

COMMUNITY QUESTIONNAIRE

EMU PLAINS FLOODPLAIN RISK MANAGEMENT STUDY AND PLAN

COMPLETING THE QUESTIONNAIRE

In 2020, Council completed a detailed flood study for your local catchment. Council is now seeking your assistance in the creation of a Floodplain Risk Management Study and Plan for the Emu Plains study area. By providing information based on your local knowledge and experience, you will help us to create a Plan that is shaped by local information that would otherwise go unrecorded.

Please complete the survey and return it by Thursday 13 July 2023.

You can do this by:

- completing it online via the Your Say Penrith website at yoursaypenrith.com.au
- filling out the enclosed survey and emailing it to Habib.Rehman@penrith.city
- returning the completed survey via post using the enclosed pre-paid envelope.

Council has appointed Catchment Simulation Solutions to prepare the study. Find more details in the enclosed Information Sheet and on the Flood Management page of the Penrith City Council web page at penrithcity.nsw.gov.au/services/other-services/floodplain-management

Please answer as many questions as you can and give as much detail as possible (attach additional pages if necessary).

If you have any questions or require further information, please contact:

- Council's Senior Engineer – Stormwater, Habib Rehman on 4732 8650
- Catchment Simulation Solutions – Director, David Tetley on 8355 5501.

CONTACT DETAILS

Please provide your street and suburb details.

Street Address:

Suburb: _____ **Postcode:** _____

Providing full contact details is optional but will help us to contact you for more information if required. If you choose to provide full contact details, this information will remain confidential at all times and will not be published.

Name:

Phone number:

Email:

Please indicate if and how you would like us to contact you for more information or to provide you with study updates:

- ☐ Yes – telephone/ email/ mail (circle your preferred method of contact)
- ☐ No

ABOUT YOUR PROPERTY

1. Please select as appropriate:

- ☐ I am a resident
- ☐ I am a business owner
- ☐ I own the property
- ☐ I rent the property
- ☐ Other – please describe

2. How long have you been at this address?

- ☐ Less than 1 year
- ☐ 1 to 5 years
- ☐ 5 to 20 years
- ☐ More than 20 years

1. Property type:

- ☐ House
- ☐ Villa/ townhouse
- ☐ Unit/ flat/ apartment
- ☐ Industrial unit or warehouse
- ☐ Vacant land
- ☐ Shop/ retail
- ☐ Other

2. Do you know if your property has a risk of being flooded?

- ☐ My property is beyond the extent of all potential floods
- ☐ My property could be flooded

- ☐ No, I don't know/I'm not sure whether my property could be flooded

DEVELOPMENT CONTROLS AND COMMUNICATION

5. Please rank the following development types according to which you think are the most important to protect from floods.

1 = highest priority to 6 = lowest priority

- ☐ Commercial
- ☐ Residential
- ☐ Essential community facilities
- ☐ Critical utilities
- ☐ Minor developments and additions
- ☐ New residential developments

6. What level of control do you think Council should place on new development to minimise flood-related risks? *In addition to being favoured by the community, these options would also need to comply with legislation.*

Tick only one box

- ☐ Prohibit all new development on land with any potential to flood.
- ☐ Prohibit all new development only in those locations that would be extremely hazardous to persons or property due to the depth and/or velocity of floodwaters, or evacuation difficulties.
- ☐ Place restrictions on developments which reduce the potential for flood damage (e.g. minimum floor level controls or using flood compatible building materials).
- ☐ Advise of the flood risks, but allow the individual a choice about developing or not, provided steps are taken to minimise potential flood risks.
- ☐ Provide no advice about potential flood risks or measures that could minimise those risks.
- ☐ Don't know.

7. For the purpose of providing flood evacuation information, does your household have access to the internet and/or a mobile communication device?

Tick one or more boxes

- ☐ Internet
- ☐ Mobile phone/tablet
- ☐ No access to either internet or phone/tablet

8. What notifications do you think Council should give about the potential flood affectation of individual properties?

Tick one or more boxes

- ☐ Advise every resident and property owner on a regular basis of the known potential flood threat.
 - ☐ Advise only those who enquire to Council about the known potential flood threat.
 - ☐ Advise prospective purchasers of property of the known potential flood threat.
 - ☐ Provide no notifications.
 - ☐ Other – please describe
-

FLOOD RESPONSE

9. How would you respond to a major flood in the area?

Tick one box

- ☐ Evacuate early to an evacuation centre
 - ☐ Remain at my house
 - ☐ Don't know/not sure
 - ☐ Other – please describe
-

10. If you are likely to evacuate, what factors are most important?

Tick one or more boxes

- ☐ Discomfort / inconvenience / cost of being isolated by floodwater
 - ☐ Need for access to medical facilities
 - ☐ Safety of our family
 - ☐ Other – please describe:
-

11. If you are likely to remain at your house, what factors are most important?

Tick one or more boxes

- ☐ Discomfort / inconvenience / cost of evacuating
 - ☐ Need to care for animals
 - ☐ My house cannot be flooded, and we can cope with isolation
 - ☐ Concern for security of my property if I evacuate
 - ☐ Other – please describe:
-

OTHER INFORMATION

12. What do you think is the best way for us to get input and feedback from the local community about the results and proposals from this study?

Tick one or more boxes

- ☐ Council's website

- ☐ Articles in local newspaper
 - ☐ Open days or drop-in days
 - ☐ Community workshops
 - ☐ Public meetings
 - ☐ Council's Floodplain Management Committee
 - ☐ Other (please specify)
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FLOODPLAIN RISK MANAGEMENT MEASURES AND CONTROLS

13. Below is a list of possible options that may be looked at to try to minimise the effects of flooding in the Study Area (see catchment map on attached Fact Sheet).

This list is not in any order of importance and there may be other options that you think should be considered. For each of the options listed, please indicate "yes", "no" or "don't know" if undecided. In addition to being favoured by the community, management options would also need to comply with legislation and be capable of being funded.

Option	Yes	No	Don't Know
STRUCTURAL OPTIONS			
Construct detention basins			
Management of vegetation along creek corridors			
Enlarging existing watercourses			
Upgrade stormwater drainage system			
Upgrade bridges & culverts			
Removal of floodplain obstructions			
Construct levees			
PROPERTY MODIFICATION OPTIONS			
Voluntary purchase of the most severely affected flood-labile properties			
Provide funding or subsidies to raise houses above major flood level			
Flood proofing of individual properties			
EMERGENCY RESPONSE / EDUCATION OPTIONS			
Improve flood warning and evacuation procedures			
Community education and flood awareness programs			
Road / evacuation route upgrades			

Option	Yes	No	Don't Know
Ensuring all residents and business owners have Flood Action Plans			
Installation of signs/boom gates at roadway overtopping locations			
Ensuring all information about the flood risks is available to all residents and business owners			
PLANNING OPTIONS			
Provide a Planning Certificate to purchasers in flood prone areas, stating that the property is flood affected.			
Specify controls on future development in flood-labile areas (e.g. extent of filling, minimum floor levels, etc.)			

Council's Floodplain Risk Management Committee oversees and guides the floodplain management process in its local government area. The committee comprises of Councillors, representatives from relevant government agencies, adjacent councils and community representatives. Due to completion of the tenure for the current community representatives on the committee, Council is currently seeking expressions of interest from the public to fill these positions.

14. Are you interested in participating as a community representative on Council's Floodplain Risk Management Committee?

- ☐ Yes (please ensure that you have completed your contact details on page 1 so that we can send you further information about the committee)
- ☐ No

THANK YOU

Thank you for taking the time to complete this questionnaire. This means your Council is now better informed about your local area and as a result, our decisions about managing flooding in your neighbourhood will be better informed.