

Mark Speakman Attorney General

MEDIA RELEASE

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KATOOMBA COURTHOUSE MAKEOVER IS COMPLETE

The million dollar makeover of Katoomba Courthouse which involved the restoration of its historic 124-year old sandstone façade has been completed.

Attorney General Mark Speakman said the \$1.07 million project modernised the courthouse while preserving its past.

"After the installation of new AVL in the courthouse last year, work is now complete on rebuilding one chimney, stabilising other chimneys and gables, roof plumbing, and timber and stone repairs," Mr Speakman said.

"Katoomba is now fit for the future, while the restoration of its exterior pays homage to its 124-year history."

The works follow the resumption in 2020 of District Court sittings at Katoomba Courthouse after a two-decade hiatus.

"As a result, the court has become busier and these works ensure it is in its best shape to deal with the number of matters being heard," Mr Speakman said.

"One of the NSW Government's key aims is to increase efficiency and reduce the time people have to wait for justice."

The conservation work took place in conjunction with the Public Works Advisory. It was funded under the NSW Government's \$100 million Sustaining Critical Infrastructure Program which is boosting access to justice at courthouses across the state with new audio-visual link equipment, courtrooms and other facilities.

Katoomba Courthouse was designed by Government Architect Walter Liberty Vernon. The foundation stone was laid in 1895 by the Lieutenant Governor, Sir Frederick Darley, with construction completed in 1897.

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