

From: [NSW Government](#)
To: [Flood Inquiry](#)
Subject: Floods Inquiry
Date: Wednesday, 27 April 2022 10:46:59 PM

Your details

| | |
|-------------------|----------------------|
| Title | Mr |
| First name | Niall |
| Last name | Macleod |
| Email | <input type="text"/> |
| Postcode | 2480 |

Submission details

| | |
|---|---|
| I am making this submission as | A business owner |
| Submission type | I am making a personal submission |
| Organisation making the submission (if applicable) | SG Asian supermarket |
| Your position in the organisation (if applicable) | Owner manager and everything else |
| 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

Hi my name is Niall my partner and I own SG Asian supermarket that was in Magellan street lismore CBD our shop was around 30-40 meters away from the levee wall. Lucky we learnt a lot after the 2017 floods and realized if the water is going to break the wall we need to evacuate everything in the shop, so we did we got everything we could out on Sunday the 27th of Feb it took 13 people 10hrs to achieve this mamouth task. I then started calling my friends who lived in North Lismore telling them I'm coming to help ,pack your stuff as quick as you can this was around 6pm we managed to make 2 trips and didn't want to risk anymore as the last trip we almost got stuck in flood water the rate it was rising was unbelievable I could see we were risking our lives already I knew this was unlike any other flood I have seen in 40yrs living in Lismore . Once we were safe and dry I kept calling everyone telling them to get out the response from them was the BOM ,ses and local Council don't predict it to be that high so I gave up I was exhausted already. Then I woke up Monday morning to see images of total chaos private boat owners rescuing people off roof tops along with ses these people are Hero's saving so many lives. If Lismore rebuilds in the CBD we need a proper flood plan in place evac centers ready to go and MORE Warning. During the flood in my 3bedroom house we had 8 people staying here + 1 dog, 1 cat and 3birds and all my stock and equipment from our shop it was a full house. I have other friends who lost everything they lifted all thier belongings up as high as they could thinking it will be fine as it has never flooded were they live, they escaped with a shopping bag of clothes. Every time I now go back to the CBD I just break down this was my town this is where I grew up and now it looks like a war zone total destruction everywhere I'm glad I got 2 people and some of there stuff out before it hit. I still feel like I could of done more to help so my partner and I went through our stock and I started dropping it off to the evac centers we felt

guilty that we were high and dry and saved \$80,000 in stock + 2 large fridges and 7 commercial freezers we lost a lot we just couldn't move ,but the guilt is still there. Next step dealing with energy and phone companies still trying to sort it out now let alone the red tape with government grants this is a joke we needed help now not spending hours on the phone everyday after a disaster like this I wanted to be on the ground helping people not on hold dealing with supposed help. Thank you

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

Lack of information early no help when council knew it was going to be bad and poor communication between agencies. Lack of flood manance with cleaning stormwater drains and rivers there was still debris from 2017 in the drains in east lismore.

1.3 Response to floods

Slow response from all involved when I made it to my shop (I had to walk,wade in there was plenty of shop owners in the CBD already assessing the damage I only saw one police car that was it.

Supporting documents or images

Attach files

- [inbound2013570292.jpg](#)
 - [inbound1021246175.jpg](#)
 - [inbound1717128524.jpg](#)
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