

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

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

MEDIA RELEASE Resilience NSW to appear before Upper House Committee into the recent major flooding

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE 10 June 2022

Resilience NSW Commissioner Shane Fitzsimmons, the Northern Rivers Reconstruction Corporation CEO David Witherdin, the Northern NSW Recovery Coordinator Mal Lanyon and a number of other government departments and agencies are due to appear before an Upper House Committee next **Wednesday 15 June 2022** to answer questions about the NSW Government's preparedness and response to the recent major flooding on the North Coast and in Western Sydney.

The committee will hear from various NSW Government agencies involved in:

- emergency and rescue;
- evacuation centres, support and recovery;
- grants and financial assistance; and
- environment, planning and reconstruction.

Committee Chair and Shadow Minister for the North Coast, the Hon Walt Secord MLC said: 'The committee recently visited the North Coast and Western Sydney, and heard first-hand from locals about their disappointment and frustration with government agencies' preparedness and response to the recent major flooding. In particular, we heard concerning evidence about the role of Resilience NSW.'

The Chair continued: 'The committee has set aside a full day to hear from emergency services as well as agencies involved in support, recovery, financial assistance and reconstruction. Commissioner Shane Fitzsimmons will be appearing alongside these agencies throughout the entire hearing to provide a full picture of the role Resilience NSW played in the recent major floods'.

The committee has also scheduled a hearing for **Tuesday 14 June 2022** to hear from not-for-profit agencies involved in recovery and support during and immediately after the floods, as well as corporations, such as Telstra, responsible for the provision of essential services.

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 details

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

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