



14 February 2023

Hon D Perrottet MP
Premier
GPO Box 5341
Sydney NSW 2001
Via email: premier@dpc.nsw.gov.au

Dear Premier

Re: Flood Impacted Homes and Businesses

On the 29th September 2022 Council resolved to write you the Premier of NSW Government to thank you for the governments recent efforts regarding flood relief and the housing of flood-displaced people following the March 2022 floods that devastated our region.

Council also resolved to bring the following concerns to your attention:

- a) the opportunities as expressed in the state's Floodplain Risk Management Plans to make existing buildings safer against flood risks, using various actions that are listed in most such Floodplain Plans;
- b) the legacy role of the state in having approved buildings in flood-prone areas, many of which are the subject of Floodplain Plans;
- c) the numbers of buildings that could benefit from those various actions, namely 1,454 in Byron Shire - about half as many as Lismore Shire's 2,682 (data source: SES Built Impact Data, April 2022);
- d) the likelihood that many of Byron Shire's buildings can be returned to use by these actions (especially house raising) because peak flood levels are not as deep as in other areas;
- e) the Queensland government's commitment of \$741million to its "Resilient Homes Fund"; and
- f) the quantum of funding potentially required for our Shire's buildings to be made more resilient, costed an indicative average of \$100,000 per building at a minimum of \$145m excluding buy backs which could be an additional \$35m.

It is noted that recent programs released by the NSW Government have now actioned some of the concerns raised above, but not all the actions. Therefore we provide these concerns for your consideration in future flood related programs.



Your sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mark Arnold'.

Mark Arnold
General Manager