

Note

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

Name of Witness	Steven James BOLLAND
Date of Birth	[REDACTED]
Address and contact details	[REDACTED] Auchenflower 4066 [REDACTED] [REDACTED]
Occupation	Manager
Officer taking statement	Detective Sergeant Stephen Platz
Date taken	29/08/2011

Steven James BOLLAND states:

1. I am a [REDACTED] year old married male presently residing at [REDACTED] Auchenflower [REDACTED] with my wife and my 6 year old son. This house is a high set Queenslander style dwelling located in the [REDACTED] section of Torwood Street. We are located in a residential zone that is surrounded by houses that are approximately 60-80 years old. The site of the old Milton tennis centre is only a short distance away to our North east.
2. In December 2008 we purchased our current property. Leading up to this purchase we conducted the normal property checks which were conducted through Carter and Capner law firm. In addition to this, my wife and I requested further information concerning the potentiality of flood due to its proximity to the Brisbane River. As a result of this request we received a report from our conveyancers, which included a Brisbane City Council floodwise report. This report indicated that our premises was in a low risk flood zone. This report definitely influenced our decision to purchase this property I am able to produce this report.

Exhibit: Report from Carter and Capner Solicitors and Brisbane City Council Floodwise report.

Marked Exhibit No/...

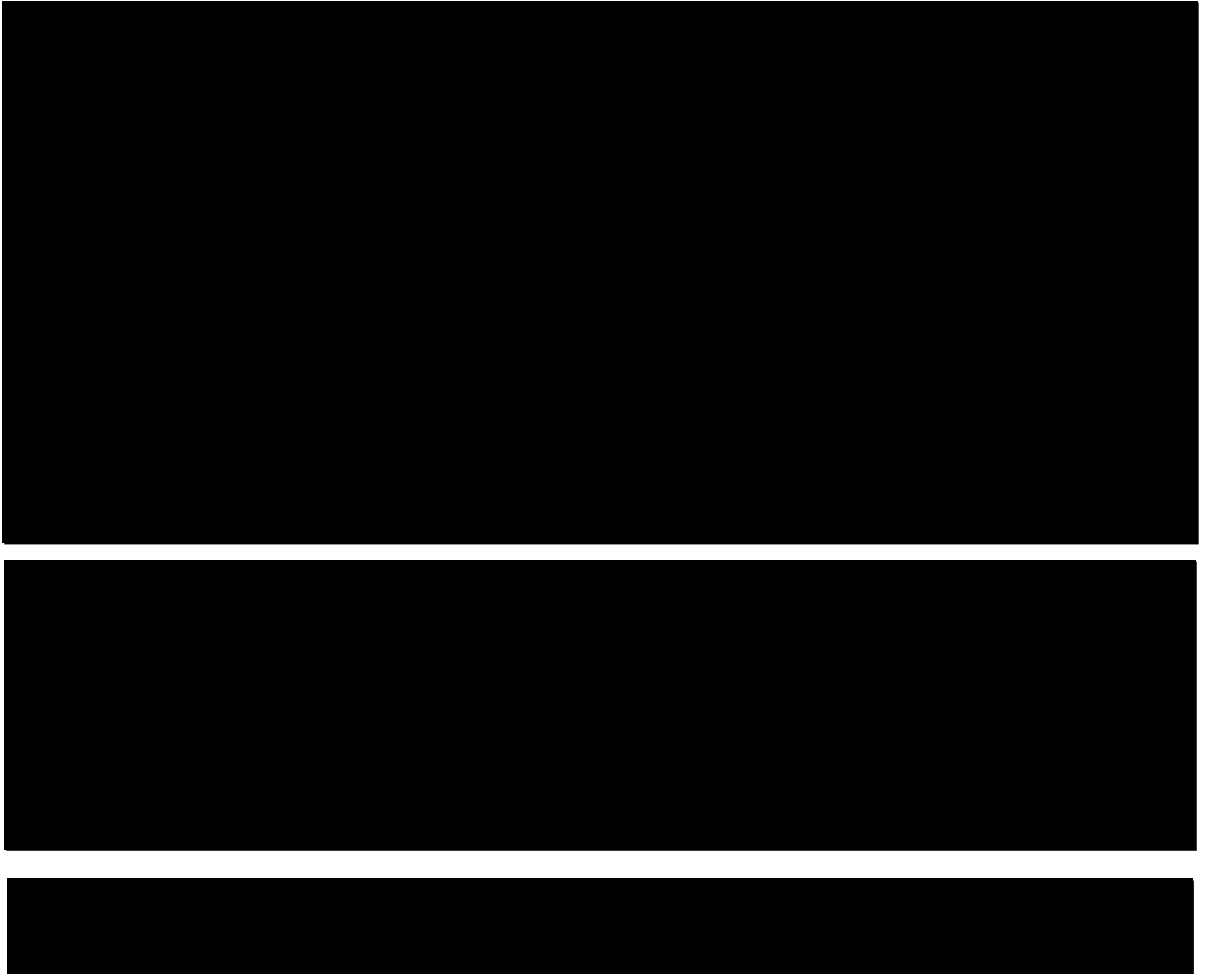


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.. Signature of officer

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3. Soon after purchasing the property we decided to raise the house so that the ground floor was three metres high. This was done more so to enable development underneath building and also to fit vehicles. At the time of this construction we asked the builder, who seemed to have a lot of local knowledge, if the 1974 floods affected this area. He indicated that they had but because of the lifting of the house and the installation of the Wivenhoe dam that we would not have a problem.



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6. On Tuesday the 11th day of January 2011 Brisbane had experienced significant rain. I was monitoring news bulletins that stated that the Wivenhoe dam was 110% full and the potential of street flooding. I had been planning to fly to Sydney for work but because of this information I decided to cancel the trip. We started to clean the garage out of contents, which included lounges and the washing machine, and put them upstairs.

Witness Signature

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Signature of officer

7. At 090.00am I observed water backing up from the drains outside number 22 and 25 Torwood Street and the street started to flood. We hurriedly made as many flood preparations as we could and also helped neighbours do theirs. The Police and SES had come around in a boat and asked us to evacuate. By 10.30am the water was thigh height and my wife and son left the area and went to my sister's place in Eagleby at approx this time. I followed on at approx 14:00 when the water was wast high, I still thought that my house was high enough to avoid flooding.
8. On Wednesday the 12th day of January 2011 my brother, brother in-law, a friend and I returned to my house in a tinnie and moored at the front steps. The water was now three steps below the ground floor height, approximately 2.7 metres. We then started to put our contents into the ceiling of the house and stacked furniture on top of benches and other things. We left at 2.30pm and by this time the water was only one step below floor height.
9. On Thursday the 13th day of January 2011 we went back to the house fairly early in the morning. I went inside the house and could see that the peak water level had subsided to below floor height. The peak height was visible due to the mud that was on everything and was just less than a metre from the floor. The water had affected the walls, fixtures, kitchen cupboards, the cork flooring and anything else we forgot to get up. I am able to produce photographs of the damage to the premises, general photographs indicating the height of the house and the drains in the street.

**Exhibit: Series of photographs depicting flood damage to 24
Torwood Street, general photographs of drains and height of premises**

Marked Exhibit No/...



13. Since the flood I have voiced my concerns over the drainage problems in the street that I feel are the primary cause of flooding. I attended the mayoral Chamber meetings which were designed so that community members can voice their issues after the floods. I actually spoke to former Lord Mayor Campbell NEWMAN and expressed my concern over two things. Firstly, a proposed development on the site of the old Milton Tennis centre which was suppose to build the land up considerably. I was concerned that this build up would back water towards our properties. Secondly, is the back up of storm water in the drains of Torwood Street. Mr NEWMAN said that he would look into both issues. Since this time I have heard that the development has been cancelled and the area will now be a park. I am very pleased with this response. The drains in question are cleaned out regularly by the council on request by myself, but work is still yet to commence to rectify them fully.



14. I suggest that these drains have one way valves to prevent the back flow of river water at three points between Toowong and the City. They also require constant maintenance to prevent blockages, which as mentioned, has been occurring fairly regularly but only on request, the council should implement a maintenance program in flooding problem areas.

S.BOLLAND

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 **5** 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.

Signed atBrisbane....this...29..... day of...September.....2011

Signature

Witness Signature Signature of officer
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