

From: [NSW Government](#)
To: [Flood Inquiry](#)
Subject: Floods Inquiry
Date: Thursday, 19 May 2022 11:47:11 PM

Your details

Title	Ms
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Last name	Sturgeon
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Postcode	2483

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 give my consent for this submission to be made public

Share your experience or tell your story

Your story	I had one meter of sewage dirty water go through my house. It caused extensive damage. My insurance building assessment have advised me the costing to restore my house is over \$370,000. I don't want to restore my house as it was. It needs to be elevated. It has flooded before and will flood again. I live in constant anxiety, especially in the wet season. The Byron
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Shire council donor have the finances to do the work required to prevent major flooding. We need more support to rebuild and do what's needed to minimise future flooding.

I have been homeless since February 28th. I'm moving from one AirBnB to another. The impact on me and my family is immense. My daughter has Autism and it's not good for to move from one place to another. Ive been feeling terribly depressed. I'm trying to get a rental house but that's very difficult without a job and due to the low number of rentals available.

I live in North Byron and I support the submission by the North Byron District Activation Group. We had unprecedented flooding in our area in February and March with catastrophic damage to a significant number of houses, businesses and infrastructure and we need funding to assist the community with Flood Mitigation and Flood Response. With assistance we can return safely back to our homes.

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

Where I live in Ocean Shores it's like being at the bottom of a bowl. Water rushes down Orana Road and Narooma Drive. Water also builds up in the adjoining golf club and the Water Lily Park. The roads do not have storm drains and the drains that are there are in disrepair. The waterways surrounding the area are all clogged with weed so the water does not flow freely. There are not enough outlets to let water out.

1.2 Preparation and planning

Cleaning out of creek
Flood mitigation
Pipes with flaps that stop wrongway flow
Levee bank combined with flood retention basin (golf course is an ideal flood retarding basin site).

1.3 Response to floods

We were given about half an hour notice at 5:30am before my house was inundated. There is never any offers of help re sandbagging houses. We're always left to fend for ourselves.

1.4 Transition from incident response to recovery

I had to largely rely on the hospitality of locals to help me out. Even now, I am not eligible for the majority of the government grants because I was insured. My friends that aren't insured and therefore eligible for the grants are having terrible trouble accessing the grants. There is so much "red tape". It's causing so much mental distress for all of us.

1.5 Recovery from floods

It's going to be a long recovery. The next two years of mine and my families life has been thrown into turmoil.

Supporting documents or images

Attach files

- [674E3649-C515-42EC-AF31-6A1D06E286E4.jpeg](#)
 - [7A9BF3FD-C823-43B2-AC32-7C7DD67BEEC2.jpeg](#)
 - [7B931EE2-A184-4F34-A390-0A97BA7EAA92.jpeg](#)
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