

From: [NSW Government](#)
To: [Flood Inquiry](#)
Subject: Floods Inquiry
Date: Friday, 27 May 2022 11:40:14 PM

Your details

Title

First name

Last name

Email

Postcode

Submission details

I am making this submission as

A resident in a flood-affected area

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

Your story

My partner and I were living in West Ballina on the day of the floods. We had been living there for approximately six months and chose the region because we were repeatedly told it did not flood. Before moving I tried to check for flood data and couldn't find any easily readable data. I believe there needs to be better flood planning for both residents and renters. We lived on the

Northern side of West Ballina, near Emmanuel Anglican College. I believe we didn't receive water from the Richmond River but rather inadequate drainage. During the second flood, we were not given enough warning to evacuate, leaving us essentially stranded at the mercy of rising water. By the time Ballina Ses and council issued warnings (no text alerts) both small cars were being flooded by water. Due to the time of night and fast rising water, we had no way of knowing how fast it would rise. Again, this was a drainage issue which allowed water to come into the house. I believe better alerts and forecasting need to be available to residents to Make educated decisions.

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	- insufficient drainage
1.2 Preparation and planning	- poor communication and weather modelling
1.5 Recovery from floods	- insufficient assistance from government bodies and difficult to access grants

Supporting documents or images
