

MINUTES OF THE CENTRAL FLOODPLAIN RISK MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Meeting Date: Wednesday, 10 April 2024
Location: Jervis Bay Rooms, City Administrative Centre, Bridge Road, Nowra
Time: 4.00pm

The following members were present:

Clr Matthew Norris – Chairperson
Clr Evan Christen (Remotely)
Clr John Kotlash (Remotely)
Mr Richard Carpenter
Mrs Janis Natt
Mr David Reynolds
Mr Ronald Carberry – Joined at 4.33pm
Mr Colin Bron – NSW State Emergency Service (Remotely)
Mr Dylan Whitelaw - (Remotely)
Mr Nathan Pomfret – DPE Biodiversity & Conservation (Remotely)
Mr Peter Swanson – Acting Manager - Environmental Services (Remotely)

Others present:

Mr James Ruprai – Director City Development
Mr Alexander Aronsson – Lead – Floodplain Management
Mr Mark Stone - Floodplain & Stormwater Quality Engineer
Mr Luke Evans – Rhelm (Remotely)
Dr Filippo Dall'Osso – Water Technology (Remotely) – Left at 4.23pm

Apologies / Leave of Absence

An apology was received from Clr White.

Confirmation of the Minutes

RESOLVED (By consent)

That the Minutes of the Central Floodplain Risk Management Committee held on Wednesday 30 November 2022 be confirmed.

CARRIED

Declaration of Interests

Nil

PRESENTATIONS

CFM24.1 Lower Shoalhaven River & St Georges Basin Flood Evacuation Capability Assessment - Water Technology

**HPERM Ref:
D24/52373**

Dr Filippo Dall'Osso – Water Technology presented to the Central Floodplain Risk Management Committee on the Lower Shoalhaven River & St Georges Basin Flood Evacuation Capability Assessment and Triggers project. The below topics were discussed:

- Problems
- Project objectives
- Project scope
- Deliverables and progress

The Floodplain Management Team advised that the Flood Evacuation Capability Assessment and Triggers project is a technical study and it will not be placed on public exhibition for consultation however, where flood mitigation measures are identified, such as road raising or upgrades, or strategic changes to land use planning are recommended, these recommendations will feed into other Council processes that ultimately will go out for public exhibition and community consultation.

The presentation is attached to the Minutes.

CFM24.2 St Georges Basin Floodplain Risk Management Study & Plan Presentation - Rhelm

**HPERM Ref:
D24/52487**

Mr Luke Evans – Rhelm presented to the Central Floodplain Risk Management Committee on the St Georges Basin Risk Management Study. The below topics were discussed:

- Project overview
- Study area
- Data collection & model updates
- Floodplain risk management study
- FECA collaboration
- Mitigation options
- Floodplain risk management plan
- Engagement overview
- Future milestones

Clr Norris commented on the road rising and queried if there are any funding models that Council can apply for to facilitate this project. The Floodplain Management Team advised all mitigation methods through this study that are adopted in the Plan, are eligible for funding through the NSW Floodplain Management Grant.

Mr James Ruprai – Director City Development further clarified that there are funding options for Voluntary House Raising (if adopted in the Plan), where Council will facilitate the grant application process through the State Government and that the State Government generally funds \$2 for every \$1 spent by the property owner. It is voluntary for property owners, where their property is identified in the Plan, to sign up to this scheme.

The presentation is attached to the Minutes.

REPORTS

CFM24.3 Membership Resignation - Zachariah Cleary

**HPERM Ref:
D24/30941**

Recommendation (Item to be determined under delegated authority)

That the Central Floodplain Risk Management Committee accept the resignation of Mr Zachariah Cleary and thank him for his contribution to the Committee and fill the vacancy through the current opened Expression of Interest.

RESOLVED (By consent)

That the Central Floodplain Risk Management Committee accept the resignation of Mr Zachariah Cleary and thank him for his contribution to the Committee and fill the vacancy through the current opened Expression of Interest.

CARRIED

CFM24.4 General Update on Flood Projects

**HPERM Ref:
D24/55503**

St Georges Basin Floodplain Risk Management Study and Plan

Council has prepared a Get Involved webpage for the St Georges Basin FRMS&P, media release, and emails to notify all Community Consultative Bodies (CCBs) of the commencement of the St Georges Basin Floodplain Risk Management Study and Plan.

The Floodplain Management Team welcomes further ideas from the Committee on additional mitigation options to be included for consideration. More information is available on the Get Involved webpage.

Shoalhaven LGA Floor Level Survey for Flood Planning:

This project has received grant funding through NSW Reconstruction Authority. It was noted that this project is approximately 95% completed.

Expression of Interests:

Council's Expression of Interest is currently opened for membership, noting the Central Floodplain Risk Management Committee currently have three (3) positions vacant and this will remain open until all positions filled. The Floodplain Management Team encouraged the committee members to share this EOI with their networks.

Induction Program for Local Representatives:

Planning to launch within the next 6 months, an email will be provided to each member, a Q&A will be held in person and available on Teams.

Flood Alert Network Audit, Maintenance & Upgrade:

Recently audited all the existing gauges and staging the upgrade of the gauges with new technology, currently about 20% of the way through the upgrade. This is required to ensure the existing network is compatible with current technology such that that it will remain operational moving forward. This system is utilised by Council, the Bureau of Meteorology and NSW SES and is a critical network to protect life and property. This project is funded through Council's capital works program. Ongoing funding is critical for the ongoing operation of the Flood Alert Network.

Recommendation (Item to be determined under delegated authority)

The Committee receive the General Update on Flood Projects report for information.

RESOLVED (By consent)

The Committee receive the General Update on Flood Projects report for information.

CARRIED

There being no further business, the meeting concluded, the time being 5.31pm.

Clr Matthew Norris
CHAIRPERSON