

**TITLE: 2022 Flood Inquiry Submission**

**Submitted By:** Corporate Governance

---

**LINKAGE TO INTEGRATED PLANNING AND REPORTING FRAMEWORK:**

**People, places and moving around**

*Who we are and how we live*

3.1.9 Local Emergency Management - To support strong and co-ordinated emergency services for the Tweed.

**ROLE:**

ADVOCATE - Council gives voice to the community by lobbying and advocating to achieve benefits and best possible outcomes for the Tweed.

---

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

In March 2022, the NSW Government commissioned an independent expert inquiry into the preparation for, causes of, response to and recovery from the 2022 catastrophic flood event across the state of NSW.

This report provides a draft submission compiled by staff for Council review and endorsement.

Submissions close on 20 May 2022.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

**That Council endorses the attached submission for lodgement with the 2022 NSW Flood Inquiry.**

**ATTACHMENTS**

1. NSW Independent Flood Inquiry - Terms of Reference
2. NSW Independent Flood Inquiry 2022 Council Submission

**COUNCIL IMPLICATIONS:**

**a. Legislation/Policy/Existing Strategic Plans**

Not applicable.

**b. Sustainability:**

**i. Financial (Budget/Long Term Financial Plan/Whole of Life Cost):**

Not applicable.

**ii. Environmental (including climate change):**

Not applicable.

**iii. Social:**

There is likely to be a community expectation that Council makes a submission to the Flood Inquiry.

**c. Legal Considerations:**

Not applicable.

**d. Risk Considerations:**

Not applicable.

**e. Engagement/Communication:**

**Inform** - Assisting the community to learn about Council services and programs.

**REPORT:**

Acting Premier Paul Toole has established an independent flood inquiry to examine and report on the causes of, preparedness for, response to and recovery from the 2022 catastrophic flood event.

Professor Mary O’Kane AC and Michael Fuller APM have been engaged to lead the Inquiry.

The Inquiry will report on:

- the causes of and factors contributing to the frequency, intensity, timing and location of floods;
- preparation and planning by agencies and the community for floods in NSW;
- responses to floods, particularly measures to protect life, property and the environment;
- the transition from incident response to recovery;
- recovery, including housing, clean-up, financial support, community engagement and longer-term community rebuilding.

The Inquiry will consider and, if thought fit, make recommendations on a range of matters, including:

- the safety of emergency services and community first responders;
- current and future land use planning and management and building standards in flood prone locations across NSW;
- appropriate action to adapt to future flood risks to communities and ecosystems;
- coordination and collaboration between all levels of government.

Attached is copy of the Inquiry's Terms of Reference.

The Inquiry is required to report to the Premier on causation, land use planning and management and related matters by 30 June 2022, and on all other matters by 30 September 2022.

Community consultation took place at Tumbulgum Hall on 4 May 2022.

**OPTIONS:**

1. That Council endorses the attached submission for lodgement with the 2022 NSW Flood Inquiry.
2. That Council provides any alternate submission wording and endorses the attached submission for lodgement with the 2022 NSW Flood Inquiry.

**PREVIOUS COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS:**

Nil.