

MINUTES

FLOODPLAIN RISK MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE (CENTRAL AREA)

at 4.00 pm

Tuesday 19 August 2025

In Attendance

Cr Thomas Quinn - Chair, Councillor Delegate, Cr Andrew Anthony - Councillor Delegate, Nathan McBriarty - Manager Infrastructure Strategy and Planning, Manel Mariner - Floodplain and Stormwater Manager, Ray Piatek - Senior Stormwater and Floodplain Design Engineer, Ali Sevenler - Floodplain Management Engineer, Motiur Rahman - Floodplain Management Engineer, Yelia Pandika - Floodplain Management Engineer, David Green - Land Use Planning Manager, Stuart Milling - Transport for NSW, Matt Boys - Transport for NSW, Amanda Pollock - SES Illawarra/South Coast Region, Felix Taaffe - GRC Hydro, Stephen Gray - GRC Hydro,



INDEX

ITEM	PAGE NO.
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Contents

1	STANDING AGENDA ITEMS.....	3
1.1	Welcome and Introduction	3
1.2	Acknowledgement of Country	3
1.3	Apologies	3
1.4	Disclosures of Interests.....	3
1.5	Confirmation of Minutes of Previous Meeting	3
2	FLOOD MANAGEMENT UPDATE.....	3
2.1	Wollongong CBD Floodplain Risk Management Study & Plan	3
2.2	The Avenue – Debris Control Structure	4
3	GENERAL BUSINESS	4
3.1	Action Items	4
4	NEXT MEETING.....	4
	The date of the next meeting is to be confirmed.	4
5	CLOSE MEETING	4
	The meeting closed at 4.49pm.	4

1 STANDING AGENDA ITEMS

1.1 Welcome and Introduction

Participants introduced themselves, including Council members, community representatives, state and emergency services representatives and Council technical staff.

1.2 Acknowledgement of Country

The traditional owners of the land were acknowledged.

1.3 Apologies

Nathan Pomfret - Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water

Shaza Raini - Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water

Dylan Whitelaw - SES Illawarra/South Coast Region,

David Winterbottom - Community Representative

Dorte Ekelund - Community Representative

1.4 Disclosures of Interests

Stuart Milling disclosed being member of the Wollongong Golf Club.

1.5 Confirmation of Minutes of Previous Meeting

Not Applicable.

2 FLOOD MANAGEMENT UPDATE

2.1 Wollongong CBD Floodplain Risk Management Study & Plan

- Felix from GRC Hydro presented the updated floodplain risk management study, including new hydrology modelling and assessment of previous and new mitigation measures.
- Key flood hotspots identified: northern branch near Wollongong Hospital, Swan Street area, Spring Hill Road, Robertson Street branch.
- Recent flood history discussed, noting increased frequency and severity in the last 13 years.
- Status of previous mitigation measures reviewed; some completed, others reassessed or added.
- Recommended new measures: upgrades to Spring Hill Road, JJ Kelly Park works, voluntary house raising for five properties, vegetation management.
- Technical details of road upgrades, embankment lowering, and their impacts on flood levels explained.
- Voluntary purchase not recommended due to low hazard; voluntary house raising recommended for eligible properties.
- Swan Street area discussed in detail, including drainage challenges and recent flood events.
- Additional modelling on causeway removal near Port Kembla showed no impact on upstream flood behaviour; sedimentation effects uncertain.
- Committee endorsed moving the report to public exhibition, planned for September to October.

- Climate change scenarios (2050, 2100) included in modelling.
- Table in the report ranks mitigation options for exhibition; Spring Hill Road works highlighted.
- Communication plan: all flood-affected properties to receive individual letters.

Action: It is proposed that the Committee endorses the report to public exhibition.

Moved by Cr T Quinn

Nil Objections

2.2 The Avenue – Debris Control Structure

- Update provided on debris control structure near Figtree Leagues Club; easement negotiations with RSL were required to ensure future maintenance access.
- Construction scheduled to start soon; maintenance and access arrangements discussed.

3 GENERAL BUSINESS

3.1 Action Items

- **Public Exhibition** – Council team to prepare and release the floodplain risk management study for public exhibition by the end of September 2025.
- **Community Engagement** – Council to send individual letters to all flood-affected properties prior to the public exhibition period starts.
- **Mitigation Prioritisation** – Committee to collect community feedback on flood mitigation measures during exhibition period.
- **Golf Course Coordination** – Council to communicate with Wollongong Golf Club (CEO) about report findings and flood mitigation measures that affect their land.

4 NEXT MEETING

The date of the next meeting is to be confirmed.

5 CLOSE MEETING

The meeting closed at 4.49pm.