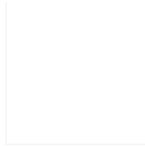


From: [NSW Government](#)
To: [Flood Inquiry](#)
Subject: Floods Inquiry
Date: Friday, 20 May 2022 6:21:16 PM



Your details

Title

First name

Last name

Email

Postcode

Submission details

I am making this submission as

Other

Submission type I am making a personal submission

Consent to make submission public I would like this submission to remain anonymous

Share your experience or tell your story

Terms of Reference (optional)

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

1.1 Causes and contributing factors

I think state & local governments need to ban any residential housing & businesses in flood zones.

The NBN is a disgrace & the communications failure leaving many flood impacted people without means to request help warrants a stand alone inquiry.

1.2 Preparation and planning

The SES in Lismore were underprepared & understaffed.
More investment is needed in better river level monitoring & improved radar & warning systems. Working warning sirens are needed to warn residents during power & communication failures.
Flood prone towns need to have regular flood drills

1.3 Response to floods

It really seems like not many people outside the region were aware of that catastrophic flooding that hit Lismore & towns downriver like Coraki, Woodburn, Broadwater & surrounding villages until after it was a full blown emergency.
I know personally of a terminally ill woman who was left for dead whilst an SES boat with an SES person & a Police Officer motored past them to retrieve their relative & told them, 'we're not here for you'. They then motored past them with one person in the boat. This person was rescued neck deep in floodwaters when she had resigned to dying by volunteers.

1.4 Transition from incident response to recovery

A central command needs to be established at the very start of an expected emergency e.g I register missing clients with the Red Cross however the emergency shelter were not recoding details into this database. Experienced staff with proper resources need to do intake & update a nominated system that all people can use.

1.5 Recovery from floods

The scale of destruction in the region should have meant large scale camp / pods be set up with mess (food) tent facilities, laundry & bathrooms to house displaced people until housing is finalised to ensure they have somewhere safe to sleep, access to food in the absence of kitchens / shops etc within a couple

of weeks not months after, so many people are traumatised and need to be housed & cared for.

1.6 Any other matters

The army were fantastic resource to help people remove damaged items from home, conduct rescues & assist with engineering.

The governments (local, state & federal) need to buy back flood prone housing zones & purchase flood free land & provide new build / house relocating funding. Spending a billion dollars on this would be cheaper in the long run than going through multiple costly major flooding events.

Supporting documents or images
