

# MEDIA RELEASE

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## Temporary Pavilion Closure at Gawler Sport and Community Centre

The Pavilion at the Gawler Sport and Community Centre is temporarily closed to enable the ceiling to be replaced and repair work to be undertaken in the roof cavity. This unplanned repair work is a result of a recommendation from a contractor engaged by Council to inspect the roof cavity after Council Staff noticed pigeons causing damage to the ceiling in the Pavilion.

“Council’s contractor undertook a detailed site assessment, including cutting entrance holes into the roof cavity and entering via an elevated work platform,” said Mayor Redman. “This assessment uncovered a high level of contamination due to pigeons roosting in the roof cavity that needs to be appropriately treated.” The contractor’s recommendation calls for the removal of the suspended ceiling, closing all points of pigeon entry, stabilisation of the roof and ceiling structure generally and reinstatement of a false ceiling.

The ceiling removal work must be carried out by suitably qualified contractors trained in the removal of heritage structures. The Pavilion, which was built in 1881, is one of Council’s oldest buildings and is a local heritage listed building. The removal of the ceiling sheets will require specialist treatment associated with the age and condition of the ceiling materials.

“Although this closure will be frustrating for users of the Pavilion, the Gawler Central Sporting Association and Council Staff, it is necessary to ensure a safe environment for patrons of the Gawler Sport and Community Centre and our community,” said Mayor Redman.

Council is current working with the various user groups who have had access to the hall for their many varied activities. Of the nine groups impacted by this temporary closure five have already been provided alternate accommodation options. Council will continue to work with the remaining four groups to hopefully find alternate options thus minimising the impacts of this temporary accommodation issue.

The work is expected to take 4-6 weeks and is able to be funded from within Council’s existing facility maintenance budgets.

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