

**From:** [NSW Government](#)  
**To:** [Flood Inquiry](#)  
**Subject:** Floods Inquiry  
**Date:** Friday, 20 May 2022 12:02:32 PM

## Your details

Title

First name

Last name

Email

Postcode

## Submission details

I am making this  
submission as

Emergency services personnel

Submission type

I am making a personal submission

Organisation  
making the  
submission (if  
applicable)

Your position in  
the organisation  
(if applicable)

Consent to make  
submission  
public

I would like this submission to remain  
anonymous

Share your experience or tell your story

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**Your story**

Lismore Police Rescue is the Primary Rescue Unit for Lismore - General Land Recue/Swiftwater/Vertical etc.

As the \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_ since \_\_\_\_\_, I have been requesting more rescue trained operatives to meet the need of the community. We currently have 7 operatives to a cover 24/7 roster and only 2 (two) of them are trained to work in swiftwater - Floods. We don't even have a flood boat to respond. Lismore has always been a flood risk, we had to wait 8 hours to have the nearest Police Rescue operatives attend and assist in the last flood. Lismore Police rescue had to borrow a boat of civilian in order to conduct 100s of rescues.

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**Terms of Reference (optional)**

The Inquiry welcomes submissions that address the particular matters identified in its [Terms of Reference](#)

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**1.1 Causes and contributing factors**

Lack of training and resources available at Lismore Police Rescue .

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**1.2 Preparation and planning**

Lismore has been listed previously as high risk of flood , this has been documented previously. Rescue units in theses areas need to be equipped with the trained personnel and resources to respond to such events.

Lismore Police Rescue should have all operatives trained in Floods (Swiftwater) response.

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**1.3 Response to floods**

If NSW Police Rescue had maintained a larger pool of trained operatives and full time staff our response would have been more effective, efficient and timely. We had to borrow a civilians boat to conduct rescues using untrained personnel. We were lucky that no Police Rescue Operative was injured and or had to be rescued

in the recent floods.

If we had a large pool of trained operatives and boats to assist , we would meet our requirements under State Rescue Board Policy and meet the needs of the community (high risk flood area)

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### **Supporting documents or images**

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