## New unit for Emerald SES announced

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Emerald SES will move into new headquarters in 2019 following the Minister for Emergency Services James Merlino's announcement today of a relocation to a new, fit-for-purpose site on Belgrave-Gembrook Rd.

Construction on the new unit is expected to start in September, with volunteers set to take possession by mid-2019. The new building will replace the existing unit on Old Gembrook Rd which volunteers had long outgrown.

Emerald's 51 volunteers are among the most active in Victoria, responding to more than 650 requests for assistance over the past 12 months.

The location of the new unit is situated closer to the majority of calls for assistance and will increase the VICSES profile and volunteer connection with the Emerald community.

The current VICSES site will be retained for community use, and returned to the Cardinia Shire Council once the new unit opens.

## **Quotes attributable to VICSES Chief Executive Officer Stephen Griffin**

"The new unit will increase the presence of Victoria State Emergency Service and our volunteer connection to the Emerald community."

"This site will be owned by Victoria State Emergency Service, which provides the Emerald volunteers and community with certainty for the future."

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