## **RESPONSE TO THE COMMISSION OF INQUIRY**

# WYATT ROY MP

March, 2011

## **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

## Background

On the weekend of 8-9 January 2011 the rain across the electorate of Longman, like much of South-East Queensland, was unrelenting. On Monday 10 January 2011, when the terrible events in Toowoomba and the Lockyer Valley occurred, the rain continued. Just before midday Tuesday 11 January, the whole of Caboolture and neighbouring Burpengary was issued with an order to evacuate to higher ground as all the creeks and rivers in the area threatened to break their banks. The rain continued, flooding the Caboolture River, Burpengary Creek, Sideling Creek, King John Creek and Wararba Creek, cutting roads and damaging homes. By 2 pm that day the Caboolture River had reached a height of 11 metres and had cut Morayfield Road, the major arterial route through Caboolture.

There were many homes flooded in low-lying areas. Areas of William Street, Mary Street and Dux Street in Caboolture and Dale Street in Burpengary were particularly hard hit. Many of the semi-rural properties in the area were also flooded. For a time on Tuesday 11 January Caboolture was completely isolated, Bribie Island was isolated and the Bruce Highway was cut in both directions. The communities of Woodford and Kilcoy were isolated for days. Roads were damaged and bridges were completely washed away. Some roads have suffered such significant damage that they are yet to reopen to their full capacity. There were aspects of the emergency response that require improvement in order to reduce the amount of confusion and concern experienced by my constituents. To this end I undertook to co-ordinate and collate any issues my constituents raised with me in a submission to the Commission of Inquiry. This submission will directly address the Commission of Inquiry's Terms of Reference.

### **Response to Terms of Reference**

# 1) The preparation and planning by federal, State and local governments; emergency services and the community for the 2010/2011 floods in Queensland.

There are two issues associated with this element of the Terms of Reference that require addressing in my electorate of Longman:

- 1. Access to information about the flood risk for properties and areas free of charge, such as the flood mapping available to Brisbane residents through the Brisbane City Council website; and
- 2. Information and planning around emergency shelters for the community to evacuate to when given a direction to do so and dissemination of information for local residents, elected members and community groups.

During the flood event of January 2011, there was confusion among residents about the flood risk associated with their properties and confusion about where they could evacuate to when given the direction to seek higher ground.

#### **Recommendations:**

1.1 That free access to detailed individual flood maps be provided by local councils via their website in a similar way to the Brisbane City Council, in order to provide residents with information about flood risk to their properties and their local area.

1.2 That local councils provide information to residents on a regular basis regarding evacuation procedures and evacuation centres in the region. Possible avenues include household leaflet drops and information stands at local shopping centres.

#### 2) The performance of private insurers in meeting their claims responsibilities.

There were several representations made to my electorate office regarding the requirement for standard definition of flood. There were inconsistencies between insurance companies regarding how the event was defined leading to some residents of streets being covered by insurance and others in the same street not being covered.

#### **Recommendation:**

2.1 That a standard definition of flood be developed by the Insurance Council and applied by all insurance providers, and that policy holders be provided with information about their level of cover in plain English.

3) All aspects of the response to the 2010/2011 flood events, particularly measures taken to inform the community and measures to protect life and private and public property, including:

- immediate management, response and recovery;
- resourcing, overall coordination and deployment of personnel and equipment;
- adequacy of equipment and communications systems; and
- the adequacy of the community's response.

Communication with locals was one of the major issues raised with me both during and after the flood event.

The co-ordination of the disaster response by the Moreton Bay Regional Council requires improvement. The existence of timely, relevant and accessible information for residents is critical in avoiding not only death and injury but also the loss of treasured possessions when evacuation is the only option. Constituents have requested that information be disseminated more widely through the local community radio station, 101.5 FM, through 612 ABC, Facebook and Twitter from local government authorities. They have requested that there be clarity about where to evacuate to and when to evacuate and notification of when it is safe to return home.

Further, as mentioned in point (1), residents require greater access to information about flood risk in the form of flood mapping.

Residents also reported a requirement for more detailed advice about what to do with debris from flood affected homes.

The information flow should also be improved to stakeholders who may be reliable secondary sources of advice to affected residents, for example local Members of Parliament, key community groups, and through social media.

#### **Recommendations:**

3.1 That the communication strategies and processes be closely examined in order to ensure residents have the information they require to make informed decisions about their safety and in order for measures to be taken to minimise damage to their properties.

3.2 That regular dissemination of information occur to elected members, relevant community groups and social media.

# 4) The measures to manage the supply of essential services such as power, water and communications during the 2010/2011 flood events.

Constituents have raised the concern that Energex disconnected power supply with no warning to areas at risk of flooding.

#### **Recommendation:**

4.1 That communication strategies be reviewed with a view to providing residents with information regarding disconnection and reconnection of services.

# 5) All aspects of land use planning through local and regional planning systems to minimise infrastructure and property impacts from floods.

The matter of planning approvals for developments in flood prone areas and the impact of developments on different areas and their risk of flooding is a major issue that has been raised with me from various areas of the electorate. Residents are concerned that approval has been given to build in certain areas with no consideration to flood risk and even that some approved developments have greatly increased the flood risk in parts of the electorate. Many residents are lobbying the Moreton Bay Regional Council for access to a voluntary buy-back scheme for their properties, as is available to owners of homes in Brisbane city that have a high risk of flooding. This is particularly valid when residents are finding it difficult to reinsure their properties due to the flood risk.

#### **Recommendation:**

5.1 That state and local government bodies use flood risk as a criterion in all planning approvals.

5.2 That local councils give urgent consideration to a voluntary buy-back scheme modelled on the Brisbane City Council's scheme, with consideration to be given to state or federal government assistance to the local councils should this be required to ensure establishment of the scheme.

## **DETAILED RESPONSE TO THE TERMS OF REFERENCE**

### 1) The preparation and planning by federal, State and local governments; emergency services and the community for the 2010/2011 floods in Queensland.

In relation to flood mapping, residents state, "We need to have a flood map released from the Council as was available to residents in Brisbane by their Lord Mayor. If there was going to be a danger of flooding in our area, we would then have an idea if we had to evacuate. We live on the waterfront as *(sic)* were concerned." These constituents requested a flood map for their property that cost \$68.00.

Further comments from another constituent regarding information about flood risk to properties included:

"...our home is in a high part of Morayfield behind the high school. However I being a local here all my life had no idea if we could continue to be safe in our home. If we had not been watching the events of the flooding on TV we would have had no idea about the evacuation suggested for our area. I had no idea on the day where to take my family ie evacuation centre for the area. By the time we attempted to leave our home the waters had cut us off from getting out and we stayed home. Would it be possible to post in local papers and/or have a Council hand out for residents to keep in these types of events, with a record of where to go?"

#### **Recommendations:**

1.1 That local councils provide free access to detailed individual flood maps via their website in a similar way to the Brisbane City Council, in order to provide residents with information about flood risk to their properties and their local area.

1.2 That local councils provide information to residents on a regular basis regarding evacuation procedures and evacuation centres in the region. Possible avenues include household leaflet drops and information stands at local shopping centres.

### 2) The performance of private insurers in meeting their claims responsibilities.

Residents have raised the issue of clarity regarding the definition of "flood". At present there are only two insurance companies in Queensland that cover all types of flood event. Other insurance companies cover for some types of flood event or individuals have to purchase additional cover for other types of events. This has lead to considerable confusion across Queensland and in my electorate about the type of cover residents hold.

I have received submissions from constituents along the following lines:

"I also think the government needs to look into the wording of what a flood etc are in insurance companies *(sic)* as most people are only now finding out what their policy really means to them. "

One resident of Mary Street, one of the worst affected streets in the electorate, has had his insurance claim declined. He has been insured with the same company for twenty-six years and understood he was covered for flood. However, due to the ambiguity associated with whether the flood was a' flash flooding event' or a 'riverine rising event' he has sadly discovered he is not covered for the damage to his home. Obviously this has caused enormous stress for this constituent and his wife who are now left with difficulties in repairing their damaged home.

#### **Recommendation:**

2.1 That a standard definition of flood be developed by the Insurance Council and applied by all insurance providers, and that policy holders be provided with information about their level of cover in plain English.

3) All aspects of the response to the 2010/2011 flood events, particularly measures taken to inform the community and measures to protect life and private and public property, including:

- immediate management, response and recovery;

- resourcing, overall coordination and deployment of personnel and equipment;

- adequacy of equipment and communications systems; and

- the adequacy of the community's response.

Residents advise that there was significant confusion caused by the deficiency of communication regarding the flood event on 11 January 2011.

Comments have been received as follows:

"...as to the flood situation, nobody knew where to go or what to do...There was no plan of action put in place to deal with the disaster we had locally..."

"The warning to get out freaked out my old mother and out her in a panic. Then when it was all subsided she was afraid to go home as there was nothing said about it being safe to go home."

"Real-time communication paramount; QPS (Queensland Police Service Media excellent job on Facebook."

"Real concern re the failure of communication from MBRC following the SMA messages advising residents to evacuate. I support the decision to send the text, however the critical part was there should have been follow up information and the best plane would have been 101.5. I like so many people received frantic calls from residents wanting to know where to go and where

was higher ground. There was an absolute failure by Moreton Bay Regional Council to communicate with the community during the crisis. The second issue is the way residents in flooded homes and community organisations were left to fend for themselves in the clean up. Again NO communication of what to do with debris and NO co-ordination of the many volunteers who wanted to help."

"The text messages and automated phone calls actually placed more fear in my family. We live next to the floodway on Adelaide Drive, Caboolture South, the water was quite high and we weren't sure what was happening but it turned out OK. The Biggest problem was we didn't receive the texts until about 2hrs after we were isolated...No point telling people to get out when they can't, it just creates more panic...The bridge over Caboolture River was well under, as was the bridge up near the sports club...and many other roads. If it is possible to sort the area into grids of say about 1000ppl/houses etc... and only inform those directly in the line of fire.."

Positive comments regarding communication were also received such as this one:

"What I can advise is ABC radio was a wonderful resource to me as I heard the first emergency siren alert come over the radio at about 12.30pm or so with the announcer advising residents to evacuate now! This announcement was repeated a few times more with the additional advice that the Bruce Highway was cut north and south of Caboolture...I live on Bribie Island and so do not receive SMA alerts about the evacuations in the Caboolture/Strathpine area. I do travel with and they said they were very impressed to receive SMA messages to their mobiles and telephone calls to their homes advising them to evacuate..."

#### **Recommendations:**

3.1 That the communication strategies and processes be closely examined in order to ensure residents have the information they require to make informed decisions about their safety and in order for measures to be taken to minimise damage to their properties.

3.2 That regular dissemination of information occur to elected members, relevant community groups and social media.

# 4) The measures to manage the supply of essential services such as power, water and communications during the 2010/2011 flood events.

Residents have expressed concern that essential services such as electricity were disconnected to areas at risk of flooding with no notice given to residents.

Comments have been received along the following lines:

"Cutting power supply by Energex; understand the reason but a forewarning and updates would have been appreciated."

**Recommendation:** 

4.1 That communication strategies be reviewed with a view to providing residents with information regarding disconnection and reconnection of services.

# 5) All aspects of land use planning through local and regional planning systems to minimise infrastructure and property impacts from floods.

One of the most significant issues raised with me by my constituents is that of planning. Comments received by residents are along the following lines:

"I just wanted to check what the State Planning and Environment Departments have been doing all this time planning our state over the past 10 years or so? Could this question be raised at the commission since these departments supposedly 'plan' our state"

"Male Road homes have flooded in the past eighteen months due to the dam wall effect of the Bruce Highway and the extra development in the area. The highway needs to be raised with extra pipe works under the Bruce Highway to accommodate for the extra water flow into the King John Creek."

Residents of Dale Street have been flooded four times in the past twenty months: April 2009, May 2009, October 2010 and January 2011. In the most recent event, floodwaters inundated this home to the level of 1.2 metres. Residents of Dale Street have owned their home for approximately eight months and have flooded twice during that time; October 2010 and January 2011.

The submissions from these residents detail the stress and anxiety this situation is causing them. Residents of Dale Street say:

"...my concerns are obviously personal which range from fears of safety, mental health concerns, and financial stress upon my family...Whenever it is raining, no matter where I am, I am always wondering if the creek levels will cause flooding, and I ma always checking the BOM site...This constant checking has innately caused me to be fearful every time it rains and consequently has effected my efficiency at work and has damaged my sense of security at home."

Along the same lines, residents of Dale Street report being unable to sleep and 'lying awake in fear of an impending flood.'

Residents of both properties question why the area was approved for residential development:

"The frequency of flood and threats of flood suggest that the property at Dale Street, and in fact the majority of Dale Street should not have been zoned for residential development. It has now come to our attention that the initial development of properties in Dale Street were developed prior to flood planning..."

The residents of Dale Street state:

"the property of Dale Street should not have been zoned for residential development." During the process of purchasing the property the owners were

advised by the Council that "on their records the property was mapped as a flood zone however had only been flooded twice in 100 year."

Residents of both properties believe they meet the criteria that Brisbane City Council details for eligibility for their voluntary buy-back scheme and are requesting access to a similar scheme.

#### **Recommendation:**

5.1 That state and local government bodies use flood risk as a criterion in all planning approvals.

5.2 That local government councils give urgent consideration to a voluntary buy-back scheme modelled on the Brisbane City Council's scheme with consideration to be given to state or federal government assistance to the Council should this be required to ensure establishment of the scheme.

### Conclusion

That these floods affected the people of Longman is unfortunate; a failure to learn and apply lessons from these same floods would, however, be tragic.

Better support for residents to prepare for, or to avoid altogether, future flooding is critical. At the heart of this is access to accurate and relevant information; in insurance policies, in planning instruments and in communications in the heat of a crisis. The gaps and omissions so evident in the recent flooding can be closed with a proper focus on providing what people need to make rational decisions, and with appropriate resourcing alternative means of communication, such as social media.

Wyatt Roy MP

Member for Longman

### Appendix 1

Correspondence between Wyatt Roy MP and the Mayor and Councillors of the Moreton Bay Regional Council.



Councillor Bob Millar **Councillor Division 11** Moreton Bay Regional Council PO Box 159 CABOOLTURE 4510

Dear Councilior Bob

As a result of the events of last Tuesday 11 January 2011 my office has received feedback from a number of constituents regarding the disaster management response. In order for the response to be improved in the context of any review of the Council's Disaster Management Plan that may be occurring I thought it might be helpful if I made you aware of the comments that have been made.

The most significant issue I have received feedback about relates to the dissemination of information particularly relating to the location of evacuation points and flood levels. When the advice to evacuate to higher ground was given at approximately 11.00am on Tuesday to the residents of Caboolture, there was considerable confusion regarding where residents should evacuate to. It would be helpful if the community were aware of evacuation points before, and during, any future events. In order for this to occur it would be useful to provide regular situation reports to our community radio station, 101.5FM, 99.7FM and 612 ABC. In addition, as the offices of elected members are often the first point of call for many members of the community, it would also assist if regular situation reports regarding any disaster were to be provided to elected members. I am grateful to you for reassessing and including me in the distribution of these reports.

I am advised by the Disaster Co-ordination Centre that, at one point during Tuesday, the Caboolture Hospital was isolated. Obviously this could have far reaching consequences for our community, so it is essential that the hospital receive as much prior notification as possible of any events that might impact on their operation in order for them to activate their disaster plan. In this context, I also received advice from a number of constituents that the information provided regarding road closures was inaccurate in many instances.

As you would no doubt be aware, the Brisbane City Council provides flood maps for Brisbane residents free of charge on their website. This information is invaluable in allowing for planning before and during possible flood events. Additionally, it is an important tool in assisting residents to assess their flood risk. The Moreton Bay Regional Council may like to consider the provision of a similar service. I note that at present residents are required to lodge a flood search request in writing and pay the associated fee for this information to be provided to them.

Yours sincerely 17

.

.

Wyatt Roy MP Member for Longman January 2011



Councillor Allan Sutherland Mayor Moreton Bay Regional Council PO Box 159 CABOOLTURE 4510

Dear Mayor

As a result of the events of last Tuesday 11 January 2011 my office has received feedback from a number of constituents regarding the disaster management response. In order for the response to be improved in the context of any review of the Council's Disaster Management Plan that may be occurring I thought it might be helpful if I made you aware of the comments that have been made.

The most significant issue I have received feedback about relates to the dissemination of information particularly relating to the location of evacuation points and flood levels. When the advice to evacuate to higher ground was given at approximately 11.00am on Tuesday to the residents of Caboolture, there was considerable confusion regarding where residents should evacuate to. It would be helpful if the community were aware of evacuation points before, and during, any future events. In order for this to occur it would be useful to provide regular situation reports to our community radio station, 101.5FM, 99.7FM and 612 ABC. In addition, as the offices of elected members are often the first point of call for many members of the community, it would also assist if regular situation reports regarding any disaster were to be provided to elected members. I am grateful to Councillor Bob Millar for reassessing and including me in the distribution of these reports.

I am advised by the Disaster Co-ordination Centre that, at one point during Tuesday, the Caboolture Hospital was isolated. Obviously this could have far reaching consequences for our community, so it is essential that the hospital receive as much prior notification as possible of any events that might impact on their operation in order for them to activate their disaster plan. In this context, I also received advice from a number of constituents that the information provided regarding road closures was inaccurate in many instances.

As you would no doubt be aware, the Brisbane City Council provides flood maps for Brisbane residents free of charge on their website. This information is invaluable in allowing for planning before and during possible flood events. Additionally, it is an important tool in assisting residents to assess their flood risk. The Moreton Bay Regional Council may like to consider the provision of a similar service. I note that at present residents are required to lodge a flood search request in writing and pay the associated fee for this information to be provided to them.

Yours sincerely Wyatt Roy MP

Member for Longman January 2011

.



Councillor Gary Parsons Councillor Division 1 PO Box 159 CABOOLTURE 4510

Dear Councillor Parsons GARY

As a result of the events of last Tuesday 11 January 2011 my office has received feedback from a number of constituents regarding the disaster management response. In order for the response to be improved in the context of any review of the Council's Disaster Management Plan that may be occurring I thought it might be helpful if I made you aware of the comments that have been made.

The most significant issue I have received feedback about relates to the dissemination of information particularly relating to the location of evacuation points and flood levels. When the advice to evacuate to higher ground was given at approximately 11.00am on Tuesday to the residents of Caboolture, there was considerable confusion regarding where residents should evacuate to. It would be helpful if the community were aware of evacuation points before, and during, any future events. In order for this to occur it would be useful to provide regular situation reports to our community radio station, 101.5FM, 99.7FM and 612 ABC. In addition, as the offices of elected members are often the first point of call for many members of the community, it would also assist if regular situation reports regarding any disaster were to be provided to elected members. I am grateful to Councillor Bob Millar for reassessing and including me in the distribution of these reports.

I am advised by the Disaster Co-ordination Centre that, at one point during Tuesday, the Caboolture Hospital was isolated. Obviously this could have far reaching consequences for our community, so it is essential that the hospital receive as much prior notification as possible of any events that might impact on their operation in order for them to activate their disaster plan. In this context, I also received advice from a number of constituents that the information provided regarding road closures was inaccurate in many instances.

As you would no doubt be aware, the Brisbane City Council provides flood maps for Brisbane residents free of charge on their website. This information is invaluable in allowing for planning before and during possible flood events. Additionally, it is an important tool in assisting residents to assess their flood risk. The Moreton Bay Regional Council may like to consider the provision of a similar service. I note that at present residents are required to lodge a flood search request in writing and pay the associated fee for this information to be provided to them.

Electorate Office 1/ 260 Morayfield Road, Morayfield QLD 4506 PO Box 825, Morayfield QLD 4506 Phone 07 5428 7755 Fax 07 5428 6800 Web www.wyattroy.com.au Email wyatt

Email wyatt.roy.mp@aph.gov.au

Yours sincerely 6 Wyatt Roy MP

Member for Longman January 2011

.



Councillor Chris Whiting Councillor Division 12 PO Box 159 CABOOLTURE 4510

Dear Councillor Whiting

As a result of the events of last Tuesday 11 January 2011 my office has received feedback from a number of constituents regarding the disaster management response. In order for the response to be improved in the context of any review of the Council's Disaster Management Plan that may be occurring I thought it might be helpful if I made you aware of the comments that have been made.

The most significant issue I have received feedback about relates to the dissemination of information particularly relating to the location of evacuation points and flood levels. When the advice to evacuate to higher ground was given at approximately 11.00am on Tuesday to the residents of Caboolture, there was considerable confusion regarding where residents should evacuate to. It would be helpful if the community were aware of evacuation points before, and during, any future events. In order for this to occur it would be useful to provide regular situation reports to our community radio station, 101.5FM, 99.7FM and 612 ABC. In addition, as the offices of elected members are often the first point of call for many members of the community, it would also assist if regular situation reports regarding any disaster were to be provided to elected members. I am grateful to Councillor Bob Millar for reassessing and including me in the distribution of these reports.

I am advised by the Disaster Co-ordination Centre that, at one point during Tuesday, the Caboolture Hospital was isolated. Obviously this could have far reaching consequences for our community, so it is essential that the hospital receive as much prior notification as possible of any events that might impact on their operation in order for them to activate their disaster plan. In this context, I also received advice from a number of constituents that the information provided regarding road closures was inaccurate in many instances.

As you would no doubt be aware, the Brisbane City Council provides flood maps for Brisbane residents free of charge on their website. This information is invaluable in allowing for planning before and during possible flood events. Additionally, it is an important tool in assisting residents to assess their flood risk. The Moreton Bay Regional Council may like to consider the provision of a similar service. I note that at present residents are required to lodge a flood search request in writing and pay the associated fee for this information to be provided to them.

Yours sincerely All and a second

Wyatt Roy MP Member for Longman January 2011 Wyatt Roy MP Member for longman

Councillor Greg Chippendale Councillor Division 3 PO Box 159 CABOOLTURE 4510

Dear Councillor Chippendale

As a result of the events of last Tuesday 11 January 2011 my office has received feedback from a number of constituents regarding the disaster management response. In order for the response to be improved in the context of any review of the Council's Disaster Management Plan that may be occurring I thought it might be helpful if I made you aware of the comments that have been made.

The most significant issue I have received feedback about relates to the dissemination of information particularly relating to the location of evacuation points and flood levels. When the advice to evacuate to higher ground was given at approximately 11.00am on Tuesday to the residents of Caboolture, there was considerable confusion regarding where residents should evacuate to. It would be helpful if the community were aware of evacuation points before, and during, any future events. In order for this to occur it would be useful to provide regular situation reports to our community radio station, 101.5FM, 99.7FM and 612 ABC. In addition, as the offices of elected members are often the first point of call for many members of the community, it would also assist if regular situation reports regarding any disaster were to be provided to elected members. I am grateful to Councillor Bob Millar for reassessing and including me in the distribution of these reports.

I am advised by the Disaster Co-ordination Centre that, at one point during Tuesday, the Caboolture Hospital was isolated. Obviously this could have far reaching consequences for our community, so it is essential that the hospital receive as much prior notification as possible of any events that might impact on their operation in order for them to activate their disaster plan. In this context, I also received advice from a number of constituents that the information provided regarding road closures was inaccurate in many instances.

As you would no doubt be aware, the Brisbane City Council provides flood maps for Brisbane residents free of charge on their website. This information is invaluable in allowing for planning before and during possible flood events. Additionally, it is an important tool in assisting residents to assess their flood risk. The Moreton Bay Regional Council may like to consider the provision of a similar service. I note that at present residents are required to lodge a flood search request in writing and pay the associated fee for this information to be provided to them.

Yours sincerely

Wyatt Roy MP Member for Longman January 2011

.



Councillor Julie Greer Councillor Division 4 PO Box 159 CABOOLTURE 4510

Dear Councillor Greer

As a result of the events of last Tuesday 11 January 2011 my office has received feedback from a number of constituents regarding the disaster management response. In order for the response to be improved in the context of any review of the Council's Disaster Management Plan that may be occurring I thought it might be helpful if I made you aware of the comments that have been made.

The most significant issue I have received feedback about relates to the dissemination of information particularly relating to the location of evacuation points and flood levels. When the advice to evacuate to higher ground was given at approximately 11.00am on Tuesday to the residents of Caboolture, there was considerable confusion regarding where residents should evacuate to. It would be helpful if the community were aware of evacuation points before, and during, any future events. In order for this to occur it would be useful to provide regular situation reports to our community radio station, 101.5FM, 99.7FM and 612 ABC. In addition, as the offices of elected members are often the first point of call for many members of the community, it would also assist if regular situation reports regarding any disaster were to be provided to elected members. I am grateful to Councillor Bob Millar for reassessing and including me in the distribution of these reports.

I am advised by the Disaster Co-ordination Centre that, at one point during Tuesday, the Caboolture Hospital was isolated. Obviously this could have far reaching consequences for our community, so it is essential that the hospital receive as much prior notification as possible of any events that might impact on their operation in order for them to activate their disaster plan. In this context, I also received advice from a number of constituents that the information provided regarding road closures was inaccurate in many instances.

As you would no doubt be aware, the Brisbane City Council provides flood maps for Brisbane residents free of charge on their website. This information is invaluable in allowing for planning before and during possible flood events. Additionally, it is an important tool in assisting residents to assess their flood risk. The Moreton Bay Regional Council may like to consider the provision of a similar service. I note that at present residents are required to lodge a flood search request in writing and pay the associated fee for this information to be provided to them.

Electorate Office1/ 260 Morayfield Road, Morayfield QLD 4506PO Box 825, Morayfield QLD 4506Phone 07 5428 7755Fax 07 5428 6800Web www.wyattroy.com.auEmail wyatt.roy.mp@aph.gov.au

Yours sincerely

Wyatt Roy MP Member for Longman January 2011



Councillor Adrian Raedel Councillor Division 12 PO Box 159 CABOOLTURE 4510

Dear Councillor Raedel Adrian

As a result of the events of last Tuesday 11 January 2011 my office has received feedback from a number of constituents regarding the disaster management response. In order for the response to be improved in the context of any review of the Council's Disaster Management Plan that may be occurring I thought it might be helpful if I made you aware of the comments that have been made.

The most significant issue I have received feedback about relates to the dissemination of information particularly relating to the location of evacuation points and flood levels. When the advice to evacuate to higher ground was given at approximately 11.00am on Tuesday to the residents of Caboolture, there was considerable confusion regarding where residents should evacuate to. It would be helpful if the community were aware of evacuation points before, and during, any future events. In order for this to occur it would be useful to provide regular situation reports to our community radio station, 101.5FM, 99.7FM and 612 ABC. In addition, as the offices of elected members are often the first point of call for many members of the community, it would also assist if regular situation reports regarding any disaster were to be provided to elected members. I am grateful to Councillor Bob Millar for reassessing and including me in the distribution of these reports.

I am advised by the Disaster Co-ordination Centre that, at one point during Tuesday, the Caboolture Hospital was isolated. Obviously this could have far reaching consequences for our community, so it is essential that the hospital receive as much prior notification as possible of any events that might impact on their operation in order for them to activate their disaster plan. In this context, I also received advice from a number of constituents that the information provided regarding road closures was inaccurate in many instances.

As you would no doubt be aware, the Brisbane City Council provides flood maps for Brisbane residents free of charge on their website. This information is invaluable in allowing for planning before and during possible flood events. Additionally, it is an important tool in assisting residents to assess their flood risk. The Moreton Bay Regional Council may like to consider the provision of a similar service. I note that at present residents are required to lodge a flood search request in writing and pay the associated fee for this information to be provided to them.

Email wyatt.roy.mp@aph.gov.au

Yours sincerely AND DECK Wyatt Boy MP

Member for Longman January 2011

.