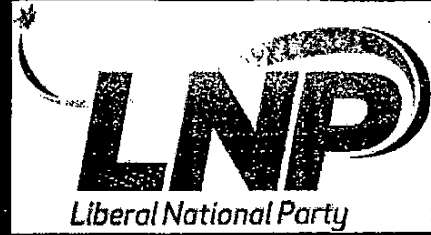


IAN RICKUSS MP

Member for Lockyer



PLEASE RETURN WHITE PAGES.

- Do we need an early warning system for floods?

Suggest early warning system via landline and/or mobile phone

Local authorities need to be kept up to date, if they aren't already, with rainfall figures from across the escarpment and catchment areas so as to be aware of the volume of water rushing towards towns and outlying areas.

(This applies particularly to the Lockyer Valley)

- Have you ever been involved in a local meeting about flood early warning system?

No

- Would an early warning system work?

Possibly, however people living in flood prone areas and those travelling through need to be aware and heed newspaper reports and radio warnings

- Had you been advised by Council, or State Government, the highest flood levels in your area?

No.

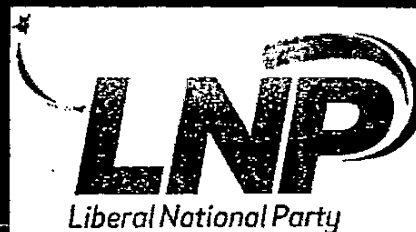
- Had you ever received evacuation information for flood / landslides / fires?

Yes. We have received comprehensive information for fires in this area

Please turn over.

IAN RICKUSS MP

Member for Lockyer



PLEASE RETURN WHITE PAGES

- Have you ever been advised of a flood management plan?

No

- Have you ever been asked to be on or involved with a Floodplain Advisory Committee?

No

- What do you feel could have been done to make your area safer:-

- Before the flood In our opinion, undersized and blocked drainage pipes pose a major problem on the Warrego Highway and local roads.
- During the flood

- After the flood Regular maintenance of all drains is of utmost importance (this includes regular removal of litter on the Toowoomba Range)

- Other Questions or Statements.

To make current and future residents aware of the huge catchment area of the Lockyer Valley could the local council publish a map showing creeks and watercourses? We are constantly amazed at the number of residents who do not know this information. We suggest these maps be published in the newspaper, or perhaps posted with rate notices.

In the future perhaps the Toowoomba Range should be closed earlier than it was, as motorists, including our daughter were travelling down during the rain in the afternoon on 10th January, 2011.

Ensure the questionnaire is filled out.

Name: DAVID & PATRICIA CLEARY

Complete cover sheet for submission.

Signature.

Return this form with your submission.

~~Important—Please—sign~~ xxxxxxxx

[REDACTED]

9th March 2011

Mr Ian Rickuss MP
Member for Lockyer
Shop 1/47 North Street
GATTON Q 4343

Dear Mr. Rickuss,

We have resided in the Withcott [REDACTED] since 1983

We have been keeping rainfall records for the last five years.

For the month of December, 2010, we recorded 543mm of rain. These figures can be verified by neighbours.

The escarpment was saturated and watercourses and creeks were causing flooding and road closures across the Lockyer Valley. (On 6th January, 2011, Withcott experienced a flash flood. Family members who live at the bottom of the Toowoomba Range on the Warrego Highway had their fence knocked over by the force of the water.)

From 1st January, 2011 until 7.00 a.m. on Monday 10th January, 2011 we recorded 288mm of rain. On the same afternoon of 10th January we recorded a further 154mm in 50 minutes, which appears to have been widespread across the escarpment.

As you know ABC Radio was broadcasting warnings of heavy rain and flash flooding for SE Qld on 10th January, 2011.

In addition to this, perhaps authorities need to consider an early warning mobile phone/landline system, which might be of some help in the future.

Also, in our opinion, local authorities need to be kept up to date, if they aren't already, with rainfall figures from across the escarpment and catchment areas, so as to be aware of the volume of water rushing towards towns and outlying areas. In the future perhaps the Toowoomba Range should be closed earlier than it was as our daughter travelled down the range on Monday afternoon, 10th January during the rain and was fortunate to arrive home safely.

We have collated photographs and also newspaper clippings of flood events prior to 10th January, 2011.

Sadly, we wonder if any amount of warning could have prepared any of us for such a horrific and extraordinary event caused by such a massive amount of water.

Yours faithfully

[REDACTED]
DAVID CLEARY

[REDACTED]
PATRICIA CLEARY

Warrego Highway and Roche's Road

WITHCOTT

27th December 2010

Gatton Creek floods across Roche's Road and the Warrego Highway. Photograph taken at 12.35 p.m.



Gatton Creek, Jones Road

WITHCOTT

12.30 p.m.

27th December 2010



Warrego Highway

WITHCOTT

16th December 2010

Gatton Creek runs beside the Warrego Highway and water can be seen lapping the edge of it. Photographs were taken from a property south of the highway (opposite the helicopter landing pad) at the bottom of the Toowoomba Range. Photos taken at 6.45 p.m.

