



MEDIA RELEASE

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QBC to create a register of vacant Commercial space in Queanbeyan

Queanbeyan Business Council, Queanbeyan City Council and Capital Region BEC are working jointly towards the establishment of a "Queanbeyan Development Corporation" to advise City Council in matters relating to the commercial future of our City.

An "Interim Board" has already met consisting of two City Councillors (including the Mayor), QCC General Manager, QBC President, Vice President and Immediate Past President and Chair of the BEC.

Amongst the immediate challenges facing the new Board will be the development of a strategy to attract new commercial lessees to replace those lost to the NSW State Office Block nearing completion in Farrer Place.

Queanbeyan Business Council, on behalf of the Interim Queanbeyan Development Board, is keen to establish the extent of commercial vacancies that will occur within Queanbeyan CBD as a result of NSW government departments relocating to the NSW State Office Block.

There is no doubt that the NSW Office Block will continue to be a boon to Queanbeyan's economy, however there will be extensive vacancies in locations around Queanbeyan CBD when staff re-locate.

QBC is writing to building owners and commercial real estate agencies to seek information about affected properties. This will be collated into a confidential database to enable the Interim Development Board to develop co-ordinated strategies towards re-filling vacant space.

QBC sees this as an important issue not only for property owners, but also those businesses that rely upon accessibility to local workers.

QBC and the Development Board will market the many advantages in selecting Queanbeyan as a place to do business:

- Excellent access to all parts of the Region including Canberra, the mountains and the coast.
- Close proximity to Canberra International Airport.
- Three hours to Sydney by road, 8 hours to Melbourne.

- A compact CBD with full retail, catering, accommodation and professional services readily at hand.
- Ready access to a business friendly Council.
- Established business networks including the Capital Region BEC and Queanbeyan Business Council.
- Free parking.

If this initiative is successful, QBC will ask real estate agencies to contribute to a broader Queanbeyan confidential vacancies database, including properties not subject to the NSW State Office Block such as industrial and warehouse properties.

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