

**Question on Notice
No. 1565
Asked on 29 October 2008**

Ms Grace Asked the Minister for Emergency Services (Mr Roberts) -

QUESTION:

Will he advise what new enhancements there have been to Emergency Services facilities within my electorate of Brisbane Central?

ANSWER:

The Department of Emergency Services is committed to ensuring the ongoing provision of essential services to minimise the risk and impact of accidents, emergencies and disasters.

The Spring Hill Fire Communications refurbishment was completed in March 2008. The new complex includes:

- An upgraded Communications room with increased capacity for nine consoles from seven;
- An enhanced Regional Operations Coordination Centre (ROCC) which is a multi functional room for management of large incidents and training area for communication officers; and
- An Administration Support area including a common resource room and amenities.

A continuity of the business project has been completed with a Communications Centre redundancy capability built at Kemp Place Fire Station. This allows QFRS communications to be transferred to and operated from Kemp Place.

The Roma Street Fire and Ambulance Replacement Station was officially opened in April 2007. The new complex includes a four-storey building for fire and ambulance station facilities, office, administration, and additional accommodation for fire and ambulance vehicles.

The Queensland Emergency Operations Centre (QEOC) is underway at a cost of \$76 million. This project will see a new integrated communication and state emergency operations centre at the Kedron Park complex to enable more effective management of large scale emergencies and disasters in Queensland. The project involves the upgrading and replacement of radio, information and communication technology.

This new facility will house the functions currently carried out by:

- State Disaster Coordination Centre and State Operations Coordination Centre;
- The combined ambulance and fire services communications (AFCom) facility currently based at Spring Hill
- Queensland Emergency Medical System Coordination Centre including the Aero-medical desk; and
- Geographic Information Services.

The new QEOC facility is planned to be operational in the 2010-2011 financial year, enabling the relocation of AFCom from Spring Hill. This means the replacement of the Spring Hill Ambulance Station facility would be completed in the 2011-2012 financial year.

An extra communication repeater has been installed at the Queensland Fire and Rescue Service radio communications centre in the Brisbane CBD to enhance portable and vehicle communication throughout the city area.

The construction component of the capital works program at Kemp Place Fire Station is currently being undertaken. This involves concrete resurfacing, installation of a waterproof membrane and a roof being placed over an open car park area.

An emergency back-up generator at the ambulance and fire communications centre, Boundary Street, Fortitude Valley is being installed and is due for completion early December 2008.