



## WATER AND WASTEWATER

The East Lismore Sewerage Treatment Plant (East STP) was destroyed by the February natural disaster with an estimated repair bill of \$56 million.

Emergency works have improved its operational reliability until permanent repairs are undertaken. Betterment funding from the State Government has been received to ensure the permanent solution is flood resilient and the extent of damage is not incurred in future events.

The South Lismore STP suffered major damage with a repair bill of \$9 million. Emergency works have seen it returned to service under modified operations. Some areas of the plant need to be redesigned to provide flood mitigation and prevent future damage.

Five major sewer pump stations (SPS) and six minor pump stations were also damaged, with an estimated repair cost of \$33 million.

All the major pumps are operating under temporary diesel pumps. Mechanical repairs are complete with electrical repairs underway. The other five minor pumps are fully operational, with one minor station being managed with pump trucks.

The switchboards on all affected SPS will be raised, and sites with major damage will be redesigned under Betterment funding to a modern sewage pump station standard.

In the days immediately after the natural disaster, Council and the Australia Defence Forces restored the water supply to Nimbin after the pipeline was damaged linking the township to the dam. However, it must be permanently replaced at an estimated cost of \$1.5 million.

This includes geotechnical studies, design and construction, with the project expected to be complete by June 2023.



## RESTORING OUR BUILDINGS

More than 100 Council sites were damaged or destroyed by the 28 February natural disaster, including building, parks and public toilets, with an estimated repair bill of \$36.3 million.



Unfortunately, as we continue our assessments, the number of damaged sites continues to grow.

Under previous government-funded flood repair arrangements, Council was only allowed to replace like for like. However, the Government has now adopted a "Betterment" arrangement, which means funding may be available to Build Back Better to make repairs more flood resilient.

Council has already received some Betterment funding for specific projects and is hoping to receive more.

In the meantime, emergency works, including the removal of flood-affected materials, decontamination works, and structural drying is nearing completion for all of the sites.



Immediate restoration works have also been completed on some sites and are progressing on others.

Final completion of all restoration works is dependent on the availability of contractors and materials.

For the latest information and expected completion dates, go to [www.yoursay.lismore.nsw.gov.au](http://www.yoursay.lismore.nsw.gov.au) under Flood Restoration - Buildings, Parks and Facilities.



## BUILDING BACK BETTER

In the seven months since the worst natural disaster our community has ever experienced, Council staff have been busy preparing for the rebuild of our city.



## PICKING UP THE WASTE

Council's waste facility was heavily impacted by the events of February and March.

This was a major blow to Council due to the important role it played in the clean-up effort and the need to maintain regular waste collection services post disaster.

Many areas of the waste facility were completely inundated by water. This caused damage to several key assets and has created several ongoing issues.

The waste facility has an onsite dam that stores the leachate liquid produced from each landfill cell. Leachate is a contaminated liquid that is produced when water drains or filters through a landfill. It is pumped from each landfill cell into the leachate storage dam before it is treated. This dam overflowed during the disaster. The overflow then contaminated stockpiles of recycling, glass and compost making them unusable.

Council's only operational landfill cell, cell 2B, was flooded. This caused damage to the leachate liner barrier. The leachate barrier ensures groundwater is not contaminated from the leachate liquid produced within the cell. Several pumps, generators and monitoring equipment were also damaged beyond repair.

Along with the waste facility, the wastewater treatment plant was impacted by the disaster. As well as treating sewerage, the wastewater facility also treats the leachate liquid. Due to the damage caused to the facility, it is unable to treat leachate for the remainder of 2022. This adds another level of complexity to the repair of the landfill cells.

The disaster caused solid waste to be spread across the surrounding fields. This led to a large clean-up operation for the waste facility team. The clean-up was on top of the already mammoth task of preparing the facility for the influx of flood waste and returning the facility to an operational state. The team worked tirelessly to quickly complete the clean-up, in very challenging conditions. The waste facility was operational again within a few weeks.

Public Works took on the management of flood waste while Council managed the operation of the facility and its usual waste collection services. The disaster led to 19,110 tonnes of flood waste, 343 tonnes of asbestos and 7205 tonnes of general waste being processed through the facility.

Council has submitted its flood repair submission for the facility and is hoping to receive the outcome soon. In the meantime, the waste facility is operational and accepting waste from the public. Many of the ongoing issues are back-end issues and the public should not notice any difference from the service provide prior to the disaster.

Some of Council's waste collection vehicles were also damaged during the event which has caused some minor disruptions to waste collection. Waste collection is fully operational, however on occasion there may be disruptions while we are repairing our fleet.



## REPAIRING OUR ROADS AND BRIDGES



The February natural disaster caused significant damage to Lismore's extensive road network.

This was compounded by the ongoing wet weather the region experienced in the following months. This resulted in over 1600 identified damaged areas on 415 roads.

The initial emergency works focused on restoring access to properties and minimising disruption caused by road closures.

Council is currently undertaking immediate reconstruction works on the road network. So far this has included re-grading 181km of gravel roads, the installation of 686m of stormwater drainage pipes and 40,610m<sup>2</sup> of insitu lime stabilising on our sealed road network.

The current estimate for the repair of our road and bridge network is likely to exceed \$200 million. Urgent design works are now underway and engineering solutions are being developed. Due to the nature and scope of the works, there is uncertainty around the final cost. A more accurate costing will follow once engineering solutions and designs have been completed.

The natural disaster funding that Council has been allocated enables some damaged assets to be reconstructed to current design standards. This provides Council with some limited opportunity to build resilience into the road network. For example, culverts may be increased in size to meet current design requirements or they may need to be replaced by bridges to meet environmental requirements.

As the natural disaster was widespread, Lismore was not the only local government area affected. This means we face extra challenges and extra competition when securing materials, labour and specialist contractors. We are coordinating with other councils and Transport for New South Wales to mitigate this.

The risk of further damage to culverts and active landslips due to additional wet weather is high. This is an ongoing risk that Council is aware of and is monitoring.

To stay up to date about road and bridge reconstruction works, go to the [Maintaining Our Roads and Bridges at www.yoursay.lismore.nsw.gov.au](http://www.yoursay.lismore.nsw.gov.au)





# DEVELOPMENT CONSENTS ISSUED

## ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING AND ASSESSMENT ACT

In accordance with the provisions of Section 101 of the Act and Clause 124 of the EP&A Regulation, notification is given that the undermentioned developments have recently been granted consent.

### APPLICATION DETAILS

**DA17/399-3** 122 Caniaba Street, South Lismore: Section 4.55(1A) modification to undertake earthworks comprising the staged cut and fill of land to achieve an RL of 12.4m.

**DA20/302** 4J/117 Upper Tuntable Falls Road, Nimbin: For the use of the existing building as a residential dwelling.

**DA20/313-2** 46 May Street, Dunoon: Section 4.55(1A) modification to approved floor plan layout.

**DA20/441-2** 7 Engine Street, South Lismore: Section 4.55(1A) application to modify consent 5.2020.441.1 to expand the customer and licensed area of the Artisan Food and Drink Industry (Craft Brewery) inside the building and to include an area outside the building.

**DA21/544-2** 9 Pinecrest Drive, Goonellabah: Section 4.55(1A) modification to retaining walls.

**DA22/20** 9 Lincoln Avenue, McLeans Ridges: To undertake the erection of a dwelling and secondary dwelling and associated driveway and earthworks.

**DA22/39** 87 Nielson Street, East Lismore: To undertake the erection of a secondary dwelling with an ancillary covered deck and a carport.

**DA22/082-2** 55 Just Street, Goonellabah: Section 4.55(1A) modification to approved setbacks by increasing the front setback to Kestrel Court by 11mm from 6799mm to 6810mm; reduction in the front setback to Just Street by 35mm from 6549mm to 6514mm; and reduction in the rear setback by 7mm from 1947mm to 1940mm.

**DA22/110-2** 65 Fernside Road, Fernside: Section 4.55(1A) modification to reduce the front setback by 7500mm from 27000mm to 19500mm to brickwork; and to increase the height of the pad and slab by 20mm from 23.38m AHD / 23.78m AHD to 23.40m AHD / 23.80m AHD.

**DA22/123** 24 Livotto Drive, Richmond Hill: Inground swimming pool with associated decking and amenities.

**DA22/140** 49 Lincoln Avenue, McLeans Ridges: Shed.

**DA22/165** 44 Rotary Drive, Lismore Heights: Carport with a building line variation to 2m to Rotary Drive.

**DA22/200** 17 Lomandra Avenue, Caniaba: Inground swimming pool

**DA22/202** 533 Caniaba Road, Caniaba :Demolition of existing shed and construction of new shed.

**DA22/214** 12 Gum Tree Drive, Goonellabah: Dwelling alterations and additions and new carport with a building line variation to 1.3m to Gum Tree Drive.

**DA22/219** 29 Carramar Drive, Goonellabah: Patio cover over end of swimming pool.

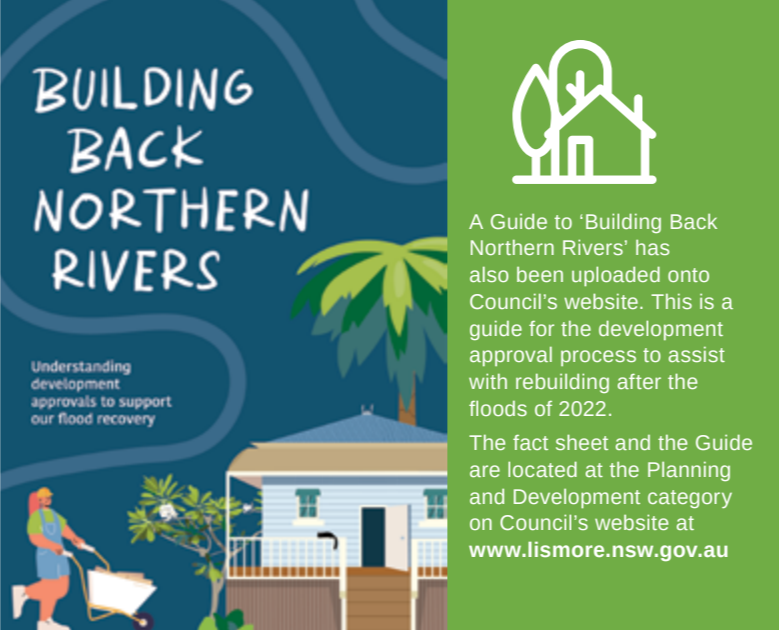
Details of applications and consents, together with conditions attached, may be inspected at Council's Corporate Centre during business hours or via DA Tracking at [www.lismore.nsw.gov.au](http://www.lismore.nsw.gov.au).



# TEMPORARY HOUSING AND REBUILDING AFTER THE 2022 FLOODS

An updated Fact Sheet – 'Natural Disaster and Temporary Accommodation' has been uploaded onto Council's website.

The fact sheet provides an overview of temporary emergency accommodation with and without the need for Council approval. The fact sheet is designed to assist with housing options for those people displaced by the February natural disaster.



**BUILDING BACK NORTHERN RIVERS**

Understanding development approvals to support our flood recovery

A Guide to 'Building Back Northern Rivers' has also been uploaded onto Council's website. This is a guide for the development approval process to assist with rebuilding after the floods of 2022.

The fact sheet and the Guide are located at the Planning and Development category on Council's website at [www.lismore.nsw.gov.au](http://www.lismore.nsw.gov.au)



# HOUSING AND GROWTH FOR LISMORE'S FUTURE

Council is seeking community feedback on two draft plans that will guide both the location and type of housing to support growth and recovery in the coming decades and also ensure suitable flood-free employment land is available for economic growth.

The **Draft Growth and Realignment Strategy** sets out potential growth areas across Lismore for residential, commercial and industrial land, as well as recommending a long term planned retreat from the most high-risk flood affected areas.

The **Draft Affordable and Diverse Housing Strategy** identifies key housing data for Lismore and suggests measures that Council can undertake to stimulate additional affordable and medium density housing projects.

Council is seeking ideas and feedback from the community to ensure Council is doing everything it can to facilitate the delivery of more affordable and diverse housing and to ensure future growth areas are in line with community expectations.

### Drop in to speak to staff regarding the draft strategies at the following markets:

- Thursday, 6 October between 3 and 5pm at the Lismore Produce Markets (With additional dates at the Lismore Produce Market if requested)
- Thursday, 20 October to Saturday, 22 October at the Norco North Coast National Lismore Show

### Or, book a place and come along to one of the following meetings:

- Wednesday, 5 October, 5pm at the Caniaba Cricket Club, Caniaba
- Thursday, 6 October, 5pm at the Clunes Hall, Clunes
- Monday, 10 October, 5pm at Invercauld House, Goonellabah

To find out more, make a booking or provide your feedback virtually, visit [www.yoursay.lismore.nsw.gov.au](http://www.yoursay.lismore.nsw.gov.au) before October 24.

# LOCAL MATTERS

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[WWW.LISMORE.NSW.GOV.AU](http://WWW.LISMORE.NSW.GOV.AU)



## NSW SES LAUNCHES A NEW ERA OF WARNINGS

NSW SES are changing their warnings to align with the Australian Warning System (AWS). The new NSW SES Warnings came into affect this month.

Up until now, there had been different warning systems for different hazard types across Australia. The Australian Warning System is a new national approach to information and warnings during emergencies like flood, storm, bushfire, extreme heat and severe weather.

The new warnings aim to provide consistent warnings to Australian communities so that people know what to do when they see a warning level.

The AWS is a national framework, endorsed by the Australian and New Zealand Emergency Management Committee (ANZEMC). Several recommendations in the 2020 Royal Commission referred to the implementation of the Australian Warning System.

It is important to note that the Bureau of Meteorology (BOM) Warnings will remain the same. Only the NSW SES warnings will change to a newer format.

### What Are the New Warnings?

There are three levels of warning within the AWS.



#### Advice

There is a heightened level of threat but no immediate danger. Stay up to date in case the situation changes.

The Advice Warning will be issued when the BOM issue a Flood Watch and/or a minor flood bulletin.



#### Watch and Act

Conditions are changing, and you need to start taking actions now to protect you and your family.

The Watch and Act will be issued when the BOM issue a Moderate or Major Flood Warning or if NSW SES advise an Evacuation Warning is required.



#### Emergency Warning

The highest level of warning. You may be in danger and need to take action immediately.

An Emergency Warning will be issued when an Evacuation is required!

These Warnings will be issued with relevant information about what the threat is, and the appropriate actions to take. For more information about the Australian Warning System please go to [www.australianwarningsystem.com.au](http://www.australianwarningsystem.com.au)

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