



LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

SELECT COMMITTEE ON THE RESPONSE TO MAJOR FLOODING ACROSS NEW SOUTH WALES IN 2022

MEDIA RELEASE

NSW Upper House committee invites the community to speak at public forums in Ballina, Lismore and Murwillumbah next week for inquiry into major floods

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

26 May 2022

Early next week, members from NSW Parliament's Upper House will be travelling to the North Coast, to hear directly from local communities affected by the recent major floods.

The Upper House inquiry is completely independent from the NSW Government initiated inquiry, and is seeking a range of views from the community on the government's preparation for, and response to, major floods.

The committee will be conducting public hearings and forums to examine the government's preparation for and response to the floods.

The public hearings' witness lists have already been settled, but are open for public viewing.

The public forums will enable members of the public to have their say. Flood-affected community members are strongly encouraged to take this opportunity to share their thoughts and experiences with the NSW Parliament Upper House committee.

Times and locations for these hearings and forums are as follows:

Date	Location	Public hearing	Public Forum
Monday 30 May 2022	Ballina RSL Club	1.45 pm	4.30 pm
Tuesday 31 May 2022	Lismore Workers Sports Club	1.00 pm	6.45 pm
Wednesday 1 June 2022	Murwillumbah Services Club	1.00 pm	3.15 pm

The committee encourages the community to watch the public hearings and share their experiences of the flooding and flood response at the public forums. The committee will also be visiting flood affected businesses, residents, and communities.

Encouraging the public to attend, Committee Chair and Shadow Minister for the North Coast, the Hon Walt Secord MLC said: "Please come and meet us and have your say at our public forums. Share with us your stories and ideas about how things can be done better.

"Your input is immensely valuable so we can make recommendations to the government on how they can do better when responding to future floods and as they continue their response to the recent floods."

The Select Committee on the Response to Major Flooding across New South Wales in 2022 is an inquiry established by the Upper House of the NSW Parliament. The committee comprises seven members of Parliament from the opposition, crossbench and government. The committee will gather evidence through submissions, site visits, an online questionnaire, public hearings and public forums, and produce a report by Tuesday 9 August 2022 with recommendations to the government.

Hearing and forum details

The hearings and public forums will be broadcast live on the NSW Parliament's website:

<https://www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/Pages/webcasts.aspx>

Hearing schedules for each day will be available on the committee's website:

<https://www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/committees/listofcommittees/Pages/committee-details.aspx?pk=277>

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For media enquiries please contact Committee Chair the Hon Walt Secord MLC on 02 9230 2146.