

**From:** [NSW Government](#)  
**To:** [Flood Inquiry](#)  
**Subject:** Floods Inquiry  
**Date:** Thursday, 19 May 2022 7:41:26 PM

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## Your details

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<b>Title</b>	Ms
<b>First name</b>	Julia
<b>Last name</b>	Cooper
<b>Email</b>	
<b>Postcode</b>	2480

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## 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

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## Share your experience or tell your story

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<b>Your story</b>	We are lucky to not be flooded but I personally know so many people directly affected. It is devastating the size and scale of the effect of the flood on the Lismore region and all the other towns. During the time there was so little warning and communications seemed chaotic. My neighbour called Emergency Services about 100 times with no answer to get her friends rescued
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in South Lismore. The local SES said they wanted community help from registers boats with liscensed operators. Then SES HQ said no community help in a very aggressive way (typical too heavy government. Almost everyone in the local community helped how they could during and after. The messaging was very mixed and often chaotic - ie we were told the Evacuation Centre wanted bacon so went to a local butcher bought a lot then drove it back to Evac Centre to be told they didn't need it as they just got a big delivery. Wouldn't it be better to team with these local suppliers and ask locals who can to donate money and then they can provide what is needed? Very frustrating and we were lucky and not flooded.

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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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<b>1.1 Causes and contributing factors</b>	Flood basin of Lismore, M1 creating a dam effect, more water than ever with no notice.
<b>1.2 Preparation and planning</b>	Not sure
<b>1.3 Response to floods</b>	Dreadful - stuck in top heavy government hand wringing and incompetence
<b>1.4 Transition from incident response to recovery</b>	Dreadful - stuck in top heavy government hand wringing and incompetence
<b>1.5 Recovery from floods</b>	Dreadful - stuck in top heavy government hand wringing and incompetence
<b>1.6 Any other matters</b>	It is not good enough- governments can not stop disasters but they can be more efficient with government / community group / private partnerships. Some of the remote NT communities have much better plans in place (I know from living there), maybe due to necessity.

Koori Mail also need to be acknowledged for being so magnificent as a an amazing community agency (many others also but I feel they have been a leading light.

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**Supporting documents or images**

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