

From: [NSW Government](#)
To: [Flood Inquiry](#)
Subject: Floods Inquiry
Date: Saturday, 30 April 2022 5:45:05 AM

Your details

Title Ms

First name Rachel

Last name Doyle

Email

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 On Feb 28th at 5:30am my neighbour rang in a panic to say we needed to get out of our houses in Narooma Drive in a hurry. Water was coming up quickly from the back creek and side creek and like a waterfall down the road. We just managed to get to the evac centre. Water came 1 metre into my house, and wake from vehicles and boats created damage up to the ceiling and

roof. It is uninhabitable and will take 6-12mths to repair. I lost everything in this flood which I feel could have been prevented if Byron Council did their job, which we pay a lot of rates for. They only seem concerned with Byron town centre who were given 1.3million when it flooded ankle deep! We have lost houses and everything north of Byron town and not one cent has been spent, no machinery has come to unblock drains and we are due more heavy rain and potential flooding. They were unblocking the drain at Clarke's Beach Byron the night it happened, its a disgrace how we are treated north of Byron.

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

Blocked drains which have not been maintained by Byron council for 30 years.

Blocked outlets to the ocean Byron council will not unblock.

A housing development called Roundhouse, Byron council have allowed their drainage to pump down our street instead of under the country club.

Ocean Shores CountryClub have raised the weir higher than was approved. The pump house on the course is not adequate and they have Blocked an outlet to the ocean also as they don't want salt water on the greens.

The wall at Brunswick Heads has narrowed the escape route for water.

1.2 Preparation and planning

There was no time for preparation or planning. There were no warnings given by anyone that this may be a major event, even though it had rained heavily for days.

1.3 Response to floods

Clean and maintain drains in Ocean Shores and surrounding villages.

Open outlets to the ocean.

Knock down the illegal weir at OSCC
knock down wall at Brunswick Heads

We now have to consider building up, expedite DA's for flood victims
Give warnings 1-2 days prior to event or potential event.

1.4 Transition from incident response to recovery

Provide long term accommodation at reasonable cost. I am staying at a neighbours house due to lack of accommodation.
Provide motor homes or pods in our gardens so we still feel part of our community, we don't want to leave the area.
Work areas with WiFi so we can continue to work.
Speed up the DA process and provide advice on rebuilding.
Liase with insurance companies to discuss re insurance.

1.5 Recovery from floods

Mentally, physically and emotionally this flood has taken its toll on many communities. Waking up with a sense of panic and being in limbo causes huge anxiety. We need reassurance that something will be done to prevent this from happening again, in our case just hard labour from Council and State to fix drainage. I would like to rebuild and not feel fear when it rains again.

1.6 Any other matters

If our insurance falls short and we have to build up or raise houses we don't know how we will do that. If we have to build up it will take time and we have no accommodation. It would be good to stay on our properties as I said before so our community can stay together.

Supporting documents or images

Attach files

- [inbound4829810558712831105.jpg](#)
 - [inbound8535044337894437302.jpg](#)
 - [inbound1810307914118054553.jpg](#)
-





