

Note

This statement has been redacted to remove certain personal information and information that is not relevant to the land planning terms of reference.

QFCI

Date:

20/09/11

Jm

Exhibit Number:

560

<i>Name of Witness</i>	Victoria Joy ASHWORTH
<i>Date of Birth</i>	[REDACTED]
<i>Address and contact details</i>	C/o 3/18 Nash Street, Rosalie
<i>Occupation</i>	Business Owner
<i>Officer taking statement</i>	Detective Sergeant Stephen Platz
<i>Date taken</i>	29/08/2011

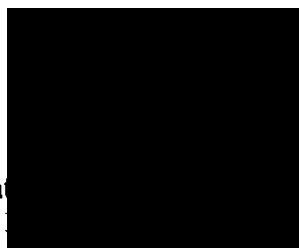
Victoria Joy ASHWORTH states:

- I am the owner and manager of a women's fashion boutique called 'Victoria on Rosalie' located at unit 3/18 Nash Street, Rosalie. My former shop, before the 2011 floods, was located at 3/13 Nash Street, Rosalie. My shop is within a small commercial precinct in Rosalie surrounded by residential development. I have operated my business in this area for approximately six years.

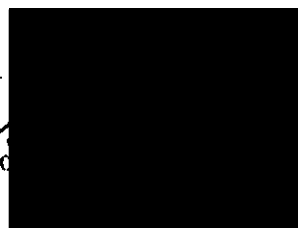


- My principle premises, at 3/13 Nash Street, was a leased unit within a building that is owned by a solicitor (I cannot recall who this was). Upon signing the lease I was not made aware of any previous flooding or drainage issues that would warrant me to take extra pre-cautions with regards to my insurance. I did not conduct any checks concerning this issue as it is a considerable distance from the river and I also believed that the Wivenhoe Dam would resolve any flooding issues.

Witness Signature
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Signature of



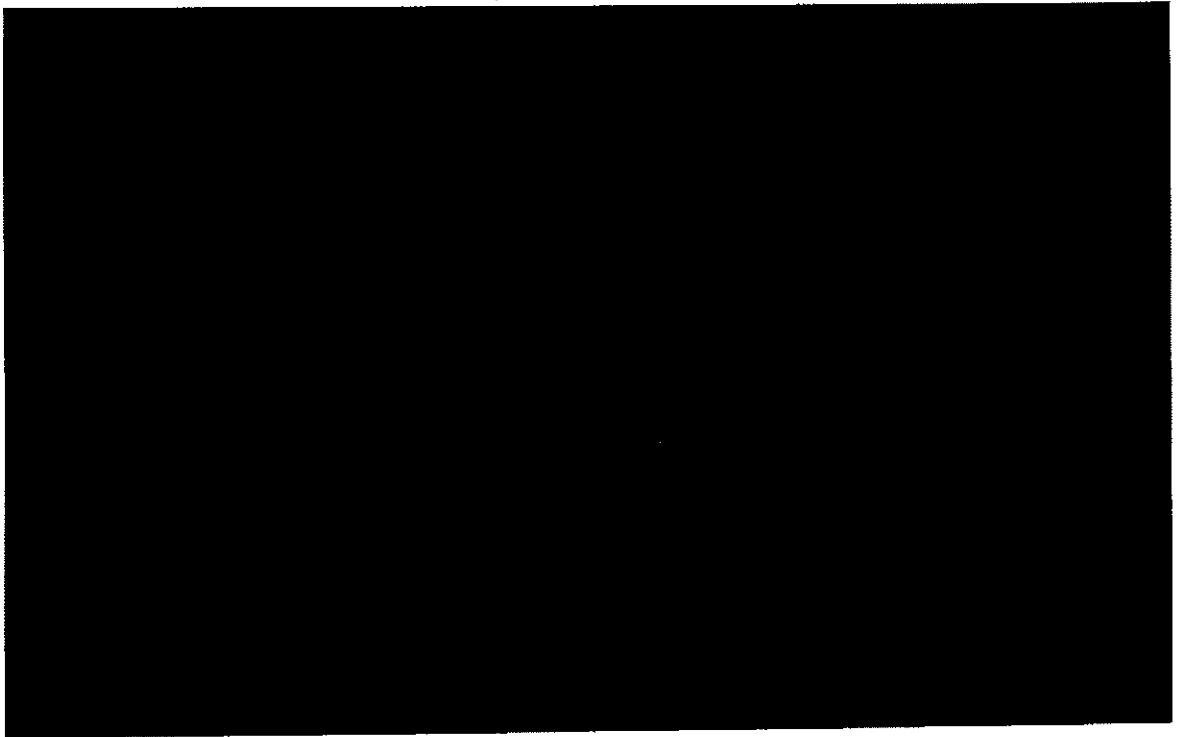
400 George Street Brisbane
GPO Box 1738 Brisbane
Queensland 4001 Australia
Telephone 1300 309 634
Facsimile +61 7 3405 9750
www.floodcommission.qld.gov.au
ABN 65 959 415 158

4. On the 23rd December 2011 I flew to Dubai for my daughters wedding. Whilst over there I saw some news reports regarding heavy rains and localised flooding in Brisbane. I wasn't particularly alarmed until I saw Campbell NEWMAN on the news warning of the potential of flooding to Brisbane.
5. On the 9th day of January 2011 I received a phonecall from a friend in Brisbane who outlined to me the potential for flooding in our area and that the situation was getting worse. She suggested that I should come home as soon as possible. I subsequently booked a flight and flew home at 11.00pm on the 10th of January 2011. Upon entry into Brisbane I recall the pilot telling the passengers that we could not get through to the Brisbane CBD due to flooding.
6. My husband, Bruce, picked me up from the airport and we made our way home. On route, we could not access Milton Road due to flooding and had to go the back way. At this stage, however, there was no indication that my shop was in danger of flooding.
7. At 3.00pm on the 11th of January 2011 I was at home when I received a phonecall from Barry, one of the shop owners in Rosalie. Barry said that water was rising on Baroona Road towards the shops and suggested that I come down and get my stock out. I was shocked to hear this information. I immediately got dressed and drove down to the shop. Upon arrival at Rosalie I saw water on the corner of Baroona road but at this stage it was not near to the shops. I then began removing stock from my store and putting other items up as high as I could. I did this until the early hours of the morning.
8. On the 12th day of January 2011 I returned to my store. At 6.00am the flood water began lapping at the front of the store. By 10.30am the water rose to waist height and was now inundating my shop. We were frantically trying to get stock out as the water rose higher until the Police came around and asked us to leave due to the danger of electric shock. The area was shut down and by now most of the shops were totally inundated.

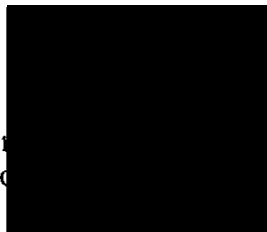
Witness Signature
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Signature of officer

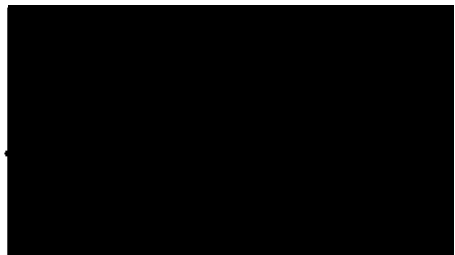
9. The flood water came up from the direction of Baroona and Haig Road and entered through the front door of my shop which faces Nash Street. I initially assumed that the water was from the Brisbane River but later found out that it was back water from the drains in the area. As a result of this flooding I lost all my fixtures and other equipment that I could not move before the floods. I would estimate that with the loss of retail equipment and fittings it would be in excess of \$60,000.



Witness Signature
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Signature of officer

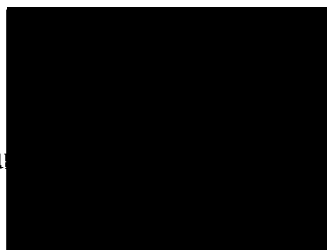


12. I recommend that to avoid future flooding in the area that the drains be fitted with one way valves to prevent storm water back up. I have since learnt that these drains have caused the same problems during previous floods and nothing has been done to rectify them. Furthermore, I think that shop owners in Rosalie need to have a flood plan in times of possible flooding.
13. As a result of the flood damage and the current economic situation I have decided not to continue my business at this location and looking at other options.

V.ASHWORTH

Justices Act 1886	
I acknowledge by virtue of section 110A(5)(c)(ii) of the Justices Act 1886 that:	
(1)	This written statement by me dated 29/08/2011 and contained in the pages numbered 1 to 4 is true to the best of my knowledge and belief; and
(2)	I make this statement knowing that, if it were admitted as evidence, I may be liable to prosecution for stating in it anything that I know is false.
.....	 Signature
Signed atBrisbanethis..... <i>24</i>day of.....September...2011	

Witness Signature
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.....re of office

