

From: [NSW Government](#)
To: [Flood Inquiry](#)
Subject: Floods Inquiry
Date: Monday, 6 June 2022 2:08:52 PM

Your details

Title Ms

First name Robyn

Last name Smith

Email

Postcode 2480

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 am 74 and own three properties in Lismore City. Fortunately my home was not flood affected but my two rental properties which contribute to with my pension income where completely inundated. One a small commercial shop in the Star Court Arcade, Molesworth St Lismore CBD and the other a two story, one bedroom apartment in East Lismore which has never

before had flood water into the upstairs living area. I have lost the tenants to both properties as they are uninhabitable. Both are managed by Strata Managers. The strata insurance does not cover floods however I believe the East Lismore water came from several storm water drains that surround the property and are never cleaned out the Council. We are still waiting on hydrology reports to assess if we will be covered. In the meantime as a landlord the only assistance or grants I may be eligible for are the Back Home Grant \$15,000.00 and Business Govt Charges Relief (\$3,000.00) as I have an ABN however I have had to supply additional information like colour photos, rates statements from the Council etc , which I have done and am awaiting the outcome. Meanwhile I am not receiving any rental income and the quotes for repairs to both premises total \$83,5000.00

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

Of course , The Unprecedented Rain Bomb but The Lismore Basin has been flooding for years. Our First Nation people know this. The Early settlers established the town here for social and commercial reason yet the town/city and its inhabitants have remained and will do again. Attempts to completely move the town and its inhabitants have failed. But what has failed is past adequate Council and Govt smart flood prevention strategies.

accept that it will but successive Councils & govts have not, unitl now really looked at or carried out

1.2 Preparation and planning

Macro strategies: Smart, environmentally sensitive flood mitigation and a residential buy back scheme

Micro: 1. Council clean out the drains, especially the storm water drains and where there are none put them in. Most Basin suburban streets do not even have drains between them and the road and if they are there they are never clean out, This would also prevent pot holes in the roads as the water could run off.

2. Regular servicing of the flood pumps

3. Return the warning and evacuation systems to Council

1.3 Response to floods

Have a system of registered boats

1.4 Transition from incident response to recovery

Slow and too bureaucratic. At the moment & to my knowledge there are 5-6 Govt funded investigative and recovery 'things' going on but no action eg: CSIRO Study, this Inquiry, Lismore City Council's Land Management Plan, The Commissioner for Resilience, the Commissioner for Recovery, and now the Recovery Corporation all bureaucratic but NO Action on the ground.

1.5 Recovery from floods

Slow and soul destroying

1.6 Any other matters

Financial help/loans for landlords so that we can get our business and residential business back in and then afford to pay or rates

Supporting documents or images

Attach files

- [kitchen.jpg](#)
 - [laundry wide.jpg](#)
 - [laundry.jpg](#)
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