



Message from the Commissioner

Dear colleagues,

I am pleased to advise you that we have confirmation of a new home for the future Queensland Fire Department.

In 2025, the Queensland Fire Department will move its state headquarters to 240 Sandgate Road, Albion, a building marketed as Hudson Common.

We will lease the entire site including all 10 floors, carparks and surrounding land and expect to relocate in 2025. For those of you who are familiar with this area, the building was once the old TAB building and a significant refurbishment is currently underway and will be done before we move.



While there has been speculation about a move this has been subject to confidential negotiations. We are only now able to discuss with you following contracts being signed.

This decision has been a difficult one and I know many of you have a strong connection with the Kedron facility – a place we have called home for more than 25 years. However, it is one we have made for the future of the Queensland Fire Department.



Artist's impression only. Not indicative of final design.



Why are we relocating?

For many years, QFES has been dealing with accommodation issues, particularly at Kedron, where QFES, QPS and QAS all compete for space.

As a result, we have had teams dispersed at various locations in Brisbane and for many years have needed to lease office space at Albion and in CBD. This is an expensive, inconvenient and inefficient way to work.

With recent Machinery of Government changes and reform initiatives including a significant uplift to our department and QPS, constraints are only going to be exacerbated so it is an ideal time to set the course for future success.

While the new Queensland Fire Department will still have a presence at Kedron, consolidating our state

headquarters into one dedicated, customised, contemporary space is an extraordinary opportunity for the department.

The move brings state personnel together – enabling better frontline and support service delivery to the community. It provides an opportunity for increased collaboration and allow us to create a fit-for-purpose space that QFD can call its head office.

Who is moving and when?

More than 500 state and corporate personnel from four locations – Kedron, Makerston House in the CBD, 77 and 85 Hudson Road – will relocate. This currently includes the Office of the Commissioner, FRS Directorate, RFS Directorate, Strategy Directorate, Assurance Directorate, Asset Services, Information and Technology Directorate, QFES People and Culture, and the Finance, Procurement and Levy Directorate. There will also be capacity for ICT personnel that QFES will receive from QPS as part of the transition.

We will continue to have a presence at Kedron with functions such as Fire and Rescue Service Brisbane Region, Brisbane Region Operations Centre, Rural Fire Service Southern Region, Firecom and the current State Operations Centre (SOC) facility.

In the longer term, a new fit-for-purpose SOC will be developed at the headquarters and the current Kedron SOC will transition to the Greater Brisbane Regional Control Centre.

There will be further discussions and consultation on some functions currently located at Kedron and whether there is a need to maintain a presence there for operational reasons.

As you can imagine an undertaking like this will take some time and involve considerable consultation and planning.

The building is still undergoing base building works and staff have opportunities to provide input over coming months. The design team will liaise with all business units to ensure requirements are captured and functional accommodation is provided for the detailed design of the fit-out and facilities, which will start in late 2024 before the move in 2025.

Where necessary, there may also be interim moves of some teams before re-locating to the new headquarters due to the current accommodation issues.

About the new headquarters

The new office space provides us with the opportunity to work collaboratively to design modern, tailored facilities and flexible workspaces.

There are many great aspects to the new building and location. Importantly, per capita the number of car parks on site are comparable to Kedron, and we won't be sharing them with other departments.

Albion is a great public transport hub with the Albion train station within 200 metres and eight bus stops within 240 metres.

There is a lot of urban renewal happening in the area, particularly with plans for the Brisbane 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games' Breakfast Creek Sports Precinct delivering mixed-use indoor and outdoor sports facilities nearby.

The building is currently undergoing a full refurbishment and a façade replacement and our tenancy will be contemporary and designed with modern flexible workspaces in mind. The developer's [Hudson Common website](#) has more information about the building. For all intents and purposes this will be a brand new building with all new electrical, mechanical, AC and ventilation services.

Next steps

This is not something that is happening tomorrow and will take time and we will be consulting with industrial bodies and engaging with staff.

A townhall will be held next Thursday 15 February to discuss the new headquarters as well as update you on Reform activities. I encourage you to join in.

- [Click here](#) to add the townhall to your calendar (click to download, then open in Outlook).
- [Click here](#) to access the livestream (available on the day).

More information is available on the [QFD Accommodation Gateway page](#) including Frequently Asked Questions.

Regards,

Steve Smith AFSM
A/Commissioner
QFES



QFES acknowledges and recognises Traditional Owners as custodians of the lands where we work together with the communities of Queensland. We pay our respects to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander ancestors of these lands, their spirits and their legacy.

This email was sent by A/Commissioner Steve Smith, Commissioner.Communications@qfes.qld.gov.au to vivienne.luxford@qfes.qld.gov.au

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