

From:
To: [Flood Inquiry](#)
Subject: Directly impacted.
Date: Thursday, 19 May 2022 2:24:56 PM

My name is . I was born in Lismore and returned last year with my 1 year old and husband from Denmark. We were living at Street on the night of the flood.

I received a text in the evening that said that Lismore CBD was to evacuate. Not knowing the classification of my area, I then texted our neighbour and my dad who has a clinic down on , asking if we should evacuate. Both assured me that we weren't CBD and that we were perfectly safe from flood waters.

We went to bed around 11:30pm with all the intel we could find assuring us that if anything were to happen it wouldn't be til late the next afternoon and woke up at 5am to see the waters were right up to our back deck. We gathered our essentials, not really believing that it would come in, or if it did that it wouldn't be very high. Our floor height was 13.67, supposedly safe. A few random neighbours who were walking past popped in to help us lift things up onto tables or the kitchen bench. Ultimately, it all was destroyed by the waters anyway.

We applied for the disaster relief and received it.

Our concern is that we can't stay in the region for want of affordable housing, that the value of the property we spent 10 months intensively renovating for my mother has dropped completely & that ultimately our loss is just the beginning of what inevitably will be continued climate catastrophes.

We will be returning to Denmark as (albeit extremely privileged) climate refugees, unable to afford to stay near my family for the birth of my second child here in July.

The lack of upper level leadership, or any indication of how to rebuild, or whether there's any plans in place for seriously addressing the issues is what continues to add distress to the situation.

I would love for Lismore to be a model of how the Australian government steps up and does all it can to both mitigate future disasters and heal the damage already done.

Lismore has a vulnerable and vibrant population and I'm afraid it won't be cared for the way it would be if the rich and influential were devastated and

traumatised by the event/s.

I hope for buybacks, relocations and engineering solutions. I hope old houses that will never be built the same are saved and that the community gets some clear messaging about how to rebuild.

Sincerely,

& (almost 2 year old)