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Just the ticket for bus outfit

Chris Herde

A BUS company seeking room to move has signed off on a \$17 million development at Stockland's expanding North Lakes Business Park.

Hornibrook Group director Drew Mountjoy said the company's depot at Clontarf, which services the Redcliffe Peninsula, had reached full capacity.

"About four years ago we looked around and last year an opportunity came up at North Lakes," he said.

"We had to make sure it made sense for our purposes and for Stockland."

Through Caboolture Commercial, Hornibrook bought four lots, totalling 1.5ha, on the corner of Wills St and Burke Cres for about \$5 million.

The property also has high exposure to Endeavour Boulevard and the proposed North-South Arterial Rd.

Mr Mountjoy said Hornibrook would spend up to \$12 million on the development, which would feature a bus

depot for 20 buses with later capacity for 60. Hornibrook's additional business subsidiaries, including Sunshine Storage trading as North Lakes Self Storage, would also form part of the complex.

"Given the site's prime high-exposure frontage and the park's modern infrastructure, we have integrated around 6000sq m of self-storage space," Mr Mountjoy said.

"We also believe the North Lakes Business Park offers real benefits for the growth of small business and the retail warehouse market and thus we are providing what we call approximately 2700sq m of Flexi-Space."

McNab Constructions will build Hornibrook's new headquarters, which will include solar electricity and state-of-the-art security.

Mr Mountjoy said operational efficiencies drove the decision to move.

"Most of the growth in Hornibrook's contract area has been in and around the North

Lakes region, so it made sense that the new depot should be located as close as possible to the North Lakes Town Centre.

"We have been working very closely with Translink for the past two years to bring the depot facility to fruition, which will deliver real benefits to government and the travelling public. We should be in operation here by October."

Stockland national trading manager Troy Bryant said the park was perfectly positioned for transport and logistics infrastructure.

"This is a major service project by Hornibrook and it represents the company's commitment to supporting the local community here at North Lakes," he said.

"There is also a growing demand for self-storage solutions, so the addition of this as part of the Hornibrook development is a real benefit for North Lakes residents."

Mr Bryant said Stage 3 of the business park had almost sold out.



ROOM TO MOVE: Drew Mountjoy, director of Hornibrook Group, at the site of the company's new headquarters in North Lakes Business Park. **Picture: Jono Searle**