

Building and Plumbing Newsflash 516

Guidelines for special fire services and referrals to the Queensland Fire and Rescue Service

Purpose

To advise building certifiers and industry that Building Codes Queensland has published guidelines for special fire services and referrals to the Queensland Fire and Rescue Service (QFRS).

Background

Current building legislation requires building work containing special fire services or alternative solutions involving a fire safety system that is assessable against the *Building Act 1975*, or the subject of a development application, to be referred to the QFRS for advice. Building certifiers must ensure that QFRS advice has been obtained prior to deciding a development application.

The [Guidelines for special fire services and referrals to the Queensland Fire and Rescue Service](#) have been developed in consultation with the building industry. The guidelines provide building certifiers with guidance on how to meet their responsibilities for building development applications requiring referral to the QFRS for advice. They assist with interpreting the term 'special fire service' and explain the link between the terms in the Building Code of Australia and the *Building Act 1975* for a 'special fire service'. The guidelines also help to identify the elements that make up a special fire service for a more consistent approach for referral to the QFRS for advice.

The new guidelines are made under section 258 of the *Building Act 1975*.

Contact for further information

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