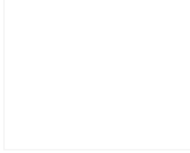


**From:** [NSW Government](#)  
**To:** [Flood Inquiry](#)  
**Subject:** Floods Inquiry  
**Date:** Wednesday, 4 May 2022 1:12:45 PM



## Your details

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<b>Title</b>	Ms
<b>First name</b>	Jean
<b>Last name</b>	Guillot
<b>Email</b>	<input type="text"/>
<b>Postcode</b>	2480

## Submission details

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<b>I am making this submission as</b>	A resident in a flood-affected area
<b>Submission type</b>	I am making a personal submission
<b>Consent to make submission public</b>	I give my consent for this submission to be made public

## Share your experience or tell your story

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<b>Your story</b>	I live in the floodplain and have done for many years. I left my home at 9pm Saturday evening due to back up water from the street drains now being at the first floor level of my home. I left in a kayak as it was too dangerous to head down the stairs, in case I fell or underestimated the amount of water. The water when I left my home was still clear as it had come from the rain still
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sitting in drains that are just not sufficient for our environment or our location

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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**

Far too much rain, inadequate council infrastructure, poor representation by council to governments for flood preparation funding, flood mitigation funding and householder support funding

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### **1.2 Preparation and planning**

There was no preparation and there was no planning. I personally telephoned the council about the water backing up in the drains on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. In desperation on Friday I asked to speak to the General Manager to ask him what was being done to reduce the water in our drains. I was told he was not at work!!!!. I have been making requests of council to fix our drains for more than 15 years and this has been completely ignored. Once I left my home I observed that there were no warnings from council, there was nothing on their disaster dashboard and nothing on their facebook page. Had they all gone home in the face of such an impending disaster? There has been a committee looking into the floodplain for years, why have they not managed to come up with a set of plans for the city to trigger when the water gets to the height that mine was?

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### **1.3 Response to floods**

What response? this grant, that grant, the other grant, another grant, talk to your insurer. It just goes on and on and on. I have received 3 x \$1000 payments. I have lost absolutely everything. I live in a friends home, I drive my fathers car, I wear someone elses clothes. Hours and hours and hours have been spent by me, together with supportive friends trying to complete paperwork and online forms. I have no idea if I will get anything. 10 weeks on and I cannot plan anything. I also lost my job as my

employer went under. Some army personnel cleaning up was great but this is not a response. my friend led the petition to set up the reconstruction authority....there has been a media announcement but where are they? When will they start work that has an impact for all of us?

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**1.4 Transition from incident response to recovery**

There has been no transition but people somehow think we are now in recovery

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**1.5 Recovery from floods**

We will never recover. Our city is decimated, our community is obliterated, our souls are destroyed. the only way we can recover is for the Government to offer us land buy backs, get us off what is now a very dangerous place and move us out of there. Why should Lismore be resilient? Why should we rebuild just to have it all happen again? I want out

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**1.6 Any other matters**

Lismore City Council has a very big role to play in this. The committee around flooding has done nothing, nothing needs to be repeated. They have done reports, investigations, models and chat shows. We needed real tangible actions. Things like evacuation triggers, evacuation plans, working guages in the rivers, storage facilities that were dedicated to people living on the flood plain, a proper relationship with Governments of all levels that supported councillors asking for what we needed.

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**Supporting documents or images**

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