

City of Ipswich

Severe Weather February 2022 Recovery Plan

January to March 2023

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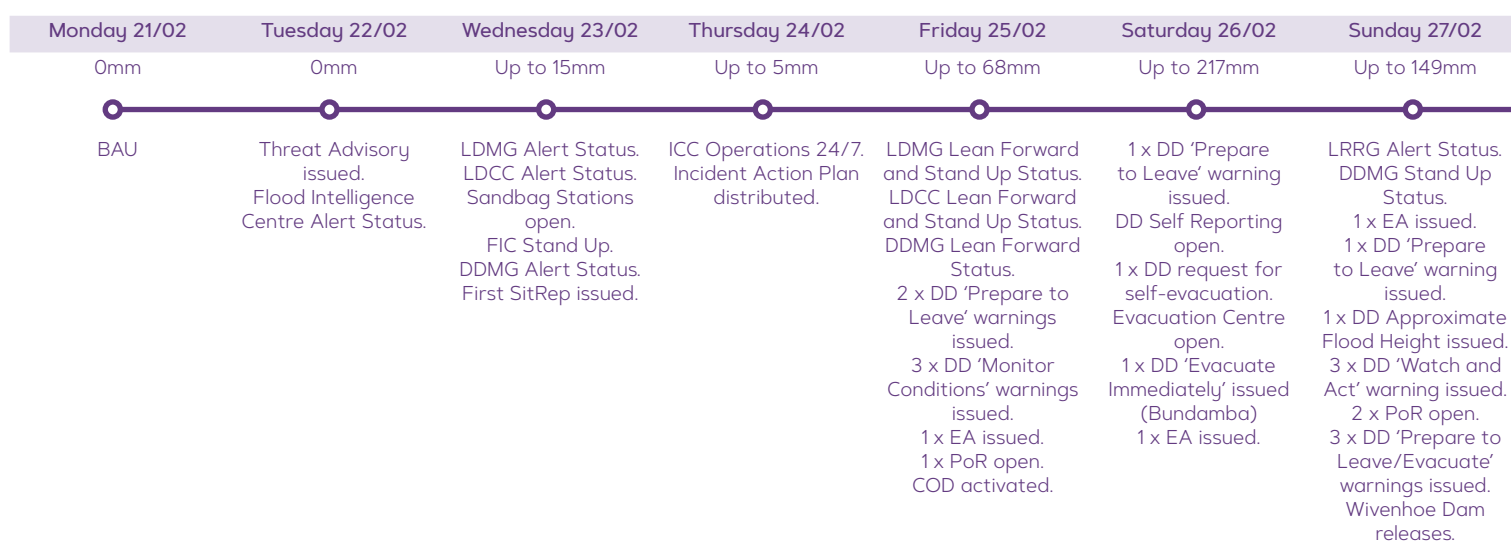
January to March 2023

Looking back on the twelve months since the February 2022 severe weather and flooding event that impacted much of our city, there is so much for Ipswich to be proud of. Communities and sporting groups gathered around one another to raise funds for those in need; volunteer-based nature groups put in the hard yards revegetating riverbanks and other important habitats; and community centre leaders came together to learn about resilience and how they can build this within their communities.

Council engaged an independent contractor to conduct one of the most comprehensive reviews of its response and recovery efforts to date, which included several community forums to learn first-hand how council’s response was felt by the community. This feedback resulted in the February-March 2022 Flood Review Reports, outlining 47 recommendations for improvement. Council adopted these reports in full in December 2022 and is working to embed learnings to ensure the region is better prepared for future disaster impacts. The reports can be viewed at [Shapeyouripswich.com.au/flood-review](https://shapeyouripswich.com.au/flood-review).

Council’s Flood Recovery Coordination Program is in full swing coordinating over 400 asset and waste recovery projects across the city; these can be viewed at [Maps.ipswich.qld.gov.au/floodrecovery](https://maps.ipswich.qld.gov.au/floodrecovery). The Program is also seeking community feedback on the proposed redesign of Colleges Crossing Recreation Reserve, which is expected to continue into 2024; progress on this significant project can be viewed at [Shapeyouripswich.com.au/collegescrossing](https://shapeyouripswich.com.au/collegescrossing). The Program has also seen huge success through local delivery of the state-led Resilient Homes Program, 182 properties identified, 168 valuation inspections completed, 154 offers presented and 105 offers accepted (as at 15 April). While applications for the Voluntary Home Buy-Back program are now closed, impacted homeowners can still apply for the Resilient Retrofit or Home Raising programs until 30 July 2023, as part of the Resilient Homes Fund here: [Qld.gov.au/housing/buying-owning-home/financial-help-concessions/resilient-homes-fund/process/eligibility-and-registering](https://qld.gov.au/housing/buying-owning-home/financial-help-concessions/resilient-homes-fund/process/eligibility-and-registering)

RESPONSE TIMELINE





RESPONSE, RELIEF, RECOVERY, RESILIENCE OBJECTIVES AND TIMEFRAMES

PHASE	TIMEFRAME	OBJECTIVES
Response	22 February to 28 February	Ensure community safety and meet immediate support needs
Post-impact relief and emergency repairs	3 months February to May	Ensure the ongoing support needs and well-being of the community is addressed
Re-establishment, rehabilitation and reconstruction	3 to 6 months May to August	Initiation of recovery efforts
Restoration, rebuilding, reshaping and sustainability	6 months From August	Delivery of longer-term recovery efforts is incorporated into agency 'business as usual'
Resilience	Ongoing	Embed learnings to ensure the region is better prepared for future disaster impacts



Monday 28/02	Tuesday 01/03	Wednesday 02/03	Thursday 03/03	Friday 04/03	Saturday 05/03	Sunday 06/03
Up to 141mm	Up to 1mm	0mm	Up to 52mm	< 3mm	Up to 5mm	0mm
LDCC Stand Down Status. 1 x DD Approximate Flood Height. 1 x PoR closed. PHAS activated. Volunteer registrations open.	LDMG Stand Down Status. LRRG Stand Up Status. Free waste disposal activated. Queensland Premier Anastacia Palaszczuk and Deputy Premier Steven Miles visited the LDCC and Evacuation Centre.	Kerbside waste collection activated. Skip bin distribution activated. Request for Assistance activated. Queensland Governor the Honourable Dr Jeannette Young visited the LDCC and Evacuation Centre.	LDMG Stand Up Status. 1 x DD 'Stay Informed' warning issued. 1 x DD 'Prepare Now' warning issued.	FIC Lean Forward Status. Sandbag Stations closed. Clean up and clean out groups activated (continued through March).	Disaster Recovery Funding activated. Volunteer Army activated.	ADF assistance activated (continued through March).

DD – Disaster Dashboard

DDMG – District Disaster Management Group

EA – Emergency Alert

LDCC – Local Disaster Coordination Centre

LDMG – Local Disaster Management Group

LRRG – Local Recovery and Resilience Group

PHAS – Personal Hardship Assistance Scheme

PoR – Place of Refuge

SitRep – Situation Report

RECOVERY OBJECTIVES

Economic

- Conduct business and industry impact assessments across the region to identify impacts and issues – **achieved**
- Inform the business community of all support options available and how they can be accessed – **achieved**
- Provide financial relief through available government and industry means – **achieved**
- Understand ongoing impacts and share information within the business sector – **achieved**
- Advocacy highlighting the issues being experienced by businesses – **achieved**
- Develop and/or make available community infrastructure to enable temporary stock and equipment storage for affected businesses in the event of a disaster event – **achieved**
- Strengthen the relationships within the Economic Taskforce, by working together to solve local economic challenges, to enable a quick and potent response in future disaster events; to make 'working collaboratively' a business-as-usual activity – **achieved**

Environment

- Ensure provision of safe water (drinking water, waterways) – **achieved**
- Remove waste and debris – **continuing**
- Investigate disease, public health and safety risks associated with the event – **achieved**
- Ensure sewerage treatment plants are operational – **achieved**
- Assess environmental impacts to high-risk businesses – **achieved**
- Investigate impacts and identify possible treatment options for damaged green environment, natural amenities, natural values and fish/aquatic ecosystems – **continuing**
- Ensure management of domestic animals, livestock and wildlife – **achieved**

Human and Social

- Provide financial relief to impacted residents and community organisations – **continuing**
- Coordinate community support services to meet the needs of impacted families and individuals such as housing, emergency food, essential items, mental and physical health, replacement of donated goods and in-home support – **continuing**
- Coordinate existing service connection points and referral pathways to assist impacted residents to connect with available supports services and resources – **continuing**
- Ensure that the region-wide promotion of available support services is effective in reaching impacted residents and community organisations – **continuing**

Infrastructure

- Restoration of essential infrastructure including energy supply, water supply, roads, bridges and drainage – **achieved**
- Restoration of community recreational facilities including sports grounds and facilities, parks and conservation estates – **continuing**
- Restoration of council assets including depots, buildings, fleet, parks, open space and sport facilities – **continuing**



RECOVERY NETWORK

- Department of Agriculture and Fisheries
- Department of Communities, Housing and Digital Economies
- Department of Defence
- Department of Education
- Department of Employment, Small Business and Training
- Department of Energy and Public Works
- Department of Environment and Science
- Department of State Development, Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning
- Department of Transport and Main Roads
- GIVIT
- Greater Springfield Chamber of Commerce
- Healthy Land and Water
- Ipswich Chamber of Commerce
- Ipswich City Council
- Lifeline (Uniting Care Community)
- Local Level Alliance
- Local State and Federal Members
- Multicultural Australia
- Q Build
- Queensland Building and Construction Commission
- Queensland Fire and Emergency Services
- Queensland Police Service
- Queensland Reconstruction Authority
- Queensland Rural and Industry Development Authority
- Queenslanders with Disability Network
- Red Cross
- Salvation Army
- Samaritan's Purse
- Uniting Care Community
- Urban Utilities
- Volunteering Queensland
- West Moreton Mental Health Service
- West Moreton Public Health Unit
- Wivenhoe Local Jobs Taskforce.

Disaster recovery is a whole of government, whole of community responsibility and these groups and agencies are our partners in recovery from this event.

RECOVERY NETWORK ACTIONS (CONTINUING)

Human Social (2 Actions)

- Develop and deliver case management and referral pathways
- Build community centres capacity to support disaster response and resilience.

Environment (4 Actions)

- Systematically attend affected areas to clean up and remove debris from roads, drains and parks
- Water quality monitoring and ensuring safe recreational use of waterways
- Identify river restoration and natural area work priorities and advocate for funding
- Assessment and repairs to tracks and trail networks in natural area and conservation estates.

Actions completed (12)

- Damage assessments and mapping
- Provide support services at evacuation centres
- Manage emergency housing and long-term housing for displaced residents
- Provide temporary emergency care to displaced animals
- Establishment of Community Recovery Hubs
- Coordinate spontaneous volunteers and Defence personnel
- Coordinate and respond to requests for assistance from the community
- On-ground clean up and clean out assistance
- On-ground outreach to impacted residents providing welfare support and assistance with services and grants
- Generate and coordinate donations
- Establish financial assistance grants providing for emergency hardship, recovery and rebuilding
- Conduct insurance forums for impacted residents

Actions completed (16)

- Increase curb side waste removal services
- Provide skip bins to residents and community groups
- Provide putrescible waste bins to residents and community groups
- Removal and make safe fallen and dangerous trees
- Removal of hazardous waste including carcasses ensuring environmental hazards have been mitigated
- Provide exemptions for landfill operators to accept additional flood-related waste
- Allow residents free visits to transfer station for flood-impacted residents to dispose of flood waste
- On-site sewerage treatment plant cleanout
- Water quality monitoring and ensuring safe recreational use of waterways
- Vector control for mosquito-borne illness
- Aerial survey of waterways to determine extent of damage to waterways, erosion to riparian areas and areas where waste has built up
- Coordinate a Wildlife Carer and Conservation
- Landholder Support Package
- Advocate for environmental recovery and extraordinary waste packages from state government
- Make safe and reopen day use areas of nature and conservation estates
- Address animal welfare issues



Transport and Infrastructure (3 Actions)

- Undertake major repair, rebuild and betterment works on council sporting facilities, community facilities and recreation facilities
- Management of grant funding for council assets and management of Resilient Homes Fund
- Undertake major repairs, rebuild and betterment works on roads, bridges and drainage assets.

Economic (3 Actions)

- Reviewing regional 'Build Back Better' opportunities
- Identify supply chain issues and potential solutions
- Geographically map impacted business premises and the industries operating within the affected area

Actions completed (10)

- Repair and reinstate energy supplies
- Repair and reinstate water supplies
- Conduct inspections and reopen roads
- Conduct inspections and reopen bridges
- Conduct inspections and reinstate traffic lights
- Systematically deploy a program of road and pothole repairs
- Conduct condition assessments on Council sporting facilities, community facilities and recreation facilities
- Conduct minor works to activate Council sporting facilities, community facilities and recreation facilities
- Monitoring of work sites to ensure licenced tradespeople attending to repairs and rebuild
- Advocate for infrastructure and betterment packages from state government to reduce financial burden on council and ratepayers

Actions completed (8)

- Conduct a Business Impact Survey to inform grant funding packages
- On-ground clean up and clean out assistance
- On-ground outreach to impacted businesses providing welfare support and assistance with services and grants
- Establish financial assistance grants including QRIDA small business grants
- Coordination of recovery projects suitable for apprentice/training organisations
- Advocate for economic recovery packages from state government to reduce financial burden on council and ratepayers
- Priority inspection of food businesses to support safe reopening
- Identification and support to impacted primary producers

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COUNCIL RECOVERY WORKS

These works are being delivered through the council flood recovery coordination project

COUNCIL RECOVERY WORKS	CONDITION ASSESSMENT COMPLETED	EMERGENCY REPAIRS COMPLETED	ESTIMATED COST OF REPAIRS	PROJECT STATUS
SPORTING				
Blue Gum Reserve	June 2022	July 2022	\$13 million	Scheduled
Cribb Park Sporting Fields	June 2022	July 2022	\$165,000	Scheduled
Evan Marginson Park (Woogaroo Rugby Club)	June 2022	Underway	\$452,000	Scheduled
Evan Marginson Park (Goodna Netball Assoc.)	June 2022	Underway	\$148,000	Scheduled
Evan Marginson Park (Goodna Gym)	June 2022	July 2022	\$1.08 million	Underway
Goodna Bowls (Clubhouse)	June 2022	July 2022	\$355,000	Scheduled
Ipswich Bowls Club	June 2022	July 2022	\$15,000	Scheduled
Ivor Marsden Memorial Sports Centre	June 2022	July 2022	\$160,000	Completed
Jim Finimore (Clubhouse and Oval)	June 2022	July 2022	\$564,000	Underway
Kippen Park	June 2022	July 2022	\$298,000	Underway
Rotary Park (Eric Evans Soccer Field)	June 2022	July 2022	\$364,000	Scheduled
CONSERVATION ESTATES				
White Rock - Spring Mountain Conservation Estate	June 2022	July 2022	\$1,163,873.20	Underway
Flinders Goolman Conservation Estate	June 2022	July 2022	\$623,910.40	Underway
Hardings Paddock	Part of Flinders Goolman Works			
Castle Hill Recreation Reserve	June 2022	July 2022	\$28,560.00	Underway
Kholo Enviroplan Reserve	June 2022	July 2022	\$13,328.00	Underway
Mt Grandchester Conservation Estate	June 2022	July 2022	\$134,797.60	Underway
Redbank Rifle Range	June 2022	July 2022		Underway
Purga Nature Reserve	August 2022	July 2022	\$9,251.19	Underway
Ric Natrass Environmental Park	June 2022	July 2022	\$8,092.00	Underway
Denmark Hill Conservation Park	June 2022	July 2022	\$2,255.40	Underway
Haig St Quarry	June 2022	July 2022	\$348,980.80	Underway
Hillview Drive Reserve	June 2022	July 2022/A	\$9,996.00	Underway
COMMUNITY FACILITIES				
Colleges Crossing Kiosk	Included as part of Colleges Crossing Reserve project			
Ipswich Animal Management Centre	June 2022	June 2022	\$623,000	Scheduled



COUNCIL RECOVERY COSTS AND GRANTS RECEIVED (AS OF AUGUST 2022)

■ \$40,814,397 (COSTS)

■ \$23,251,481 (GRANTS)

See more here:

[Maps.ipswich.qld.gov.au/floodrecovery](https://maps.ipswich.qld.gov.au/floodrecovery)

COUNCIL RECOVERY WORKS	CONDITION ASSESSMENT COMPLETED	EMERGENCY REPAIRS COMPLETED	ESTIMATED COST OF REPAIRS	PROJECT STATUS
PARKS				
Colleges Crossing Recreation Reserve	June 2022	August 2022	\$14.82 million	Detailed design
Bob Gamble Park	June 2022	N/A	\$143,000	Complete
River Heart Parkland	June 2022	N/A	\$718,000	Underway
Riverlink Parkland Footpath	June 2022	July 2022	TBC	Underway
Robelle Domain	June 2022	July 2022	\$631,000	Underway
Pan Pacific Peace Gardens	June 2022	July 2022	\$143,000	Scheduled
Evan Marginson Park	June 2022	July 2022	\$318,000	Scheduled
Iron Bark Park	June 2022	June 2022	TBC	N/A
David W Coultas Park	June 2022	July 2022	\$299,000	Completed
George Palmer Park	June 2022	July 2022	TBC	N/A
Joseph Brady Park	June 2022	July 2022	\$332,000	Completed
Leslie Park	June 2022	August 2022	\$102,000	Scheduled
Marsden Parade Carpark	June 2022	June 2022	TBC	N/A
Riverside Park	June 2022	July 2022	\$122,000	Underway
Leichhardt Park	June 2022	June 2022	\$38,000	Scheduled
Worley Park	June 2022	June 2022	\$72,000	Scheduled
Woodend Park	June 2022	July 2022	TBC	N/A
Cribb Park Boat Ramp Area	June 2022	July 2022	\$205,000	Scheduled

Council Essential Assets	Emergency Works Completed	Grant Status	Comments
Sealed Roads			
228	Yes	Submitted	Works underway
Unsealed Roads			
165	Yes	Submitted	Works underway
Flood Monitoring Infrastructure			
15	Yes	Approved	Works underway

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RECOVERY NETWORK ACTIVITY

LOCAL RECOVERY INDICATOR	RESPONSIBLE AGENCY	AS AT 31 MAR 2023
Insurance Claims Made (Home, Contents, Motor, Building, Landlord)	ICA	5,129
<i>Value of Claims Made</i>		\$136,067,975
<i>Claims Paid</i>		\$107,726,998
<i>Closed Rate</i>		82.5%
Insurance Claims Made (Commercial)	ICA	224
Number of Displaced Residents (In Agency Accommodation)	DCHDE (Housing)	0
Lifeline Outreach (Number of Properties Visited)	Lifeline	621
Lifeline Referrals	Lifeline	3,043
Flood Resilient Homes Fund (as at 15 April 2023)	QRA	609
<i>Properties identified</i>		182
<i>Valuation inspections completed</i>		168
<i>Offers presented</i>		154
<i>Offers accepted</i>		105

ONGOING CHALLENGES FOR RECOVERY

- Housing supply issues leading to homelessness and rough sleeping.
- Materials, services and labour shortages impeding repairs, rebuild and additional housing supply.
- Impacts of future severe weather events.
- Delivery of the 47 recommendations in the 2022 Flood Review Reports.
- Delivery of high volume of significant recovery projects within funding program timeframes.



LOCAL RECOVERY INDICATOR	RESPONSIBLE AGENCY	AS AT 31 MAR 2023
Total value of grants paid	DCHDE (Communities)	\$6,292,063
Emergency Hardship Grants (Applications Administered)	DCHDE (Communities)	7,709
Essential Services Hardship Grants (Applications Administered)	DCHDE (Communities)	3,607
Essential Household Contents Grants (Applications Administered)	DCHDE (Communities)	3,905
Essential Services Safety and Reconnection Scheme (Applications Administered)	DCHDE (Communities)	936
Structural Assistance Grants (Applications Administered)	DCHDE (Communities)	1,003
Total number of people assisted through grants	DCHDE (Communities)	15,777
Home Outreach visits to process applications	DCHDE (Communities)	781
Virtual Home Outreach visits to process applications	DCHDE (Communities)	378
Community and Corporate Donations (Items Placed)	GIVIT	33,944
Community and Corporate Donations (Expended Funds)	GIVIT	\$773,203
Rebuild and Recover Tradie Register	QBCC	705

- ICA** – Insurance Council of Australia
- DCHDE** – Department of Communities, Housing and Digital Economy
- QRA** – Queensland Reconstruction Authority
- QBCC** – Queensland Building and Construction Commission

KEY RECOVERY AND RESILIENCE ACTIVITIES

- LDMG meeting** – 8 February 2023
- QRA Damage Assessment and Reconstruction Monitoring** – 20 to 24 February 2023
- LRRG meeting** – 8 February and 21 June 2023
- Disaster information stalls and presentations** – 15 March, 29 March, 22 April, 19 to 21 May, 10 June, 17 June 2023
- Flood Review Report** – Published in full in December
- Transition to business as usual governance and reporting arrangements**




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