeling of attending a special occasion / experience / Quality of fit out
	Relationship of spaces within and around the new facility	Open connection to park / welcoming / Visible inside from outside / Vibrant & functional BOH / Visible activity front of building / Theatre has close relationship to the foyer space, kitchen & rehearsal rooms / Foyer needs to be welcoming & inviting people to enter the SEC / Somewhere to congregate, enjoy a meal or light snack / Performing spaces to be readily accessible to rehearsal spaces & from foyer and café / bar areas
WORKSHOP 3 – BACK OF HOUSE & CIVIC – 23 May 2019		

DANCE GROUPS	One word description Of the proposed facility	“Safe” “Modern”
	Use 4 to 6 times per year 800 – 1,000 patrons September to November period	
	Top 5 things you would change	1 – More & larger change rooms & holding rooms – maybe 5 that could hold 60 in each 2 – Stage height & size (at least current dimensions with additional wing space) 3 – Raked seating on GFL & dress circle 4 – Able to fly backdrops 5 – safer stage door access, toilets, backstage & performers
	Core facilities SEC must provide	More changerooms & holding rooms / 800-1000 seats / safe access for children, parents & toilets
	What user groups should be prioritised in the design	Local community groups / dance schools, schools & musical societies / theatre
	Other facilities that would work well in the new SEC	More wing space/ double use of loading dock as holding / change rooms
	Relationship of spaces within and around the new facility	Café inside / outside like Hazelhurst / Connection to park
	Foyer	Bar important / pop up cafe
	Stage	400 students come on stage at finale
	Fly Tower	Would drop scenery if available
	Security	Current back door – very hard to control
	Holding areas / Dressing Rooms	Need lots of spaces to hold groups of about 50 – 60 - close to toilets (some groups need to change – pop up tents currently used) / include TV screens to entertain children while waiting / mirrors & lights
	Other Venues that work well	NIDA / Riverside
SCHOOL USERS	One word description Of the proposed facility	“Community Centre” “Green space coming in”
	1 day – Fill all seats – restrict 2 tickets per family	Kindergarten to Year 6
	Auditorium	Screens both sides of stage / Adjudication desk
	Holding areas	Changing clothes is currently a problem / toilets close by / pop up tents currently used
	Security	
	Loading dock	Hire trucks for props – typically 6-8 ton trucks

MUSIC FESTIVAL	2 weeks booking 12 nights / 10 rehearsals + matinees	500 students 1.5hr Concerts
	Foyer	Generally bars are not used
	Stage	Current stage is too small – bring in mega deck / cyc to project onto / 500 student on stage at finale (canon) / multiple access to stage / not many props
	Wings	Important – need to be wider
	Holding areas	9 holding groups / 30 per group with access to toilets (multi gender) Students generally come dressed
	Safety	Current back door a problem. Currently students are brought to foyer for collection by parents
	Fire exits	Need large exits – (350 in BOH)
	Accessibility	Currently hirer platform lift to access stage from auditorium
SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA	One word description Of the proposed facility	“Impressive” “Event”
	4 concerts per year 330 – 400 patrons	Morning rehearsals on the day 40 musicians / 30 choir normally – 50 for the Messiah Pre talk – before performance – 50 – 70 patrons
	Auditorium	Separate concert hall? / Good acoustic engineer / Timber floor to auditorium?
	Foyer	Bar important
	Stage	Should be lower / currently tight - increase size of stage / use riser occasionally - 2 risers 300 & 600 AFL / Accessibility of bringing instruments onto the stage. / Tarket floor
	Acoustic shells	Could be flown in if fly tower
	Orchestra pit	Orchestra could be remote
MUSICAL SOCIETIES / THEATRE	Use 2 to 3 times per year Engadine Musical Society – 1per year 400-700 patrons	
	One word description Of the proposed facility	“Welcoming” “Accepting” “Inspirational” “Safe” “Performance Venue” “Impressive” “Event”
	Top 5 things you would change	1 – Bigger stage with adequate wings / raked stalls / lift for patrons 2 – Fly tower / Fly tower / more comfortable seating with more leg room

		3 – Proper dock – level with stage / Wings / Legs / Fly tower 4 – Lots of ladies toilets / Dressing Rooms / Laundry / Green Room / Stage Door / Better BOH facilities & dressing rooms 5 – Lift for patrons / Dock / Building access / case storage / manageable hiring costs 6 – Orchestra pit
	Core facilities SEC must provide	Larger stage / fly tower / Loading dock / female toilets / Lift / Orchestra pit / Good access for patrons and to BOH / Professional stage & facilities / fly tower / theatre space / adequate BOH facilities / lift for patrons / comfortable seating / large foyer
	What user groups should be prioritised in the design	The performing groups, local or from elsewhere Local theatre / Musical groups / Ballet & dance / Schools / Seniors
	Other facilities that would work well in the new SEC	Orchestra pit
	Cry rooms	Should really be called viewing rooms –users - mothers / disabled / premium seating
	Stage	12 x 10 deep stage is just OK
	Wings	Could work with a 3.0m OP wing, if there was a substantial savings in not demolishing that wall.
	Fly tower	Visiting companies would require a fly tower
	Loading Dock	Dock leveller required / sink required