

# Building future skills

A tafe infrastructure plan for Ipswich





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# Minister's message



A key strength of Queensland's vocational education and training system is its commitment to giving students practical, hands-on skills developed in part, in purpose-built training facilities that mirror real world workplaces.

Investing in the delivery of high-quality training supported by a network of fit-for-purpose training infrastructure is essential to ensure Queenslanders have the skills they need to secure a job and progress their careers in our state's growing industries.

For our students, having access to state-of-the-art training facilities and equipment will ensure they are job ready. For our teachers and trainers, it will provide them with contemporary training spaces to ensure training delivery meets industry needs.

Across Queensland there are currently 77 sites owned or leased by the State Government and the public training providers for the delivery of vocational education and training.

This includes the network of TAFE Queensland and Central Queensland University campuses as well as sites utilised by the state's other public providers of training.

The Queensland Government has released the *"Skills for Queensland – Great training for quality jobs"* plan to secure our future prosperity through a skilled and adaptive workforce. More innovative and flexible training opportunities will give Queenslanders better access to skilling, reskilling and upskilling pathways to remain agile as jobs evolve.

The Government will invest more than \$105 million during 2019-20, in projects across Queensland as part of the long-term plan to revitalise the state's training portfolio. To complement this program, over the next few years we have significant investments planned for the modernisation of Pimlico, Cairns, Mount Gravatt, Toowoomba, Alexandra Hills and the Ashmore and Southport sites at the Gold Coast.

As we deliver on this investment, we also need to plan for the training needs of all Queensland communities to ensure our investment in training facilities is going where it is needed and we are ready to support training delivery into the future.

This has led to the development of 14 regional plans that outline the Queensland Government's proposed investment in training infrastructure as well as strategies to provide access to relevant training spaces to meet local industry and community needs.

For Ipswich, this plan outlines the future for three TAFE Queensland campuses to ensure facilities continue to meet the demand for training across the region.

Central to this planning, is ensuring our training infrastructure can readily adapt to changing technology and industry advancements and complement a range of delivery options such as online learning and workplace-based training.

This plan outlines how we intend to provide the Ipswich region with the training infrastructure it needs to skill its workforce for the future.

## **The Honourable Shannon Fentiman MP**

Minister for Employment and Small Business  
Minister for Training and Skills Development

# Advancing Queensland's training infrastructure

## Our current training footprint

Across the state, training is currently delivered from a range of training spaces including:

- state-owned training infrastructure
- leased, purpose-built training facilities
- workplaces
- trade training centres and other facilities shared with state and non-state secondary schools
- shared facilities with universities (such as QUT Caboolture and the University of the Sunshine Coast)
- shared facilities with industry (such as Queensland Rail's training facility at Acacia Ridge).

TAFE Queensland and Central Queensland University are the primary users of the state's training infrastructure alongside Queensland's other public training providers Aviation Australia and the Aboriginal Centre for the Performing Arts.

Within the 77 training sites owned or leased by the Queensland Government, there are four types of training facilities:

- a full campus: may offer trade and/or nontrade training and provides a full range of services including a customer services centre, library and canteen.
- training centre: may offer trade and/or nontrade training as well some services such as a customer service centre.
- specialised training centre: offers training for a specific industry or skill area (i.e. trades) from a full campus or training centre.
- learning hubs: a small training space generally co-located with other services (i.e. high school) or on leased premises.

## Planning for the future

In 2019-20, the Government is committed to investing over \$105 million in infrastructure projects across Queensland as part of the long-term plan to revitalise the state's training portfolio.

From 2018 to 2021, significant investments will be made to modernise the Pimlico, Cairns, Mount Gravatt and Toowoomba training sites, and training infrastructure within the regions of the Gold Coast and Redlands.

While there have been periods of significant investment in the state's training infrastructure over the years, the majority of the state-owned facilities are decades old and were designed to meet the training needs at the time of construction. For some facilities, their age, location and changes in industry skills needs, have meant that they are no longer fit-for-purpose.

This regional infrastructure planning process is working to prepare the state's training facilities for future training needs, particularly in areas of projected population or employment growth and to respond to changing skills needs of industry. This includes ensuring infrastructure upgrades incorporate projected climate change data and take into account the skills and training needs as a result of global trends such as digital innovation, shifting markets, and the transition to a low carbon economy, which will significantly impact Queensland industries and employment.

TAFE Queensland currently occupy forty of the forty-seven State-owned sites. A number of these are earmarked to undergo master planning in the next few years to determine investment opportunities.

# Ipswich regional overview

The Ipswich region<sup>1</sup> encompasses the Ipswich City Council area and parts of Somerset, Lockyer Valley, Scenic Rim Regional and Brisbane City Council local government areas. The Ipswich region is expected to experience significant growth in population, employment, and training demand over the next 10 years<sup>23</sup>.

The Jobs Queensland Anticipating Future Skills<sup>4</sup> project forecasts that the greatest employment changes to occur in the Ipswich region by the year 2022 will be in the following industries:

- health care and social assistance
- retail trade
- education and training
- construction
- manufacturing.

The impact of digital technologies and involvement in global value chains are driving changes in workforce composition and skills throughout Queensland, triggering a transition to a knowledge and services based economy. While mining remains one of the biggest economic contributors in the state in terms of output, service industries such as construction, health care and social assistance now contribute almost as much, and the workforce of the future will require higher levels of skills and different skill sets<sup>4</sup>.

The Ipswich region is well known for its manufacturing industry, the second largest employer in the region behind health care and social assistance. It is also one of the fastest growing regions in Queensland, with the population-driven industries of retail trade, construction and education and training major industries in the region<sup>5</sup>. The establishment of the Military Vehicle Centre of Excellence by Rheinmetall Australia at Redbank will turn the Ipswich region into one of the largest defence logistics hubs in the country.



Sources: QGSO population projections 2018 edition (medium series); Queensland Treasury employment projections 2016 (medium series) place of work – data sets adjusted to align with this region; State Training Agency Clearinghouse (STAC) Database 2017

Significant projects<sup>6</sup> likely to affect the region’s short to medium term economic outlook and job opportunities include:

- Ipswich Motorway Upgrade, Rocklea to Darra (stage 1) – \$400 million
- East Ipswich Train and Springfield Central Station upgrade – \$17.5 million and \$44.5 million
- Ipswich Hospital redevelopment
- additional classrooms, school buildings across the region and the new Ripley State School – \$82.9 million
- Ripley Valley Priority Development Area to house a population of around 120,000 people
- Somerset Hydro refurbishment – \$12.6 million
- Swanbank Power Station overhauls, minor works and gas supply strategy (ongoing) – \$27.958 million
- Wacol Counter-Terrorism and Community Safety Training Centre for Queensland Police – \$46.7 million
- Willowbank Industrial development – \$73.7 million

1 Reporting within this document for the Ipswich region is based on the following Statistical Area 3 (SA3) regions: Ipswich Hinterland, Ipswich Inner, Forest Lake – Oxley and Springfield – Redbank.

2 QGSO population projections 2018 edition (medium series), Queensland Treasury employment projections 2016 (medium series) place of work – data sets adjusted to align with this region.

3 Employment projections are based on the 2015 edition; the data set has been adjusted to 2016.

4 Jobs Queensland: The Future of Work in Queensland to 2030 Discussion Paper – 2019.

5 Jobs Queensland: Anticipating Future Skills: Jobs growth and alternative futures for Queensland to 2022.

6 Sourced from Regional Action Plans (Queensland Budget 2018-19) and State Infrastructure Plan (Part B: Program – 2018 update).

# Training infrastructure in Ipswich

Within the Ipswich region, there are three TAFE Queensland campuses at Bundamba (Ipswich), Inala and Springfield. Training provided in the Ipswich region is predominantly non-trade training.

**Inala** TAFE campus specialises in non-trade training, delivering English language classes and offering courses relevant to the local community including but not limited to agriculture and business.

**Springfield** TAFE campus specialises in non-trade training in community services and includes childcare training facilities, massage training facilities and graphic design studios.

**Bundamba (Ipswich)** TAFE is a full campus supporting students over multiple industry areas for trade and non-trade training. The range of study areas includes aged care, agriculture and horticulture, automotive, beauty and hairdressing, building and construction, business, electrotechnology, engineering, general education, health care, hospitality, cookery and information technology. Approximately one third of training at the Ipswich campus is trade training.

The Ipswich region's demand for training has seen general education and training remain steady between 2015–16 and 2017–18, with significant increases in training for the health and construction sectors over the same period.

Training demand in the Ipswich region will increase significantly over the next ten years reflecting projected employment growth in the health, education and construction industries.



*This map is intended for general reference use only*





## Inala

As a training centre, the 1.011 hectare Inala TAFE campus is located approximately 20km south of Brisbane CBD. This campus was expanded in 2017 to include an additional 10 semi-demountable classrooms and multicultural amenities. The expansion was required to meet the training demand for English classes for migrants and refugees in the wider community.

For a training centre, the Inala TAFE campus has a relatively high student volume. The majority of students are enrolled in the area of general education and training.

At the Inala campus, TAFE Queensland has a variety of partnerships particularly with the Commonwealth Government's Australian English Migrant Program.



## Future outlook

The campus has the capacity to manage the ongoing training demand and will continue to deliver training in specialist migrant programs and broader areas tailored specifically for this community.

The state government invested \$3.4 million in the 2017 expansion of the facilities. Since then, approximately \$236,500 has been invested in capital and maintenance.

\$270,000 is budgeted for maintenance and upgrades at the site over the next two years to provide a modern flexible learning environment.

### Infrastructure plan:

#### Inala

- \$270,000 is proposed for maintenance and upgrades at this site over the next two years to provide a modern flexible learning environment.



## Springfield

As a leased training centre, the Springfield TAFE campus is located at Education City, within the greater Springfield area. It is positioned in a growth corridor between the cities of Brisbane and Ipswich, located within one kilometre of the Springfield train station and easily accessible by bus.

Springfield is an expected growth area for the region and a significant increase in enrolments for health care and social assistance indicates that this is an area of demand for both employment and training.



## Future outlook

The Springfield TAFE campus has the flexibility to adapt to future skills and the needs of the local community and capacity to manage the expected growth. Springfield TAFE is a leased site with no associated maintenance or capital costs, therefore future investment is mainly needed to ensure students are provided with modern learning equipment.

There is an opportunity to develop partnerships with external groups to support the expected growth in the region including to assist small businesses through the chamber of commerce and TAFE Queensland's Small Business Solutions program.

### Infrastructure plan: Springfield

- The site is leased by TAFE Queensland and there are no associated maintenance or capital costs.





## Bundamba (Ipswich)

The 23.31 hectare Bundamba (Ipswich) TAFE campus is TAFE Queensland's key campus for the Ipswich region. It is a full campus that offers a range of courses in trade and non-trade training and includes a range of specialist facilities available for automotive, construction, engineering, hairdressing, horticulture, hospitality, beauty and nursing. The campus adjoins the Bundamba train station and has excellent access to public transport, activity centres, and road networks and parking.

Enrolment at this campus is steady in all areas, with a significant training demand increase over the last three years for trade training, and health and hospitality qualifications in line with trending employment growth forecasts.



## Future outlook

The campus has the capacity to manage the expected training demand. However, investment is needed to modernise training delivery across both trade and non-trade buildings to ensure they are fit-for-purpose and provide more flexibility for emerging training needs, especially to cater for growth in demand for advanced manufacturing, health and construction.

The vacant land at the north of the campus is currently not required for training delivery, and further analysis is required on how it can be repurposed.

Other government initiatives will be considered for the campus to expand the social infrastructure available to the local community. There is also an opportunity to redevelop the campus to increase teaching capacity and partnerships with external groups.

Over \$12 million is budgeted for revitalisation works over the next two years to refurbish training areas providing modern, collaborative learning environments to students and the community. This allocation includes concept planning and the construction program for the refurbishment and replacement of facilities to improve amenity and student experience across all studies areas offered at Bundamba. Master planning and options analysis commenced in 2019 to determine future investment options.

### Infrastructure plan: Bundamba (Ipswich)

- Over \$12 million is proposed for revitalisation works over the next two years to refurbish training areas to provide modern, collaborative learning environments to students and the community. This includes detailed planning for refurbishment or replacement of facilities to improve amenity and student experience across all studies areas offered at Bundamba.

# Ipswich training infrastructure plan

Both the Springfield TAFE and Inala TAFE campuses have the capacity to meet anticipated growth in student enrolments. These facilities are fit-for-purpose and future investment will maintain modern teaching facilities.

Detailed planning has commenced for the Bundamba (Ipswich) campus, which will provide options for the best use of the site and options for investment in training delivery, capital improvements and social infrastructure to support TAFE Queensland, industry, and the wider community.

As it is the key delivery site in the Ipswich region, the planning process may identify training delivery gaps within the catchment when considering population growth in the southern corridor.

With a stronger growth in demand for training at the Bundamba (Ipswich) TAFE campus, and noting that its size and scale is in excess of projected training delivery needs, there is an opportunity to redevelop the campus to include increased teaching capacity and partnerships with external groups.

The underutilised land to the north of Mary Street in Ipswich may be repurposed for alternative use with funds from any transfer reinvested back in to the Ipswich campus.

This site provides an opportunity to deliver mixed-use, urban educational villages in association with existing, upgraded or expanding TAFE Queensland facilities.

## Summary of planned actions

Training infrastructure in the Ipswich region is subject to further detailed planning, with Bundamba (Ipswich) TAFE campus to undergo further targeted analysis in 2019.

All campuses in this region will be maintained with their current training emphasis.

### Inala TAFE

- \$270,000 is proposed for maintenance over the next two years to provide a modern learning environment. The campus has capacity to manage the ongoing training demand and will continue to deliver training in specialist migrant programs.

### Springfield TAFE

- The leased site may require future investment to ensure students are provided with modern learning equipment, particularly in study areas relating to health care and social assistance.

### Bundamba TAFE

- Over \$12 million is proposed for revitalisation works over the next two years to refurbish training areas for both trade and non-trade buildings to provide modern, collaborative learning environments to students and the community.
- Master planning for the region with a focus on the Bundamba (Ipswich) site has commenced.
- The campus has the capacity to manage the expected training demand, with investment needed to modernise training delivery to ensure facilities are fit-for-purpose and provide more flexibility for emerging skills especially to cater for growth in skills for advanced manufacturing, health and construction.





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