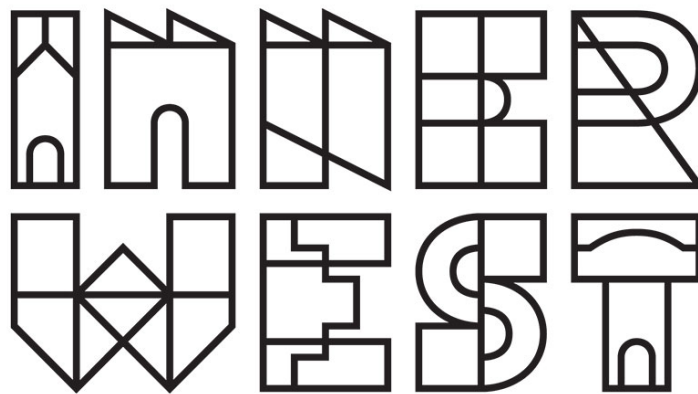


AGENDA



FLOOD MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

WEDNESDAY 26 NOVEMBER 2025

2:00 PM

AGENDA

- | | | | |
|----------|---|-------------|----------|
| 1 | Acknowledgement of Country | | |
| 2 | Apologies | | |
| 3 | Disclosures of Interest (Part 4 (Pecuniary Interests) and Part 5 (non-pecuniary conflicts of interest) of Council's Code of Conduct) | | |
| 4 | Confirmation of Minutes | Page | |
| | Minutes of 27 August 2025 Flood Management Advisory Committee | | 3 |
| 3 | Staff reports | | |

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Minutes of the Flood Risk Management Advisory Committee Meeting 27 August 2025

Date / Time	27 August 2025 – 2:00 PM		
Venue	Microsoft Teams		
Chairperson	Councillor Mat Howard		
Voting Attendees	Clr Mat Howard	Michael Carney (SES)	Pilar Lorenzo
	David Chick	Matthew Murphy	Tim Harnett
	Emily McGrath		
Technical Advisory Attendees (Non-Voting)	Peter Shields (IWC)	David Paton (IWC)	James Ogg (IWC)
	Rafaah Georges (IWC)	Andrew Jones (Sydney Water)	
Observers	Tiffanie Ong (IWC)	Robert Baker (Marrickville SES)	Jason L'Ecuyer (Cooks River Alliance)
	Hiti Gandhi (Cooks River Alliance)		
Apologies			

2. Acknowledgement Of Country – Clr Howard

I acknowledge that we are meeting on the land of the Gadigal and Wangal people of the Eora Nation and pay my respects to the elders past and present and I extend that respect and acknowledgement to any Aboriginal people who are here with us today.

3. Disclosures of Interest

Nil.

4. Confirmation of Minutes

Michael Carney moved that the Minutes of the Flood Management Advisory Committee held on 26 February 2025 be confirmed. Seconded by Councillor Mat Howard.

5. Staff Reports

5.1 – FMACC0225 (i) Item 1 Outstanding Actions Register

SUMMARY

The following table provides the status of outstanding actions from previous Flood Management Advisory Committee meetings.

Meeting	Item	Actions	Comments	Status
FMAC 29/2/24	5.2	That Council develop communications regarding flooding and relevant services in the local area including the SES that can be made available through customer service centres, libraries and be made available to local real estate or	Council's existing web page for emergency information has been updated to include information links to support services like SES and Red Cross.	In Progress

		rental agencies for new residents to the local community	Emergencies – Be prepared – Inner West Council	
FMAC 29/2/24	5.4	That in the development of the Flood Information Hub, Council work to make emergency information for accessible and visible, that Council investigates the reporting of local road closure information.	Planned road closures are currently reported to state agencies and digital mapping services via the NSW Government OneRoad portal. Council will review capacity to provide similar updates for Emergency operations.	In Progress
FMAC 29/2/24	5.6	That Council investigate the publication of evacuation routes among consideration of public signage	The Inner West Local Emergency Management Committee is currently reviewing the Flooding Emergency Sub-plan. Given the short warning time of a flood event and the short duration, site specific signage is not considered an effective and replicable management measure.	Completed
FMAC 29/2/24	5.7	That Council engage directly with community groups on the foreshore impacted by flooding.		In Progress
Ordinary Council 12/11/24 C1124(1)	17.2	That Council investigate placing stoppers (at Despointes Street, Marrickville) to maintain the ability for the rainwater to enter the drain without being diverted onto the footpath and ponding creating a safety issue.	Existing road width does not allow for parking spaces to be provided with wheel stops while remaining compliant with Australian Standards. An alternative design to extend the stormwater drainage and increase inlet capacity has been prepared for future detailed design, subject to grant funding.	Completed
Ordinary Council 12/11/24 C1124(1)	26.6	That Council provide for members of the public to present to the Flood Risk and Management Committee on flood related matters by establishing a public forum, as is the case with the Inner West Council Traffic	Report provided to the Committee at this meeting for initial discussion.	In Progress

		Committee.		
Ordinary Council 18/02/25 C0225(1)	39.3	That Council officers list flooding at Northcote Street and area flooding at the next Flood Management Advisory Committee, including the extent of flooding, mitigations currently in place and future options to mitigate and manage flooding	Report provided to the Committee at this meeting.	Completed
Ordinary Council 18/02/25 C0225(1)	39.4	That Council request officers report to the April Council meeting with information and future options to mitigate and manage flooding at Northcote Street, Marrickville		Completed
Ordinary Council 11/03/25 C0325(1)	40.1	That Council develop a plan for safe and effective flood management across Evan Jones Playground and Whites Creek Lane, Leichhardt and upgrades to the infrastructure in this playground and street, including: a) reviewing and reporting on the timeline	Report provided to 20 May Council meeting.	Completed
Ordinary Council 11/03/25 C0325(1)	40.2	That Council report the plan for flood improvement for Evan Jones Playground and Whites Creek Lane, Leichhardt to the May 2025 Council meeting.	Report provided to 20 May Council meeting.	Completed
Ordinary Council 29/04/25 C0425(1)	7.1	That Council receive the minutes and adopt the recommendations of the Flood Management Advisory Committee held on 26 February 2025		Completed
Ordinary Council 29/04/25 C0425(1)	7.2	That Council approve appointment of the Community Representatives to the Flood Management Advisory Committee.		Completed
Ordinary Council 29/04/25 C0425(1)	30.1	That Council receive and note the report for flooding in the area of Northcote Street, Marrickville		Completed
Ordinary Council 29/04/25 C0425(1)	30.2	That Council write to residents of Northcote Street to provide an update on actions being undertaken to address flooding in the area of Northcote Street, Marrickville	Letter issued to residents 11 July 2025	Completed
Ordinary Council 20/05/25 C0525(1)	19.1	That Council receive and note the report - Flood Management Plan for Evan Jones Playground		Completed
Ordinary Council 20/05/25 C0525(1)	19.2	That Council write to Sydney Water requesting updated costing associated with upgrading of the Whites Creek stormwater channel.	Letter sent to Sydney Water 10 July 2025	Completed

Ordinary Council 20/05/25 C0525(1)	19.3	That Council identify grant funding options available, and preparatory work that would be needed to apply for such grants, to fund these upgrades.		In Progress
Ordinary Council 20/05/25 C0525(1)	19.4	That Council report the outcomes of these engagements to Council in August 2025.	Report being prepared for the September meeting of Council. (Deferred from August)	In Progress
Ordinary Council 17/06/25 C0625(1)	55	That Council amend the Terms of Reference for the Inner West Flood Management Advisory Committee to: a) Remove reference to a quorum, consistent with the Inner West Traffic Committee; and b) Include a member of the Inner West Access Local Democracy Group to attend and hold voting rights as a member of the Committee.	Terms of Reference have been updated accordingly. A summary provided to the Committee at this meeting.	Complete

OFFICERS RECOMMENDATION

That Flood Management Advisory Committee receive and note the report.

DISCUSSION

Clr Howard enquired on Resolution C1124(1) 17.2 regarding the drainage of Despointes Street. James Ogg advised that the proposed stormwater improvement works are a result of the Marrickville Valley Flood Risk Management Study and form part of the 2025/26 design program. The scope is to upgrade the existing inlets into the Sydney Water canal between Silver Street, Despointes Street and Illawarra Road. Construction budgets are currently included within the draft delivery program for progressive roll out between 2027 and 2029.

Clr Howard also enquired on Resolution C0425(1) 30.2 regarding letters which were sent out to residents of Northcote Street and if any responses had been received from residents. James advised that no responses have been received directly related to Northcote Street residents, however a response was received from Malakoff Street residents regarding works being carried out in Carew Lane and the interactions with driveways and garage openings. A meeting has been organised with the affected resident.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

Tim Harnett moves the item, seconded by Pillar Lorenzo.

For Motion: Unanimous

FMACC0825(1) Item 2; UPDATE TO THE FLOOD MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE TERMS OF REFERENCE

SUMMARY

At its meeting on 17 June 2025 (C0625(1) Item 55), Council resolved: That Council amend the Terms of Reference for the Inner West Flood Management Advisory Committee to: a) and b) Remove reference to a quorum, consistent with the Inner West Traffic Committee; Include a member of the Inner West Access Local Democracy Group to attend and hold voting rights as a member of the Committee. These changes have been made to the Terms of Reference, included as Attachment 1. The Terms of Reference have also been amended to refer to the Director Engineering instead of the Director Infrastructure, following the change of Council's organisational structure in February.

OFFICERS RECOMMENDATION

That Flood Management Advisory Committee receive and note the report.

DISCUSSION

Council resolution to amend the terms of reference to remove reference to the quorum and added within the voting members a change to allow for a member of the Inner West Local Democracy Group as a voting member. James advised Council is working with the convener of that group to determine who is to be invited.

Robert Baker raised a query regarding the Action Register presented at each meeting and how historical records of past items can be accessed. James Ogg explained that once actions have been completed and closed out, they are removed from the current meeting agenda. However, historical agenda items and resolutions can be located in the minutes and meeting reports of previous meetings.

Matthew Murphy notes attachments to the Flood Management Advisory Committee Terms of Reference uses a previous version of the Local Traffic Committee Terms of Reference, noting that this discrepancy should be corrected.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

That the report and amended terms of Reference be accepted, subject to the removal of references to the Local Traffic Committee.

Matthew Murphy moves item, seconded by David Chick.

For Motion: Unanimous

FMACC0525(1) Item 3 ; FLOODING IN THE AREA OF EVAN JONES PARK

SUMMARY

Following heavy storms on 10 February 2025, community members reported significant overland flow from Evan Jones Playground into the adjacent laneway. Additionally, the lid of the nearby gross pollutant trap (GPT) was dislodged, creating a serious safety hazard. Recurrent issues were also noted with debris accumulation, particularly soft-fall wood chips from the playground surface, which regularly obstruct the drainage system and exacerbate localised flooding.

An investigation was undertaken to explore options for minimising the impact of flooding at Evan Jones Playground and Whites Creek Lane. The primary mitigation options involve significant upgrades of the trunk drainage systems which are cost prohibitive to upgrade.

To mitigate the impact of future events directly to the park, maintenance activities are routinely undertaken on the playground and gross pollutant trap (GPT). The playground is scheduled for upgrade as part of the 2026/27 Capital Works program, with the scope including replacement of the wood chips with rubber softfall to reduce debris-related blockages in the drainage system.

OFFICERS RECOMMENDATION

That Flood Management Advisory Committee receive and note the report.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

Pilar Lorenzo moves the item, seconded by Michael Carney.

For Motion: Unanimous

FMACC0825(1) Item 4 ; FLOODING NEAR NORTHCOTE STREET MARRICKVILLE

SUMMARY

Residents have experienced flooding in Northcote Street and Malakoff Street on several occasions since February 2022, affecting several properties and flooding vehicles parked in the street. Following initial consultation with residents in 2022, stormwater upgrade works were planned and completed in November 2024 at a cost of approximately \$180,000.00 to increase drainage capacity in Northcote Street, which has improved the capture of stormwater within the street and reduced the length of time that flood waters remain in the street. Further works within Carew Lane and Malakoff Street are included in the draft FY26 budget in the amount of \$240,000. Despite the completed works having improved the drainage system in Northcote Street, the capacity of the stormwater channel running between Northcote Street and Malakoff Street remains a constraint on the system and impacts on the effectiveness of the above works. The Marrickville Valley Flood Risk Management Plan includes a proposal to divert and upgrade the existing stormwater pipelines within Jarvie Park and Petersham Road to further mitigate flood risk in Northcote Street at an estimated cost of \$800,000.00. Funding has been included in the draft FY26 budget for feasibility assessment of a more targeted pipeline diversion within Jarvie Park, which could potentially be delivered at a lower cost. The results of this investigation would be presented to Council ahead of budget considerations for FY27 and beyond.

OFFICERS RECOMMENDATION

That Flood Management Advisory Committee receive and note the report.

DISCUSSION

Tim Harnett raised concern that focus is on the existing infrastructure of the larger pipes to secure more capacity in a patchwork scenario rather than considering larger infrastructure struggle to support the flow of water. David Paton comments that Sydney Water has a large culvert which runs down Malakoff Street, which is what Council is looking to tap into that has extra capacity to relieve the flow of water through the main channel along Northcote Street there is potential to make a significant difference.

This is the typical process for flood mitigation within an urbanised catchment where opportunities for wholesale upgrade are limited. There are a number of trunk drainage systems that run across the LGA which are at capacity, and council works to utilise them as best possible to allow to get water into them and operating as best possible, as such there is a chance of spare capacity Council can channel into to achieve an outcome. A report was provided to the committee in February regarding Council's overall flood management process, which will be recirculated to committee members.

Clr Howard raised resident concerns regarding Council's lack of maintaining and removing of the vegetation thought to be causing the flooding, however notes it would be the overall capacity of the part of the network and the lack of capacity as once the channel is full there is no where for the water to go, which is the purpose of trying to create an additional connection to the Malakoff Street culvert.

Clr Howard enquired how the smaller \$240,000 proposal in Jarvie Park compares to the larger \$800,000 option within the Marrickville Valley Flood Risk Management Plan and which provides a greater benefit. James Ogg noted that the Flood Risk Management Report effectively combined two improvements into one option with the total estimate of \$800,000. If able to do both options, there will be greater benefits, however based on current calculations, approximately 60% of the benefit can be achieved just by doing the diversion. The smaller cost diversion also has less site constraints impacting delivery.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

That Flood Management Advisory Committee receive and note the report.

Mat Howard moves the item, seconded by Tim Harnett.

For Motion: Unanimous

FMACC0825(1) Item 5 ; PUBLIC FORUM TO THE FLOOD MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

SUMMARY

The Inner West Flood Management Advisory Committee was first established in 2017 in accordance with the Floodplain Development Manual (2005). The committee is advisory in nature and does not have or exercise any formal powers of Council. The committee is established by Council and reports its recommendations to Council via a report and publication of its minutes. Any resulting actions ultimately require the approval of Council. This report reviews the purpose of the Flood Management Advisory Committee, compares the operation and procedures of the Local Traffic Committee and makes suggestions for implementation of a public forum for the Flood Management Advisory Committee, ahead of formal recommendations at a later meeting.

OFFICERS RECOMMENDATION

1. That Flood Management Advisory Committee receive and note the report.
2. That a revised Terms of Reference including details of the Public Forum is provided to the Flood Management Advisory Committee in November following a review by Council's Governance team.

DISCUSSION

Tim Harnett queried whether this proposal allowed people to canvas the committee from a purely individual perspective on an issue. The discussion clarified that the proposed public forum is to be limited to items within the published agenda only. The agenda will include reports on specific locations requested by the Flood Management Advisory Committee as well as the outcomes of any significant public engagement during a Flood Study, Flood Risk Management Plan or flood mitigation design. As well as regular engagement with Council officers in this process, the intention is to provide further opportunity for the community to speak directly to the Committee if concerns remain unresolved. Noting that the committee is advisory in function only, with any formal decision requiring the approval of Council, members of the public are also able to register to speak to the Council.

Clr Howard notes this proposal ensures that people are only able to speak to items that are on the agenda to reduce the risk of deviating Council's attention from the requirements and objectives are under the Flood Risk Management Frameworks. Like the Local Traffic Committee Public Forum and the Ordinary Meeting of Council, the Public Forum operates as an opportunity for the members of the public make comment to specific items of the agenda for an allotted period within the meeting, after which the remainder of the meeting happens without further submissions. This provides the public opportunity to make an oral submission such the public can be assured that the advisory committee is aware of the views of the wider community.

Matthew Murphy would like to confirm whether the proposal allows for members of the public to observe the rest of the meeting in a muted scenario or are only permitted to join the meeting for the purpose of their presentation and drop off once the meeting item has been dealt with. Matthew Murphy notes he has no objection for members of the public be permitted access observe the meetings. Council Officers will determine if any formal changes need to be made to the Terms of Reference and advise the committee at its next meeting.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

1. That Flood Management Advisory Committee receive and note the report.
2. That a revised Terms of Reference including details of the Public Forum is provided to the Flood Management Advisory Committee in November following a review by Council's Governance team.

Matthew Murphy moves item, seconded by Tim Harnett.

For Motion: Unanimous

7. General Business

Matthew Murphy requested that the meetings be limited to an hour, recognising the time commitment requested of community members within regular business hours. Council Officers noted that efforts would be made to preserve brevity of a meeting where possible, however at some times during the year a longer meeting may be required in order to fully participate in the review or guidance of a Flood Study, Flood Risk Management Plan or Flood Mitigation Process. At such meetings, the meeting convenor and the Chair will review the number of report items to ensure that Committee members time is respected.

Matthew Murphy sought clarification on Agenda Item 2, asking whether the Access Local Democracy Group members, is required to be approved by the full Council. Cllr Howard clarified that the resolution and the amended Terms of Reference are such that the member representing the Access Local Democracy Group is selected by Democracy Group, similar to how the voting member representing NSW SES is nominated by NSW SES.

Local Flooding Concerns

Michael Carney raises concerns about increased flooding in Illawarra Road between Hill Street, Thornley Street and Cahill Place. Water levels are encroaching further up Hill Street, and issues may be due to an old rain guard which may possibly be blocked and the new pedestrian crossing which is causing water to dam. A report will be provided to the next Committee meeting.

Cllr Howard advises residents from community have raised concerns about flooding incidents at the corner of Ewart Street and Osgood Avenue and requesting for more information at the next council meeting about these issues at this location. James Ogg noted that Council's Engineers are aware of the issues noted at this location and a report will be provided to the next Committee meeting.

Meeting Closed 2:51 pm

Item No: FMACC1125(1) Item 1
Subject: OUTSTANDING ACTIONS REGISTER
Prepared By: Rafaah Georges - Stormwater Asset Planning Engineer
Authorised By: James Ogg - Stormwater Catchment Coordinator (Acting)

Item 1

RECOMMENDATION

That the Flood Management Advisory Committee receive and note the report.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The attached table provides the status of outstanding actions from previous Flood Management Advisory Committee Meetings

ATTACHMENTS

1. [↓](#) Outstanding Actions Register

Outstanding Actions Register

Meeting	Item	Actions	Comments	Status
FMAC 29/2/24	5.2	That Council develop communications regarding flooding and relevant services in the local area including the SES that can be made available through customer service centres, libraries and be made available to local real estate or rental agencies for new residents to the local community	Council's existing web page for emergency information has been updated to include information links to support services like SES and Red Cross. Emergencies – Be prepared – Inner West Council. Local warnings are shared through social media.	Closed No further action.
FMAC 29/2/24	5.4	That in the development of the Flood Information Hub, Council work to make emergency information for accessible and visible, that Council investigates the reporting of local road closure information.	Planned road closures are currently reported to state agencies and digital mapping services via the NSW Government OneRoad portal.	Closed No further action.
Ordinary Council 12/11/24 C1124(1)	26.6	That Council provide for members of the public to present to the Flood Risk and Management Committee on flood related matters by establishing a public forum, as is the case with the Inner West Council Traffic Committee.	Report presented at the 26 November 2025 FMAC meeting.	Closed No further action.
Ordinary Council 20/05/25 C0525(1)	19.3	That Council identify grant funding options available, and preparatory work that would be needed to apply for such grants, to fund these upgrades.	Report provided to the September meeting of Council	Closed No further action.
Ordinary Council 20/05/25 C0525(1)	19.4	That Council report the outcomes of these engagements to Council in August 2025.	Report provided to the September meeting of Council	Closed No further action.
FMAC 27/08/25	7	That the committee be presented with a report at the next meeting about flooding concerns in Hill Street, Marrickville.	Report presented at the 26 November 2025 FMAC meeting.	Closed No further action.
FMAC 27/08/25	7	That the committee be presented with a report at the next meeting about flooding concerns in Osgood Avenue, Marrickville.	Report presented at the 26 November 2025 FMAC meeting.	Closed No further action.

Item No: FMACC1125(1) Item 2

Subject: PUBLIC FORUM TO THE FLOOD MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Prepared By: James Ogg - Stormwater Catchment Coordinator (Acting)

Authorised By: Peter Shields - Director Engineering

RECOMMENDATION

That Flood Management Advisory Committee endorse the amended Terms of Reference.

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE

This report supports the following strategic directions contained within Council's Community Strategic Plan:

- 2: Liveable, connected neighbourhoods and transport
- 5: Progressive, responsive and effective civic leadership

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Flood Management Advisory Committee Terms of Reference have been amended to include a clause providing for and governing the procedure of a Public Forum prior to the consideration of the matters before the Committee.

BACKGROUND

The Inner West Flood Management Advisory Committee (FMAC) was first established in 2017 in accordance with the Floodplain Development Manual (2005) – since superseded by the Flood Risk Management Manual (2023) (the Manual).

The FMAC is established by Council to support and oversee the flood risk management process in accordance with the guidance of the Manual.

At its meeting on 12 November 2024 (C1124(1) Item 26), Council resolved:

- 6. *That Council provide for members of the public to present to the Flood Risk and Management Committee on flood related matters by establishing a public forum, as is the case with the Inner West Council Traffic Committee.*

DISCUSSION

Following feedback at the August meeting of the Flood Management Advisory Committee & consultation with Council's Governance Team, an additional clause is proposed to be inserted into **Section 7 – Meetings** to read as follows:

7.4 Public Participation

The role of the Flood Management Advisory Committee is to assist the Council in the management of flooding through the review of Flood Studies and the implementation of Flood Risk Management Plans.

The input and engagement of residents, businesses and community groups during the preparation of flood studies and flood risk management studies and plan is important to this process of ongoing oversight and review.

Where Council is engaging with a community in relation to the development of a flood study or the implementation of flood risk management measures, the community are invited to make a submission. Members of the community who make a submission will also be entitled to speak to the subsequent FMAC where the matter is to be considered. Any presentations are to be made prior to the consideration of Staff Reports for the benefit of members during the remainder of the meeting.

To speak to an item at the Committee Meeting, a person must first make a request in writing to the Committee Facilitator by 5pm on the day prior to the meeting identifying the item of business that they wish to speak on, and whether they wish to speak 'for' or 'against' the item.

The Committee Facilitator in conjunction with the Chair will determine the number and order of those to speak to the Committee in accordance with the principles of Council's Code of Meeting Practice. Each speaker will be allowed 3 minutes to address the Committee and must keep their comments succinct and relevant to matter being considered and not include any inappropriate material, including defamatory content.

The Committee is advisory in nature and does not have or exercise any formal powers of Council, and any resulting actions ultimately require the approval of Council. The Chair must make it clear to the public forum that the Council is still required to accept the recommendation of the Flood Management Advisory Committee.

This clause has been developed to be consistent with other similar committee meetings, such as the Local Transport Forum, and Council's Code of Meeting Practice.

A full copy of the amended Terms of Reference is provided in Attachment 1. Amendments have also been made to internal Officer titles and to remove inaccurate references to the Local Traffic Committee.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications associated with the implementation of the proposed recommendations outlined in the report.

ATTACHMENTS

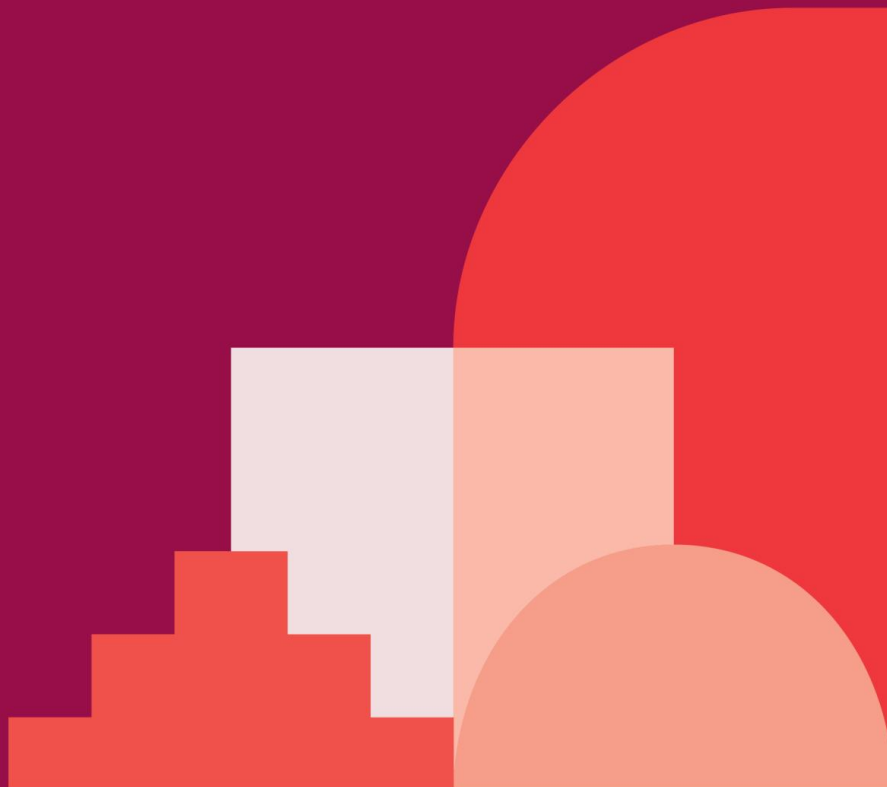
1. [1.1](#) FRMAC Terms of Reference - V5 DRAFT



Flood Management Advisory Committee Terms of Reference

V5

WFO2024/0002



Item 2

Attachment 1



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1 Introduction

Inner West Council (Council) established the Flood Management Advisory Committee ('Committee' or 'FMAC') on 23 August 2016 in accordance with the NSW Government Flood Prone Land Policy and the NSW Flood Risk Management Manual (The Manual).

These terms of reference set out the Committee's objectives, authority, composition and tenure, roles and responsibilities, reporting and administrative arrangements.

2 Objective

The objective of the Flood Management Advisory Committee is to assist the Council in the preparation of Floodplain Risk Management Plans for the Inner West Council local government area which will:

- Reduce the impact of flooding and flood liability on the community.
- Reduce private and public losses resulting from flooding.
- Recognise flood prone land as a valuable resource which should not be necessarily sterilised.
- Take into account social, economic, ecological and cultural factors.

The Committee acts as both a focus and forum for the discussion of technical, social, economic and environmental matters, and for the distillation of possibly differing viewpoints on these matters into ongoing management plans.

3 Function and Scope

The function and scope of the Committee will include but not be limited to the following:

- To assist Council in the development of Flood Studies and Floodplain Risk Management Studies and Plans for the Inner West Council local government area.
- To provide a link between Council and the local community.
- To identify objectives and strategies related to the improvement of the management of the floodplain.
- To monitor and review the implementation of flood planning in the Inner West Council local government area.
- To provide input into known flood behaviour as part of a flood study or flood risk management plan.
- To assist in the collection of information to support flood modelling and design.
- To facilitate coordination of flood management between local and state government agencies.
- To support and review the implementation of Floodplain Risk Management Plans within local planning processes, works programs and education campaigns and encouraging community participation.



The Committee does not consider specific development issues proposals/applications but focuses on broader management issues, Council policies and strategies affecting flood prone lands.

4 Delegation

The Committee is advisory in nature providing recommendations to Inner West Council. The Committee has not been delegated authority by Council. Any recommendations of the Committee must be ratified by resolution of Council and implemented by a member of Inner West Council staff with an appropriate delegation.

The Committee does not have any power to incur expenditure or to bind the Council to any decision upheld by the Committee.

5 Membership and Appointments

5.1 Membership of the Committee

Council recognizes its local community as a valuable partner in the management of the floodplain and the FMAC is a valued part of Council's local democracy.

The Committee comprises representatives from the local community with interest or expertise in flooding, elected representatives of Council, representatives of various NSW State Government departments / authorities / corporations, Council staff, and specialist consultants as engaged by Council.

Membership on the Committee is voluntary and by invitation from Inner West Council.

The Committee will consist of:

Members (voting)

- 2 Councillors nominated as per the terms of reference
- Up to 8 Local Community Representatives appointed as per the terms of reference
- 1 representative of the Inner West Access Local Democracy Group
- 1 representative nominated by the NSW State Emergency Service Local Cluster

Technical Advisory Members (non-voting)

- 1 representative nominated by Sydney Water
- 1 representative nominated by the NSW SES Metro Zone
- 1 representative nominated by the NSW SES Ashfield-Leichhardt Unit
- 1 representative nominated by the NSW SES Marrickville Unit
- 1 representative from Transport for NSW Roads
- Up to 2 representatives from the NSW Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water
- Inner West Council Stormwater Catchment Coordinator
- Inner West Council Technical Services Manager
- Inner West Council Director Engineering
- Inner West Local Emergency Management Officer



Invitees & Observers (non-voting)

- Relevant officers from Inner West Council within Civil Works, Operations, Planning and Environment
- Representatives from other Councils or Government Agencies where they impacted by a Flood Study or Floodplain Risk Management Study and Plan being undertaken by Inner West Council

Additional observers can be invited to committee meetings at the discretion of the Committee Facilitator. Membership can be altered at any time by Council resolution.

5.2 Appointment of Chairperson and Deputy Chairpersons

Up to two elected representatives of Council may be members of the committee. The elected representatives of Council to serve on the committee shall be nominated by Council.

For the purposes of this charter the term “elected representatives” includes elected members of Council and, where there are no elected members of Council, persons that have been nominated by Council as members of Local Representation Advisory Committees.

The Chairperson and Deputy Chairpersons of the Committee shall be nominated by Council from the nominated elected representatives unless determined otherwise by Council.

If neither the Chairperson nor the Deputy Chairpersons of the Committee is able or willing to preside at a meeting of the Committee, the Committee may elect a member of the Committee to be acting chairperson of the Committee for that meeting.

5.3 Appointment of Community Representatives

Up to eight Community Representatives may be members of the committee, selected from members of the community who reside or operate on flood prone land, have expertise in local flood management, or represent local sporting groups, social groups, environmental groups or chambers of commerce impacted by flooding.

Expressions of interest for Community Representatives will be called for at intervals as required. Advertising for expressions of interest will be on Council's website.

Expressions of interest must be in writing. Expressions of interest will be prioritised by relevant Council staff.

Recommendations for appointment to the Committee will be prioritised based on the following selection criteria:

- Residence or property ownership or business operator within Inner West LGA.
- Representation across all Council's catchments.
- Knowledge of local catchment flooding issues.
- Commitment to represent the interests of the Inner West community concerning floodplain management issues.



- Ability to attend Committee meetings and public meetings within LGA as required.
- Ability to commit to a long term membership of the Committee.
- Preparedness to observe Council's Model Code of Conduct.

Successful applicants will be notified in writing and appointments of Community Representatives to the Committee will be reported to Council by the committee.

Community Representatives membership may be determined for up to two terms of Council (or remainder thereof).

Community Representatives shall serve on the Committee in a voluntary capacity.

5.4 Casual Vacancies

Any member of the Committee may, by giving notice in writing addressed to the Committee, resign as a member.

Membership on the Committee shall cease if:

- A member resigns in writing to the Committee;
- If a member (or representative) is absent without notification of absence for three (3) consecutive Committee meetings; or
- Upon resolution of Council to remove a member from the Committee.

In the event that a casual vacancy is caused by the resignation of a member, the Committee Facilitator will advise the Committee at its next meeting that a vacancy has arisen, and will provide a report to the next available Council meeting concerning a prospective replacement having regard to the following:

- If the member was nominated as a representative of an organisation, then the organisation shall be invited to nominate a replacement representative.
- If the member was nominated as a Community Representative, then the Committee Facilitator will review original expressions of interest received and ascertain if any of the individuals who previously nominated are prepared to be considered as a member of the Committee.
- If there are no previous or current nominations then an expression of interest will be called.
- Should a vacancy occur within six (6) months of the end of term of the current Council, the vacancy will not be filled until the first term of the new Council.



6 Responsibility of Members

6.1 Code of Conduct

Council's [Model Code of Conduct](#) applies to the FMAC.

Failure by a Council Official or FMAC Member to comply with the standards of conduct prescribed under the Model Code of Conduct may constitute misconduct and could result in suspension or removal from the advisory committee or working group.

Failure by a member of staff to comply with Council's Model Code of Conduct may also give rise to disciplinary action.

Council has zero tolerance for aggressive, humiliating, bullying, intimidatory or violent behaviour towards Council Officials or FMAC Members.

Respect is one of our core values and Council Officials and FMAC members are required to:

1. Treat everyone equitably and fairly
2. Embrace diversity
3. Acknowledge and value the needs of FMAC Members
4. Actively listen, to understand each other's point of view
5. Value feedback and respond constructively

6.2 Understanding and Contribution

Members of the Committee are expected to:

- Understand the relevant legislative and regulatory requirements appropriate to Inner West Council
- Contribute the time needed to study and understand the papers provided.
- Apply objectivity and good judgment.
- Express opinions frankly, ask questions that go to the fundamental core of issues.
- Members of the Committee are not permitted to speak to the media as a representative of the Committee unless approved by Council. General information with regard to purpose and objective of the Committee is available on Council's website

6.3 Conflict of Interest

All FMAC members are required to disclose conflicts of interest in accordance with the [Conflict of Interest Policy](#). All FMAC Members are required to undertake an initial Disclosure of Interests upon commencement as a FMAC Member and annually thereafter. Any new Conflict of Interest that arises must be disclosed as soon as practicable and no more than one month post becoming aware of the new interest.

Refer Schedule 1 Disclosure of Interest.



6.4 Role of the Chairperson

The Chairperson is responsible for:

- Opening the meeting and following the agenda
- Allocating times to be devoted to agenda items and ensuring that these times are observed
- Encouraging all members of the Committee to express their point of view
- Determining the most effective way of dealing with the issues raised and making the necessary arrangements to achieve this
- Summarising the progress of the discussion and degree of consensus reached at the end of each agenda items, and confirming this with the Minute taker before moving on
- Closing the meeting and confirming the date, time and place of the next meeting
- Liaising and reporting to the Council.

6.5 Committee Facilitator

The designated Committee Facilitator is the Director Engineering or their nominee.

The Committee Facilitator is responsible for:

- Establishing the meeting agenda in conjunction with the Chairperson
- Preparing and distributing the agenda
- Ensuring the agenda and minutes are published
- Ensuring that relevant matters are brought before the Committee
- Ensuring that the input and decisions of the Committee are incorporated into Council activities.
- Booking venues
- Taking accurate minutes in the format determined by the Committee; and
- Distributing the minutes

7 Meetings

7.1 Frequency

The Committee will meet a minimum of four times a year, at quarterly intervals. Special meetings of the committee may be called where required at critical points in the review and delivery of Flood Studies and Flood Risk Management Plans, or there are pressing issues to be put forward to the Committee.

The meetings of the Committee are to be called by the Committee Facilitator. The proposed date, time, location and business to be transacted at each meeting will be notified to all members of the Committee at least seven days prior to the meeting.

Meetings will allow for hybrid attendance (face-to-face and online) to ensure that members have as many options as available to take part in the Committee.



7.2 Meeting procedures

The following procedures shall apply during meetings:

- Meetings of the Committee shall be conducted under the Council's Model Code of Conduct.
- The Chairperson may call a special meeting if, in the Chairperson's opinion, there are matters of urgency that require attention.
- The Committee may invite people to attend meetings to observe, make representation or provide expert or technical advice.
- Provision shall be made on each agenda for General Business to be raised at each meeting.
- The agenda for the meetings shall be issued on the week preceding the Committee meeting.
- Council's role is to note the Committee's Minutes and to consider recommendations made by the Committee. Such recommendations will be highlighted for the attention of Council.
- The minutes shall be drafted and distributed after each meeting to Committee members.

7.3 Meeting Conduct

Members shall respect the views and opinions of each other, allowing for one person to speak at a time and participate in the meeting with decorum. The Chairperson will facilitate the meeting to ensure the meeting keeps to the agenda allowing for all agenda items to be considered.

When the Chairperson rises or speaks during a meeting:

- Any FMAC Member then speaking or seeking to speak must cease speaking.
- Every FMAC Member present must be silent to enable the Chairperson to be heard without interruption.

A Council Official or FMAC Member commits an Act of Disorder if they:

- a. Contravenes the Flood Management Advisory Committee Terms of Reference
- b. assaults or threatens to assault Council Officials or a FMAC Member
- c. moves or attempts to move a recommendation that has an unlawful purpose or that deals with a matter that is outside the jurisdiction of the Flood Management Advisory Committee
- d. insults, or makes unfavourable personal remarks about, or imputes improper motives to any other Council official or FMAC Member
- e. or does anything that is inconsistent with maintaining order at the meeting or is likely to bring the Council or the Flood Management Advisory Committee into disrepute.

Where a FMAC Member commits an act of disorder the Chairperson reserves the right to expel any person from the meeting.



7.4 Public Participation

The role of the Flood Management Advisory Committee is to assist the Council in the management of flooding through the review of Flood Studies and the implementation of Flood Risk Management Plans.

The input and engagement of residents, businesses and community groups during the preparation of flood studies and flood risk management studies and plan is important to this process of ongoing oversight and review.

Where Council is engaging with a community in relation to the development of a flood study or the implementation of flood risk management measures, the community are invited to make a submission. Members of the community who make a submission will also be entitled to speak to the subsequent FMAC where the matter is to be considered. Any presentations are to be made prior to the consideration of Staff Reports for the benefit of members during the remainder of the meeting.

To speak to an item at the Committee Meeting, a person must first make a request in writing to the Committee Facilitator by 5pm on the day prior to the meeting identifying the item of business that they wish to speak on, and whether they wish to speak 'for' or 'against' the item.

The Committee Facilitator in conjunction with the Chair will determine the number and order of those to speak to the Committee in accordance with the principles of Council's Code of Meeting Practise. Each speaker will be allowed 3 minutes to address the Committee and must keep their comments succinct and relevant to matter being considered and not include any inappropriate material, including defamatory content.

The Committee is advisory in nature and does not have or exercise any formal powers of Council, and any resulting actions ultimately require the approval of Council. The Chair must make it clear to the public forum that the Council is still required to accept the recommendation of the Flood Management Advisory Committee.

8 Sub-Committees & Working Groups

Sub-Committees or Working Groups may be established to support the Flood Management Advisory Committee and Council in the delivery of flood risk management projects.

Working Groups will contain relevant technical staff from Council, the Department of Planning and Environment, State Agencies, and selected consultants.

Sub-Committees and Working Groups will report to the Flood Management Advisory Committee on the progress of the matters assigned to them.



9 Breaches of this Terms of Reference

Breaches of Terms of Reference may result in an investigation of the alleged breach in line with relevant Council policies including the Model Code of Conduct.

Any alleged criminal offence or allegation of corrupt conduct will be referred to the relevant external agency.

10 Dissolution

The Committee may at any time be dissolved and disbanded by resolution of Council.

11 Administrative Changes

From time-to-time circumstances may change leading to the need for minor administrative changes to this document. Where an update does not materially alter this document, such a change may be made including branding, Council Officer titles or department changes and legislative name or title changes which are considered minor in nature and not required to be formally endorsed.



12 Version Control – Terms of Reference History

This Terms of Reference will be formally reviewed every three years from the date of adoption or as required.

Governance use only:

Document	Flood Management Advisory Committee Terms of Reference	Uncontrolled Copy When Printed	
Custodian	Manager Engineering Services	Version #	Version 5
Approved By	Council	ECM Document #	39705892
Next Review Date	April 2027		

Amended by	Changes made	Date Adopted
Engineering Services	Amended Contact Officer	29/9/2017
Engineering Services Governance and Risk	Significant updates to the entire document as part of the required review into meeting schedule, membership and committee governance. Terms of reference amended to align with standard IWC governance procedures	09/04/2024
Engineering Services Governance and Risk	Removal of quorum and updated to voting members in accordance with Council Notice of Motion C0625(1) Item 55 Amendment of internal job titles	14/08/2025
Technical Services Governance and Risk	Inclusion of Public Forum in accordance with Council Notice of Motion C1124(1) Item 26 Formatting & Title Changes	TBC



Schedule 1 – Conflict of Interest Disclosure Form

CONFLICT OF INTEREST DISCLOSURE FORM

Information	A conflict of interest arises if it is likely that a person with a private or personal interest could be influenced in the performance of his or her public or professional duties by that interest, or that a reasonable person would believe that the person could be so influenced. Council's Code of Conduct requires Council officials to declare potential Conflicts of Interest and take appropriate action to resolve these situations immediately.
Types of Interests	<p>1. Pecuniary Interest</p> <p>Is an interest that you have in a matter because of a reasonable likelihood or expectation of an appreciable financial gain or loss to you, or to another person with whom you are associated. This could include your partner, close relative and business associate. (Section 4 (4.1) Code of Conduct).</p> <p>2. Non-Pecuniary Interest</p> <p>Is a private or personal interest, which you have which may arise from a friendship, a family member, sporting, social, religious or cultural association. This may include money, interests of a financial nature or a non-financial benefit.</p>
How a Conflict of Interest would arise:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Where you have a personal interest that would lead you to be influenced in the carrying out of your Council work or public duties. Where you have a personal interest that could lead a reasonable person to think you could be influenced in the carrying out of your Council work or public duties. Where you know of a family member, relative, friend, associate or anybody close to you has an interest that could lead you to be influenced or a reasonable person to think you could be influenced, in the carrying out of your Council work or public duties.
Identify, Declare and Manage Conflict of Interest?	<p>Where you have a non-pecuniary conflict of interest in a matter for the purposes of clause 5.2 of the Code of Conduct, you must disclose the relevant private interest you have in relation to the matter fully and in writing as soon as practicable after becoming aware of the non-pecuniary conflict of interest.</p> <p>How you manage a non-pecuniary conflict of interest will depend on whether or not it is significant, refer to Clause 5.6 to 5.9 of the Code of Conduct for guidance.</p> <p>If you determine that a non-pecuniary conflict of interests is less than significant and does not require further action, you must provide an explanation of why you consider that the conflict does not require further action in the circumstances.</p> <p>Where you have a significant non-pecuniary or pecuniary conflict of interest you must not participate in consideration of, or decision making in relation to, the matter in which you have the significant non-pecuniary or pecuniary conflict of interest.</p>



Employee's Details	<p>Name: Click or tap here to enter text.</p> <p>Position: Click or tap here to enter text.</p> <p>Directorate: Choose an item.</p>
Description of Conflict of Interest	<p>Click or tap here to enter text.</p> <p>Type of Conflict</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Pecuniary</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Non-Pecuniary – Significant</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Non-Pecuniary – Non-Significant</p> <p>Date Conflict Declared: Click or tap to enter a date.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> The details I have provided are correct to the best of my knowledge and the declaration is made in good faith.</p> <p>Signature of Employee: _____ Date: Click or tap to enter a date.</p> <p>Please submit this form to your Manager/Senior Manager/Director or General Manager</p>
Action taken to avoid any impact from the Conflict of Interest	<p>Click or tap here to enter text.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Manager will monitor the employee's adherence to the action plan stated above.</p> <p>Manager's Name: Click or tap here to enter text.</p> <p>Signature of Manager/Snr Manager: _____ Date: Click or tap to enter a date.</p> <p>Signature of Director/GM: _____ Date: Click or tap to enter a date.</p>
Endorsement by Employee	<p><input type="checkbox"/> I note the proposed action, endorse it, and agree to abide by it. If the circumstances as set out in this declaration changes, I will resubmit a new declaration setting out the circumstances for approval.</p> <p>Signature of Employee: _____ Date: Click or tap to enter a date.</p>
Completed Forms	<p>Send completed forms to Governance@innerwest.nsw.gov.au</p>

Item No: FMACC1125(1) Item 3
Subject: SOUTH MARRICKVILLE FLOOD STUDY
Prepared By: Rafaah Georges - Stormwater Asset Planning Engineer
Authorised By: Peter Shields - Director Engineering

RECOMMENDATION

That the Flood Management Advisory Committee receive and note the proposed timeline.

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE

This report supports the following strategic directions contained within Council's Community Strategic Plan:

- 1: An ecologically sustainable Inner West
- 2: Liveable, connected neighbourhoods and transport

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Inner West Council has completed overland flow flood studies for 8 of its 9 primary catchments. Marrickville South, covering the areas of Dulwich Hill and Marrickville draining to the Cooks River, is the only area within the Inner West LGA that does not yet have a contemporary Flood Study or Flood Risk Management Plan.

Council has secured two-thirds grant funding from the Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water to support the delivery of a contemporary Overland Flow Flood Study for this area.

Following a request for quotation, Council has engaged specialist flood consultants, Stantec, to undertake the project.

The proposed timeline outlines key milestones for each stage of the Flood Study, including significant hold points where the Flood Advisory Committee will be invited to review and endorse draft proposals. These milestones will inform the scheduling of key Flood Management Advisory Committee meetings in 2026.

BACKGROUND

Inner West Council has completed overland flow flood studies for 8 of its 9 primary catchments. Marrickville South, covering the areas of Dulwich Hill and Marrickville draining to the Cooks River, is the only area within the Inner West LGA that does not yet have a contemporary Flood Study or Flood Risk Management Plan. These studies are a vital tool to improve understanding of flood behaviour and risk to the local area and supports informed flood mitigation, risk management, and strategic planning within the catchment.

Under the NSW Floodplain Management Policy, Local Councils are primarily responsible for the management of flood prone land by carrying out studies to understand flood risk, examine options to manage it, keeping the community informed about flooding, supporting emergency management planning, and accounting for the impacts of flooding to flood-prone land through informed development controls.

DISCUSSION

The Marrickville South study area comprises the southern areas of Dulwich Hill and the southwestern areas of Marrickville, generally bounded by New Canterbury Road to the north, Garnet Avenue to the west and Cooks River to the south. The Figure below outlines the catchment in further detail. The total size of the study area is approximately 200ha.



Flooding within these catchments typically originates from the following sources:

- Local overland flows from within the catchment through existing drainage paths
- Overtopping of the Cooks River

Previous studies and management plans in this area have focused on the overtopping of Cooks River from upstream catchments and measures to manage and mitigate the impacts within the Council area. An overland flow study of this catchment area has not been previously undertaken.

The South Marrickville Flood Study is set to commence in December 2025 and anticipated to be complete by June 2027. Throughout the study, there will be five key hold points at which draft proposals and data will be presented to the Flood Management Advisory Committee for feedback and endorsement by Council staff and Stantec. These milestones will guide the scheduling of committee meetings throughout 2026 and 2027. The key milestones for future committee reports and review are outlined below.

1. Data Validation & Collection - The initial stages will focus on defining the detailed scope of the project and undertaking preliminary data collection and review. This will include assessing existing data and consolidating the findings into a comprehensive data collection report. The outcomes of these stages will be presented to the Committee at the end of February 2026 to proceed with community consultation, proposed between March

and April 2026.

2. Initial Modelling Assessment - Stantec will prepare an initial hydrological model and undertake preliminary event modelling. The draft results, along with community feedback gathered during the consultation period in March and April 2026, are anticipated be presented to the Committee in May 2026.
3. Full Event Assessment - The detailed modelled results and properties at risk will be presented to the committee by Stantec in August 2026 prior to placing the study on public exhibition.
4. Draft Flood Study - Draft Flood Study will be presented to the committee in November 2026 for proposed community exhibition in the first quarter of 2027. Feedback from the public exhibition will be taken into consideration and a report of these findings will be presented to the committee.
5. Final Study approval - The Study report will be updated as required following community consultation. The final draft report will be presented to the Committee in May 2027, with the aim of resolving the report for Council endorsement and adoption.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no direct financial implications associated with the implementation of the proposed recommendations outlined in the report.

The total cost of the South Marrickville Flood Study is \$163,196, inclusive of GST. Council's adopted Delivery Plan has provided \$55,000 from internal reserves to accommodate Council's one-third contribution to the total project cost. The remainder of the study is two-thirds funded by the NSW Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (DCCEEW) through the Floodplain Risk Management Program.

ATTACHMENTS

Nil.

Item No: FMACC1125(1) Item 4
Subject: REVIEW OF FLOODING ON ILLAWARRA ROAD
Prepared By: James Ogg - Stormwater and Asset Planning Coordinator and Rafaah Georges, Stormwater Asset Planning Engineer
Authorised By: Peter Shields - Director Engineering

RECOMMENDATION

That the Flood Management Advisory Committee receive and note the report.

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE

This report supports the following strategic directions contained within Council's Community Strategic Plan:

2: Liveable, connected neighbourhoods and transport

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report outlines the results of Council's investigations of reported flooding on Illawarra Road in the vicinity of Hill Street and Thornley Street Marrickville, following a request from the SES Area Commander at the August meeting of the Flood Management Advisory Committee.

BACKGROUND

At the Flood Management Advisory Committee dated 27 August 2025, Michael Carney requested an investigation into reports of increased flooding on Illawarra Road in the region of Hill Street, Thornley Street, and Cahill Place following repeated calls to the Marrickville SES Branch.

This area is part of the Marrickville South catchment and Council does not currently have a completed flood study detailing specific flood depths and hazard in this location.

DISCUSSION

The intersection of Hill Street, Thornley Street and Illawarra Road is situated at the base of a catchment of approximately 22.7ha. Much of this catchment is drained by pipelines in these streets total 2.4km, draining to Cooks River on the eastern side of Steel Park. The outlet is located in the tidal zone of the river and the drainage capacity in Illawarra Road can become hydraulically controlled impacted by the rise and fall of tide levels, particularly during a king tide.

A raised crossing was constructed at this intersection in June 2025. Whilst this crossing has altered ponding in the road, the design still allows for the flow of water in the gutter around the crossing and would not result in depths of water that generate a change in the hazard to vehicles.

There has not been a significant rain event since this issue was raised at the August meeting Flood Management Advisory Committee to replicate surface water flows reported on site. Despite this, Council undertook video survey in October of the pipelines in Illawarra Road, Hill Street and Steel Park directly draining this area and discovered substantial levels of silt reducing the pipe capacity by approximately 60% which would have reduced the rate of drainage from this area of Illawarra Road. These pipes were cleaned in mid-November

restoring the pipelines to full operating capacity. No defects were detected in the pipelines that require further capital works.

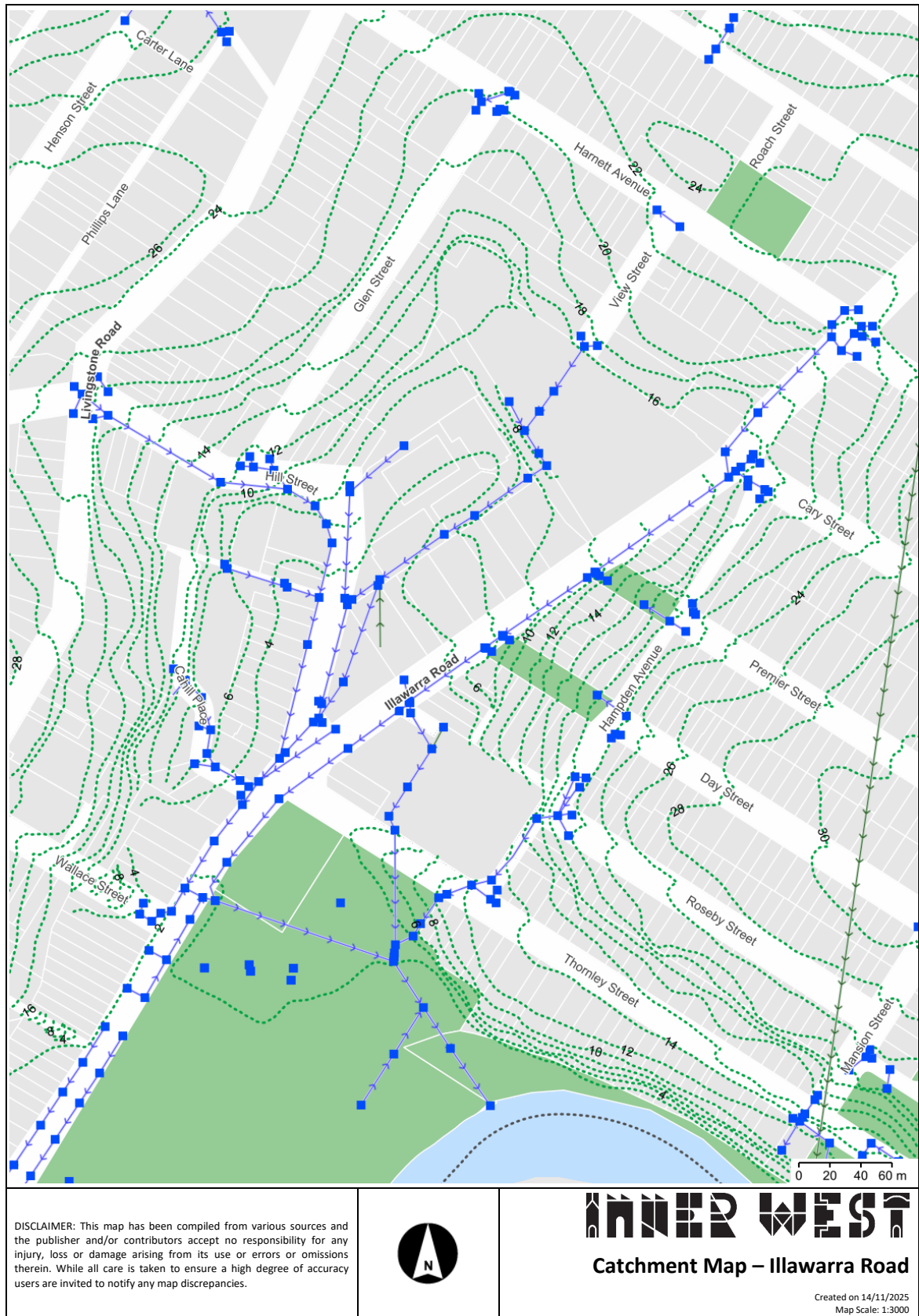
It is anticipated that incidents of reported surface water will reduce as a result of this maintenance, though king tides may still intermittently impact the drainage of this area.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications associated with this report.

ATTACHMENTS

1. [↓](#) Catchment Map - Illawarra Road



Item No: FMACC1125(1) Item 5
Subject: REVIEW OF FLOODING ON OSGOOD AVE
Prepared By: James Ogg - Stormwater and Asset Planning Coordinator
Authorised By: Peter Shields - Director Engineering

RECOMMENDATION

That the Flood Management Advisory Committee receive and note the report.

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE

This report supports the following strategic directions contained within Council's Community Strategic Plan:

2: Liveable, connected neighbourhoods and transport

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report outlines the results of Council's investigations of reported flooding in Osgood Avenue near Ewart Street, following a request from the Committee Chair at the August meeting of the Flood Management Advisory Committee.

BACKGROUND

At the Flood Management Advisory Committee dated 27 August 2025, Cllr Mat Howard requested an investigation into flooding concerns at the intersection of Ewart Street and Osgood Avenue.

This area is part of the Marrickville South catchment and Council does not currently have an adopted Flood Study or Flood Risk Management Plan for this area detailing likely flood depths, hazard or detailing possible future mitigation projects.

DISCUSSION

Osgood Ave is part of the Marrickville South catchment area and Council does not currently have a completed flood study detailing overland flow behaviour and the likely resulting flood depths. Council did complete a drainage study in 2000 which did not identify the properties in Osgood Avenue and this part of Ewart Street as part of the likely flood affected area.

There is no piped drainage network within Osgood Avenue nor is there an extended network in Ewart Street, with the kerb and gutter performing its duty as a conveyance for stormwater runoff along the road network.

Council Engineers first inspected this location in 2024 following a report of flooding at 21 Ewart Street by the resident. The kerb and gutter flows had become concentrated on the north side of Osgood Avenue, adjacent to the frontage of 21 Ewart Street along Osgood Ave as tree root growth on the south side was causing runoff to sheet across the road near Ewart Street. Additionally, the tree roots on the northern side caused water to pond near the driveway to the private property and cause overflow onto the footpath.

In response Council undertook works at the end of 2024 to reconstruct the kerb and gutter near 21 Ewart Street - setting back from the tree roots and providing more space for water to pond in the roadway rather than overtopping into the private property. The resident has also undertaken development works to their property at the time and constructed a bund wall along the boundary to reduce the impacts to the property.

Council's recent inspections indicate that the recent works are serving the intended purpose, however water still ponds at the Ewart Street intersection. Repeated investigations of the Ewart Street pipeline show that the pipe is free of obstruction, and that the size of the existing pipe is the only limiting factor. This ponding does not typically exceed 150mm and is therefore not considered to be flooding by its technical definition but is rather considered to be nuisance flows.

Council Engineers have investigated the extension of a stormwater pipeline between Wicks Avenue and School Parade. This estimated cost of these works is \$750,000, which is a substantial commitment of Council's Stormwater Upgrade budget. Such works, given its nuisance flows, warrant assessment of the cost and benefit alongside all other flood mitigation works in the local government area. An alternative option to only upgrade the drainage system in Ewart Street may be delivered at a lower cost and this option may also be considered for inclusion in a future program.

Council is commencing the Marrickville South Flood Study shortly, which will accurately model the stormwater flows throughout this catchment and provide greater certainty for appropriate mitigation measures in this area. The Flood Study will be followed by a Flood Risk Management Study and Plan which will include analysis and cost benefit assessment of all mitigation options for all flooding locations.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no direct financial implications associated with the implementation of the proposed recommendations outlined in the report.

ATTACHMENTS

Nil.