

OFFICE OF THE
LORD MAYOR
Brisbane

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2 March 2011

The Honourable Julia Gillard MP
Prime Minister
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Prime Minister

I am writing to seek the Federal Government's involvement in the buy back of flood prone land in Brisbane.

As you may be aware, following my election in 2004, I commissioned the Lord Mayor's Taskforce on Suburban Flooding (LMTSF) to investigate ways to mitigate the threat of flooding in Brisbane.

Council has since been working to address the recommendations made by the Taskforce and to date has invested more than \$453 million in works to limit the effects of flood and increase public awareness.

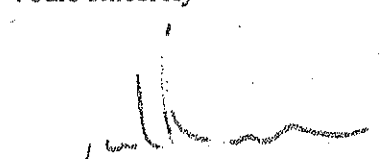
The first recommendation of the LMTSF was for Council to establish a scheme for Council to purchase flood prone property. To date, Council has spent more than \$24 million on the Voluntary Home Purchase Scheme (VHPS), a program that finances the purchase of homes in Brisbane affected by creek or local flooding that occurs with a two-year Average Recurrence Interval.

In 2005 I lobbied the Federal Government to increase Council's ability to purchase properties. This request was declined.

Recent disasters in Queensland demonstrate how important it is for all governments to work together to address the flood threat and invest in mitigation programs.

Therefore, I again seek the Federal Government's consideration of funding for the VHPS to buy back land in flood prone parts of Brisbane. Federal Government funding will help broaden the VHPS and ensure Brisbane residents are better prepared for flooding in the future.

Yours sincerely



Campbell Newman
LORD MAYOR

Ref: LM07982-2011

Delivering for our suburbs



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16 March 2011

The Honourable Tony Burke MP
Minister for Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Minister *Tony*

RE: Implementing the recommendations of the Joint Flood Taskforce

I am writing to request your support in implementing the recommendations that were last week handed down to Brisbane City Council by the Joint Flood Taskforce.

As you would be aware, the Bureau of Meteorology assisted the Taskforce to gather data and understand the January 2011 flood event.

Council has identified the implementation of an Interim Residential Flood Level (IRFL) as the first priority from the recommendations, with planning for adoption of this currently underway.

Council is prepared to lead a partnership approach to implement the remaining recommendations. In order for this to occur, I seek your commitment to assist in the establishment of a Joint Flood Advisory Committee.

It is proposed that the Joint Flood Advisory Committee be established in early April 2011, with representation from Brisbane City Council, the Bureau of Meteorology, Seqwater, the Department of Environment and Resource Management, the Department of Local Government and Planning and Ipswich and Somerset Regional Councils.

The committee will require commitments from your various departments, including:

- expertise in the form of individual officer time and talent
- sharing of information and data, and
- funding support. I will be requesting State and Federal contribution of 60% to the overall costs (in the order of \$3-6 million).

The implementation will occur over the next 2-3 years and ultimately deliver a flood risk management product by 2013.

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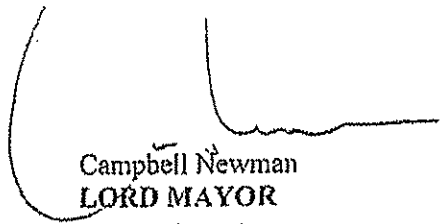
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- 2 -

A copy of the Joint Flood Taskforce Report is attached for your information.

I look forward to receiving your commitment as soon as possible, so we can continue working together to help build flood resilience in Brisbane and South East Queensland.

Yours sincerely



Campbell Newman
LORD MAYOR

Ref: LM09980-2011

Enc.

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16 March 2011

Premier Anna Bligh
Premier and Minister for Reconstruction
PO Box 15185,
CITY EAST QLD 4002

Dear Premier *ma*

RE: Implementing the recommendations of the Joint Flood Taskforce

As you would be aware, the Joint Flood Taskforce, formed by Brisbane City Council in conjunction with Ipswich City Council, last week handed down a report of their findings.

The Joint Flood Taskforce Report outlines seven recommendations (see enclosed report). Brisbane City Council is committed to actioning all of these recommendations and I seek your further support to do this.

Council has identified the implementation of an Interim Residential Flood Level (IRFL) as the first priority from the recommendations, with planning for adoption of this currently underway.

Council is prepared to lead a partnership approach to implementing the remaining recommendations. In order for this to occur, I seek your commitment to assist in the establishment of a Joint Flood Advisory Committee.

It is proposed that the Joint Flood Advisory Committee be established in early April 2011, with representation from Brisbane City Council, the Bureau of Meteorology, Seqwater, the Department of Environment and Resource Management, the Department of Local Government and Planning, Ipswich and Somerset Regional Councils.

The committee will require commitments from your various departments, including:

- expertise in the form of individual officer time and talent
- sharing of information and data, and
- funding support. I will be requesting State and Federal contribution of 60% to the overall costs (in the order of \$3-6 million).

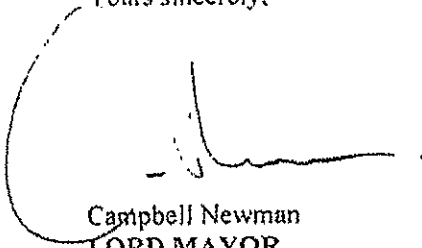
The implementation of recommendations will occur over the next 2-3 years and ultimately deliver a flood risk management product by 2013.

.../2

Delivering for our suburbs

I look forward to receiving your commitment as soon as possible, so we can continue working together to help build flood resilience in Brisbane and South East Queensland.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Campbell Newman', with a large, sweeping initial 'C' on the left side.

Campbell Newman
LORD MAYOR

Ref: LM09968-2011

Enc.



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16 March 2011

Mayor Paul Pisasale
Mayor of the City of Ipswich
PO Box 191
IPSWICH QLD 4305

Dear Mayor *Paul*

RE: Implementing the recommendations of the Joint Flood Taskforce

I would like to thank you for your support in assisting the Joint Flood Taskforce to determine, within 30 days, an interim standard to be used for new development in flood-affected areas of Brisbane.

The Joint Flood Taskforce Report outlines seven recommendations (see enclosed report). Brisbane City Council is committed to actioning all of these recommendations and I seek your assistance to do this.

Council has identified the implementation of an Interim Residential Flood Level (IRFL) as the first priority from the recommendations, with planning for adoption of this currently underway.

Council is prepared to lead a partnership approach to implement the remaining recommendations. In order for this to occur, I seek your commitment to assist in the establishment of a Joint Flood Advisory Committee.

It is proposed that the Joint Flood Advisory Committee be established in early April 2011, with representation from Brisbane City Council, the Bureau of Meteorology, Seqwater, the Department of Environment and Resource Management, the Department of Local Government and Planning and Ipswich and Somerset Regional Councils.

The committee will require commitments from your various departments, including:

- expertise in the form of individual officer time and talent
- sharing of information and data, and
- funding support. I will be requesting State and Federal contribution of 60% to the overall costs (in the order of \$3-6 million).

The implementation will occur over the next 2-3 years and ultimately deliver a flood risk management product by 2013.

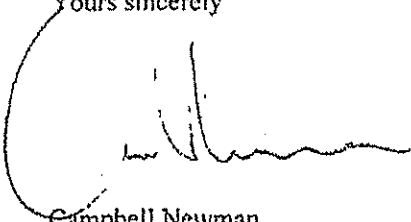
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Delivering for our suburbs

- 2 -

I look forward to receiving your commitment as soon as possible, so we can continue working together to build flood resilience in our respective cities and South East Queensland.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Campbell Newman', written over a large, faint circular watermark or stamp.

Campbell Newman
LORD MAYOR

Ref: LM09977-2011

Enc.

Delivering for our suburbs



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16 March 2011

Mayor Graeme Lehmann
Mayor of Somerset Regional Council
PO Box 117
ESK QLD 4312

Dear Mayor *Graeme*

RE: Implementing the recommendations of the Joint Flood Taskforce

In February 2011, a Joint Flood Taskforce was formed to help Brisbane City Council understand the January 2011 floods and recommend, within 30 days, an interim flood standard for new development within flood-affected areas.

The Joint Flood Taskforce Report was handed down to Council last week, and outlines seven recommendations (see enclosed report). Brisbane City Council is committed to actioning all of these recommendations, and believe that some of these may be of interest to your council.

Council has identified the implementation of an Interim Residential Flood Level (IRFL) as the first priority from the recommendations, with planning for adoption of this currently underway.

Council is prepared to lead a partnership approach to implement the remaining recommendations. In order for this to occur, I seek your commitment to assist in the establishment of a Joint Flood Advisory Committee.

It is proposed that the Joint Flood Advisory Committee be established in early April 2011, with representation from Brisbane City Council, the Bureau of Meteorology, Seqwater, the Department of Environment and Resource Management, the Department of Local Government and Planning and Ipswich and Somerset Regional Councils.

The committee will require commitments from your various departments, including:

- expertise in the form of individual officer time and talent
- sharing of information and data, and
- funding support. I will be requesting State and Federal contribution of 60% to the overall costs (in the order of \$3-6 million).

The implementation will occur over the next 2-3 years and ultimately deliver a flood risk management product by 2013.

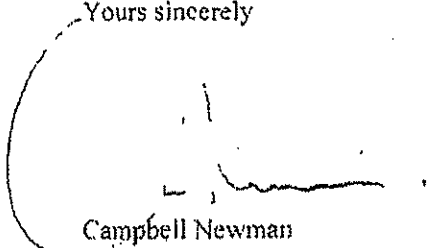
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Delivering for our suburbs

- 2 -

I look forward to receiving your commitment as soon as possible, so we can work together to build flood resilience in our respective cities and South East Queensland.

Yours sincerely



Campbell Newman
LORD MAYOR

Ref: LM09981-2011

Enc.

Delivering for our suburbs



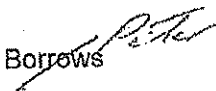
Dedicated to a better Brisbane

Brisbane City Council ABN 72 002 765 795

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Chief Executive's Office
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www.brisbane.qld.gov.au

1 April 2011

Mr Peter Borrows
Chief Executive Officer
Seqwater
PO Box 16146
CITY EAST QLD 4002

Dear Mr Borrows 

I would like to thank you for your support in assisting the Joint Flood Taskforce which was formed to help Brisbane City Council understand the January 2011 floods and recommend, within 30-days, an interim flood standard for new development within flood-affected areas.

The Joint Flood Taskforce Report outlined seven recommendations (refer to the enclosed report). Council is committed to actioning all of these recommendations and I seek your assistance to do this.

Council has identified the implementation of an Interim Residential Flood Level (IRFL) as the first priority from the recommendations, with planning for adoption currently underway.

Council is prepared to lead a partnership approach to implement the remaining recommendations. In order for this to occur, I seek your commitment to assist in the establishment of a Joint Flood Advisory Committee (JFAC).

It is proposed that the JFAC be established in April 2011 with representation from Brisbane City Council, the Bureau of Meteorology, Seqwater, the Department of Environment and Resource Management, the Department of Local Government and Planning, Ipswich City Council and Somerset Regional Council.

The Committee will request the following commitments from Seqwater:

- expertise in the form of individual officer time and talent,
- sharing of information and data, and
- funding support.

I will be requesting a State and Federal contribution of 60% to the overall costs, which is in the order of \$3-6 million.

The implementation will occur over the next 2-3 years and ultimately deliver a flood risk management product.

I look forward to receiving your commitment as soon as possible, so we can continue working together to help build flood resilience in Brisbane and South East Queensland. If you have any questions regarding the formation of the JFAC, please contact Mr Shane Hackett, Acting Water Resources Manager on (07) 3403 8888.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'C. Jensen', written over a horizontal line.

Colin Jensen
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Enc. Joint Flood Taskforce Report