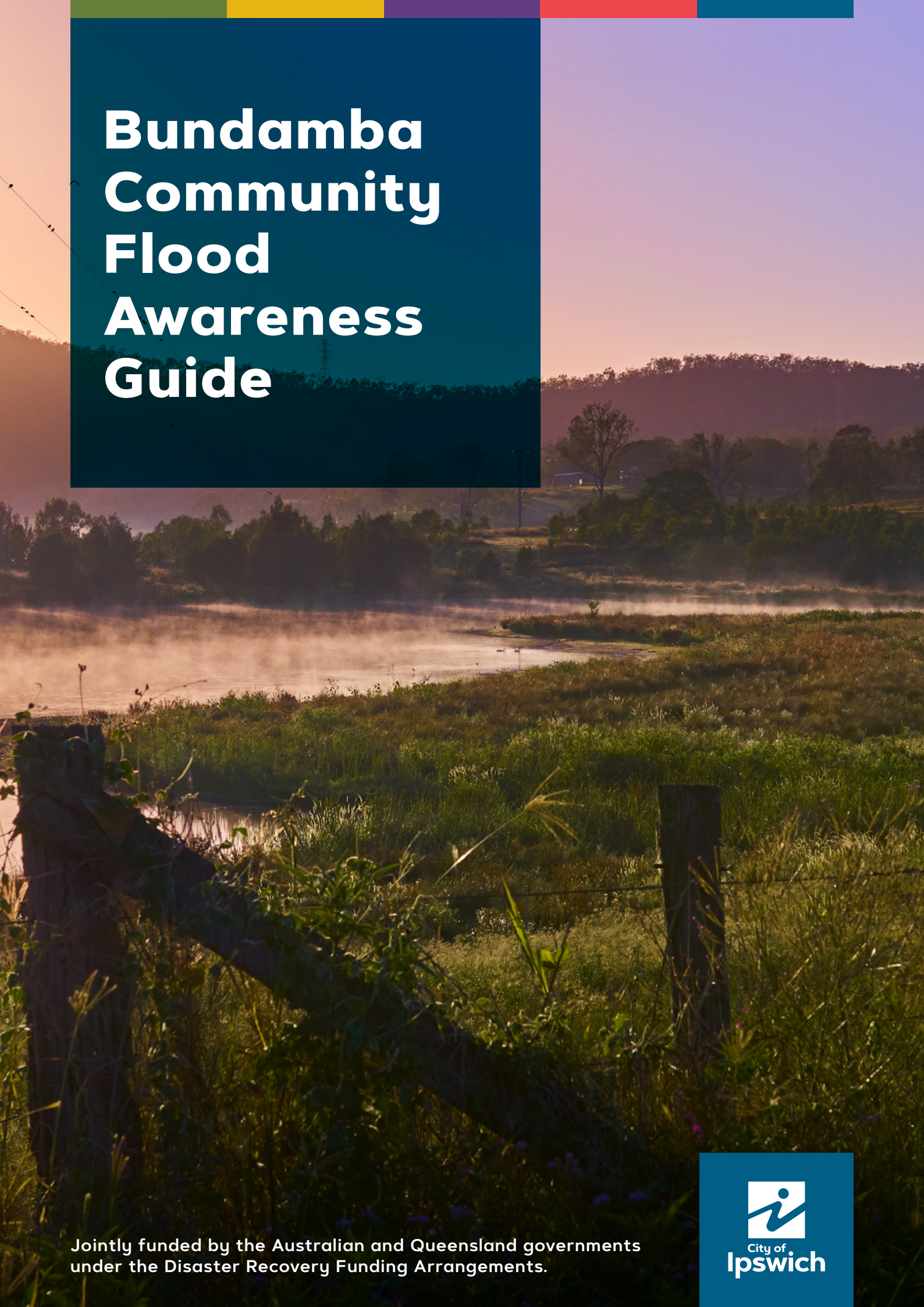
# Bundamba Community Flood Awareness Guide



Jointly funded by the Australian and Queensland governments under the Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements.

City of Ipswich

Ipswich City Council (council) extends its sincere appreciation to the Bundamba community for contributing to the development of this guide. Your involvement has helped to develop a document that supports and strengthens our local community.

**Version control**

| # | Version | Date |
|---|---|---|
| 1.0 | Public Release | September 2026 |



**Reporting Errors:** If any errors or inaccuracies are identified, please contact Ipswich City Council (07) 3810 6666 or email council@ipswich.qld.gov.au so corrections can be made.

If you require translation assistance, contact the Translating and Interpreting Service (TIS) National on 131 450 and ask them to call Ipswich City Council on (07) 3810 6666.

If you require assistance due to a hearing or speech impairment, contact Ipswich City Council via the National Relay Service, please call 133 677 and ask for (07) 3810 6666.

## Acknowledgement of Country

Ipswich City Council respectfully acknowledges the Traditional Owners, the Jagera, Yuggera and Ugarapul People of the Yugara/Yagara Language Group, as custodians of the land and waters we share. We pay our respects to their Elders past and present, as the keepers of the traditions, customs, cultures and stories of proud peoples.

# CONTENTS

# FLOODS HAPPEN IN BUNDAMBA

## Preparing today means you'll be ready tomorrow

Bundamba is a vibrant leafy suburb in Ipswich with proud industrial roots. The Pioneer Steam Railway is a popular attraction that celebrates the suburb's coal mining history.

The Bundamba Creek and Bremer River are picturesque features of many of the suburb's parks and reserves. Home to an active community, Bundamba's green spaces are well used by locals and visitors for soccer, swimming and socialising. While Bundamba's geography adds to its charm, its proximity to creeks and rivers makes the area vulnerable to flooding.

Resilience begins with awareness and preparation. While flooding is most common during Queensland's severe weather season (from 1 November through to 30 April), in Bundamba it can happen at any time. That's why being ready for floods is essential all year round.

This Bundamba Community Flood Awareness Guide (guide) draws from local knowledge, historical flood data and community feedback to provide practical steps to protect what matters most. Information in this guide will help you better understand local flood risks and prepare in advance. By preparing your family, home, business or community organisation, you take control and help build resilience for yourself and those around you.

When each of us takes responsibility and actions to prepare, the whole community can respond more effectively and recover from floods faster.

Use this guide to help you prepare for the future in ways that work best for you and your household.

Bundamba Creek with Ipswich Turf Club in the background, Bundamba, 2026.

## THE BUNDAMBA COMMUNITY

**9,300+** residents, average age **36** years

Over **20%** of residents were born overseas, with **4.2%** of residents migrating from **New Zealand**

**6.6%** of residents identify as **Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander**

Over **15%** of households speak a language other than English, with **Samoan (1.6%)** being the most common

**3 state** schools, a **vocational college**, and a **TAFE Queensland Campus**

**Public train** and **bus services** operate, as well as commercial transport services

Major retail outlets, industrial and logistics hubs support the **local economy**

**The information above comes from publicly available sources. You can find out more about Bundamba's population online at Australian Bureau of Statistics.**

## A guide by locals, for locals

This guide was informed by extensive community engagement in late 2025, which included a variety of activities: community events, pop-up information stalls, one on one and group interviews, community forums and via an online survey. Engagements took place across all of Ipswich, including Bundamba, making this guide community-based in its approach; by locals for locals.

Bundamba is prone to flash flooding caused by heavy localised rainfall in Bundamba Creek, as well as riverine flooding from either the Bremer and Brisbane rivers, or both at the same time.

This guide has been prepared to assist you to identify potential flood risks and shares handy tips and links to help you prepare for, respond to and recover from future floods.

**DID YOU KNOW...?**

The suburb name was originally 'Bundanba' from the Yagara words 'bundan' = axe, and 'ba' = place of.

The suburb name was officially changed from Bundanba to Bundamba in 1931.

## Information to help you prepare

It is important to understand your risks and how warnings are issued before a flood happens. This will help you to respond quickly and confidently.

### 1. Know the history of flooding

Every flood is different, but we can learn from past floods to help us prepare for what might happen in the future. There are several gauges situated on Bundamba Creek, Brisbane and Bremer rivers that are important to watch to understand flooding in the area. These gauges are described in more detail on page 18.

### 2. Understand your local water level gauge (gauge)

Gauges show water levels in creeks and rivers and are useful tools to help determine riverine flood behaviour. Gauges will show the water level of the creek or river it measures, which will help you to determine if flood water might keep rising or whether it is falling.

When you check the water level gauge reading online or in apps, there is a brief time delay in the information being recorded at the gauge and it being reported online. This means that the information you see online or in apps is not in real-time.

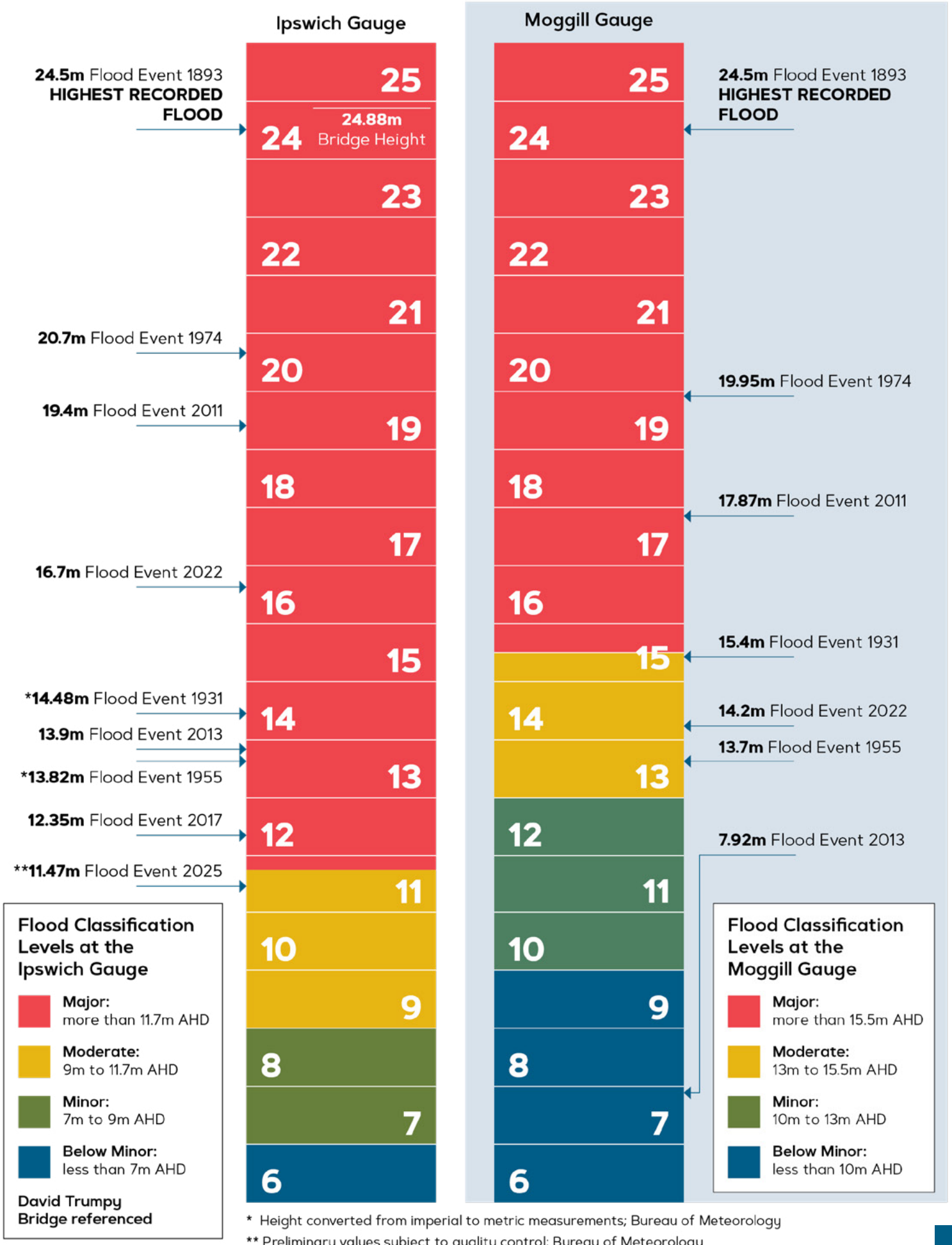
### 3. Know where to find your water level gauges

Go to the Ipswich Disaster Dashboard to find out the location of a gauge near you.

### 4. Understand warnings and what they mean

Knowing what warnings mean is important to help you make timely and safe decisions during a flood. Further information on warnings is provided on page 19.

## HISTORICAL FLOODS: IPSWICH AND MOGGILL GAUGES




* Height converted from imperial to metric measurements; Bureau of Meteorology

** Preliminary values subject to quality control; Bureau of Meteorology

## A HISTORY OF FLOODING IN BUNDAMBA

In February 1893, the Bremer River reached 24.5 metres at the Ipswich Gauge. This is still the highest flood level ever recorded for the river. Since then, Bundamba has been impacted by many floods throughout history. Some significant flood events in living history include:

View from Mary Street, Bundamba, Ipswich, during 1974 flood, 1974. Image courtesy of Picture Ipswich.

### 1974

Commonly referred to as the Australia Day Floods, heavy rainfall associated with ex-Tropical Cyclone Wanda caused widespread flooding across Bundamba and most of South East Queensland.

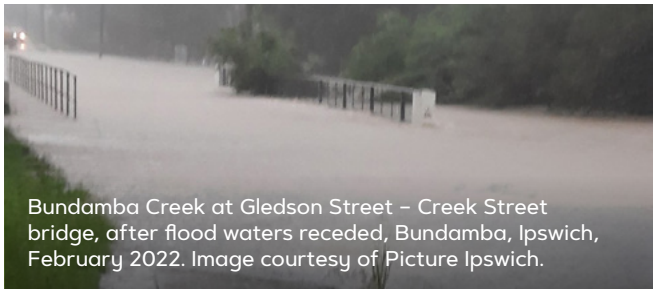
- Flooding occurred primarily as water from the Bremer River emptied into the Brisbane River
- Information and records are limited in this area, as the Bundamba School Gauge had not yet been installed and was not commissioned and operational until 3 February 1993.

### 2011

Most of Queensland was impacted by extended rainfall in 2011, including Bundamba.

- Localised flooding occurred from the Bremer River, then extended flooding of the Brisbane River
- Recorded flood height at the Bundamba School Gauge was 18.98m AHD
- For reference, the Brisbane Road bridge would have been approximately 2.3m underwater.

Brisbane Road, flood waters, Bundamba, Ipswich, 2011. Image courtesy of Picture Ipswich.



Bundamba Creek at Gledson Street – Creek Street bridge, after flood waters receded, Bundamba, Ipswich, February 2022. Image courtesy of Picture Ipswich.

### 2022

A series of heavy rainfall events associated with ex-Tropical Cyclone Seth.

- Recorded flood height at the Bundamba School Gauge was 17.51m AHD
- For reference, the Brisbane Road bridge would have been approximately 1m underwater.

### What is AHD?

The Australian Height Datum (AHD) is a system that uses mean sea level as the zero point for measuring height.

Mean sea level was worked out by checking water levels at 30 measuring stations around Australia's coast between 1966 and 1968. You can find more information on the Geoscience Australia website.

### 50 years on from the 1974 floods

Head to the Queensland State Archives YouTube channel to watch Dr Margaret Cook's presentation, Remembering the 1974 floods 50 years later.

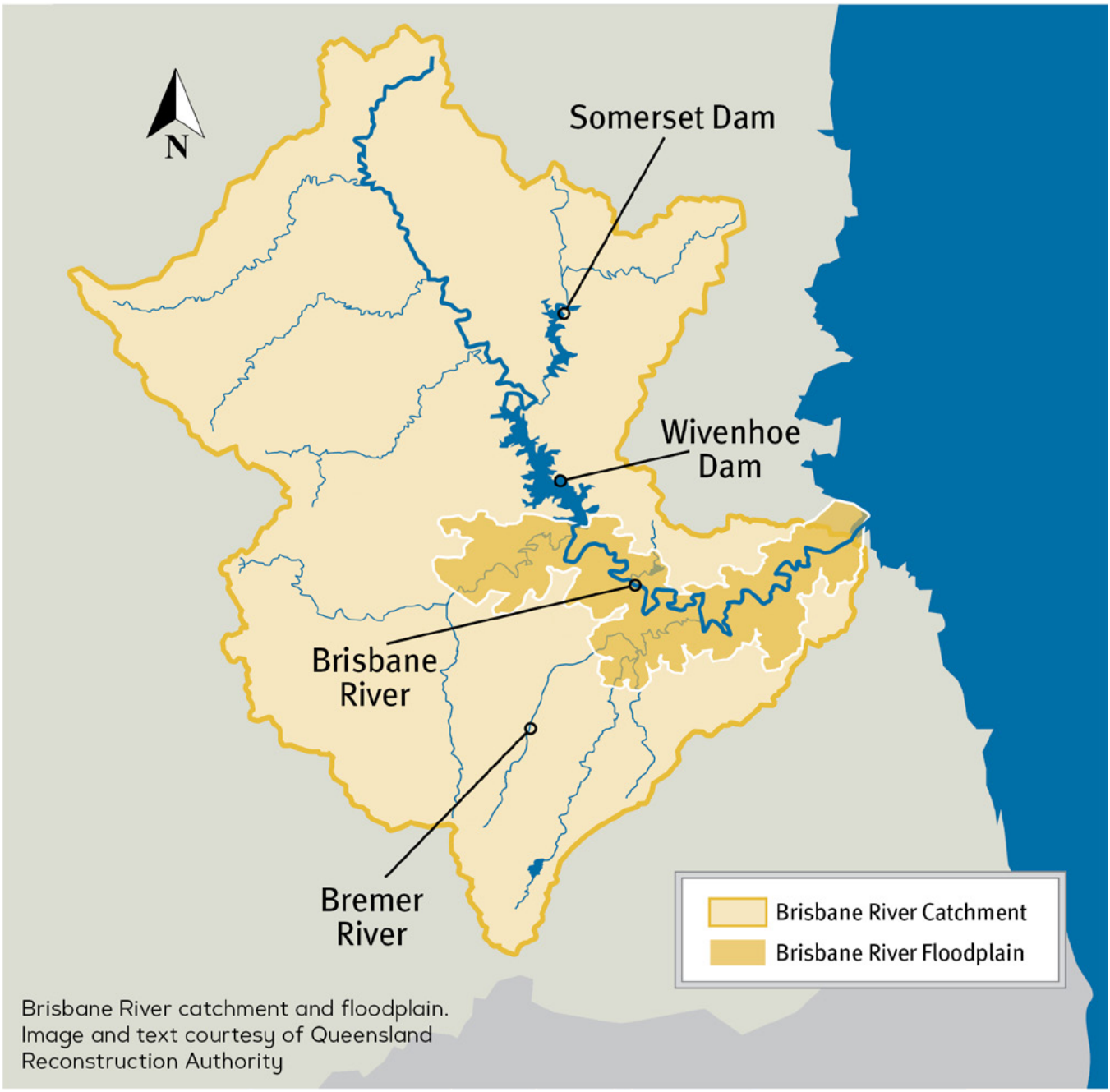
In this talk, Dr Cook reflects on how the flood unfolded, examines its immediate and long-term impacts on the community, and explores the underlying causes behind the devastation.

Check out the interactive flood maps for the 1974, 2011 and 2022 floods via the Ipswich City Council Flood Mapping page at Ipswich.qld.gov.au/floodmaps

## BRISBANE RIVER CATCHMENT AND FLOODPLAIN

The Brisbane River Catchment spans approximately 13,570 square kilometres and is home to the largest river in South East Queensland. Approximately half of the catchment drains into the Wivenhoe and Somerset Dams, providing the primary source of water supply for communities located in the region, including Bundamba.

The Brisbane River floodplain extends into parts of the four local governments of Brisbane, Ipswich, Somerset and the Lockyer Valley.




Brisbane River catchment and floodplain. Image and text courtesy of Queensland Reconstruction Authority

**Catchment is an area of land where water drains to a common point such as a creek or river.**

## FLOOD BEHAVIOUR IN BUNDAMBA

Bundamba is located on Bundamba Creek but also sits on the floodplain of the Brisbane and Bremer rivers and, therefore, can be impacted when one, or both, of these rivers are flooding. The Brisbane River catchment is extensive, incorporating the Stanley and Upper Brisbane rivers upstream of the Wivenhoe and Somerset dams, as well as Lockyer Creek and the Bremer River downstream of the dams.

Wivenhoe and Somerset dams supply the drinking water that flows from your tap. Beyond supplying water, these dams help protect Bundamba by reducing the severity of floods. Without them, impacts from flooding could be much more severe.

**Wivenhoe Dam**

South East Queensland's largest water storage and the main supply of water for the Greater Ipswich area. It is a gated dam which allows the operator, Seqwater, to make controlled water releases during times of heavy rain.

Seqwater Flood Operations Centre has information about how the dam works, including in times of flooding, on their website: Seqwater.com.au/dams

The Bremer River catchment (which incorporates Warrill Creek as a tributary; a stream that feeds into a larger waterway, in this case the Bremer River) is also very extensive in size and flows through suburbs such as Lower Mount Walker, Rosewood, Walloon and Ipswich before flowing past Bundamba.

### Flash flooding

Flash flooding can be caused by severe storms with high volumes of rainfall over a short period of time. Flash floods can affect local creeks which can overflow and inundate parks, roads and water crossings. Flash floods can overwhelm local storm water pipes and combined with overland flow can cause short-term inundation to property and business. You can find more information on generalised Flash Flooding on the Queensland Government website.

In Bundamba, flooding can be caused by heavy local rain (generally over 100mm) or rain falling upstream in the Bundamba Creek catchment within a short time period (generally, less than 6 hours). As the catchment area is small it therefore responds to rainfall quickly. Short, sharp bursts of rain can cause flooding in the catchment.

Flooding from Bundamba Creek occurs rapidly due to its smaller catchment area and can flood roads, properties and houses in Bundamba quickly. The area surrounding the Bundamba State School (Brisbane Road, Bergins Hill Road and Videroni Street) is particularly vulnerable to flash flooding with properties and roads often inundated with little warning. There are many other properties impacted from flooding from Bundamba Creek throughout the suburb of Bundamba.

Bundamba Creek also impacts key bridges including the Brisbane Road, Blackstone Road and Creek Street bridges. When these roads and bridges flood, movement in and out of the suburb of Bundamba is often restricted.

## Riverine flooding

Riverine flood risk in Bundamba is high. That's why it's important to know your flood risk, be familiar with local water level gauges and stay alert to official warnings.

Riverine flooding is a result of heavy and sustained rainfall over a region that is generated by tropical cyclones, lows or monsoon troughs. Riverine flooding happens when there is too much water, and the flow capacity of creeks or rivers become overwhelmed and burst their banks, flooding areas which are not normally under water. You can find more information on generalised Riverine Flooding on the Queensland Government website.

The rainfall that causes flooding in the Brisbane and Bremer rivers will normally be different to flash flooding in the Bundamba Creek. Rainfall generally will be in very large amounts (over 150mm) and over a much longer period of time (12 to 48 hours) as it takes longer for rainfall and flood waters to reach the Bundamba area due to the catchment size.

In most cases, flooding from the Brisbane and Bremer rivers usually comes with some warning, giving time for residents to prepare. Most areas are impacted by waters backing up Bundamba Creek from the Bremer and Brisbane rivers, which are usually slow moving. But some areas can still be dangerous, with deep water and strong currents in certain areas. While the dangerous flooding in Bundamba can be widespread, it is not possible to identify all past and possible future affected areas in this guide. You can, however, view the historical flood impacts from the 1974, 2011 and 2022 events through interactive flood maps or review development related mapping, including mapped flood information from the Ipswich City Plan 2025 via the Ipswich City Council Flood Mapping page at Ipswich.qld.gov.au/floodmaps.

You should be aware that the northern area of Bundamba, closer to the Bremer River (around Keith, Cornish, White, Hart and Hanlon streets), is especially at risk. Here roads and streets can flood easily, limiting ways to evacuate the area. As a result, people in these areas may be unable to leave their home, or if at work or another place, unable to return home for many days and exposed to high risk flooding. Therefore, if you live in a high-risk part of Bundamba, plan to evacuate as soon as possible before it's too late.

> You can visit the Ipswich Disaster Dashboard to check for road closures to help you determine what your best evacuation route may be. Council may also publish evacuation information on the Ipswich Disaster Dashboard if additional information or supports are available.

Bundamba Swim Centre, Bundamba

## Why flooding in Bundamba is complicated

No two floods are ever the same. Things get even more complicated when a suburb is affected by two different rivers. Bundamba can flood in different ways because both the Bremer and Brisbane rivers affect the area.

Knowing which river is causing the flooding helps you to understand what might happen and how to prepare.

Junction of Brisbane River and Bremer River, Barellan Point.

The Bremer River is about 100km long and flows into the Brisbane River at Barellan Point.

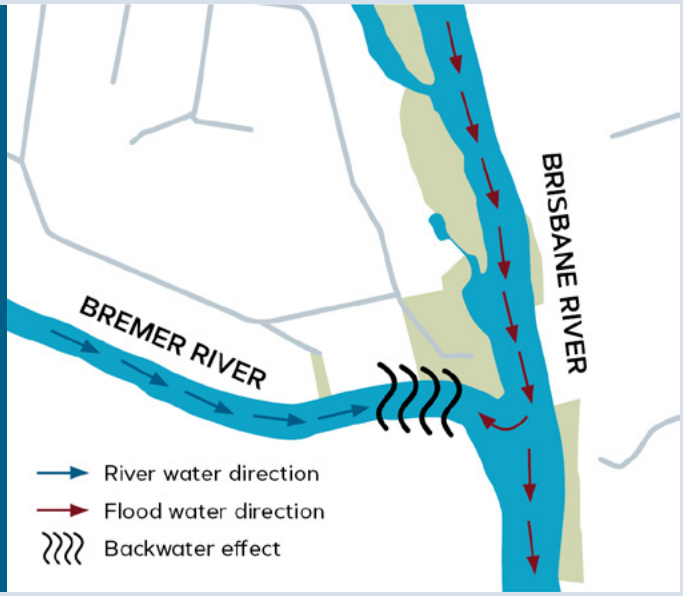
As you move upstream on the Bremer River (away from the Brisbane River), the water usually becomes shallower because the river gets narrower.

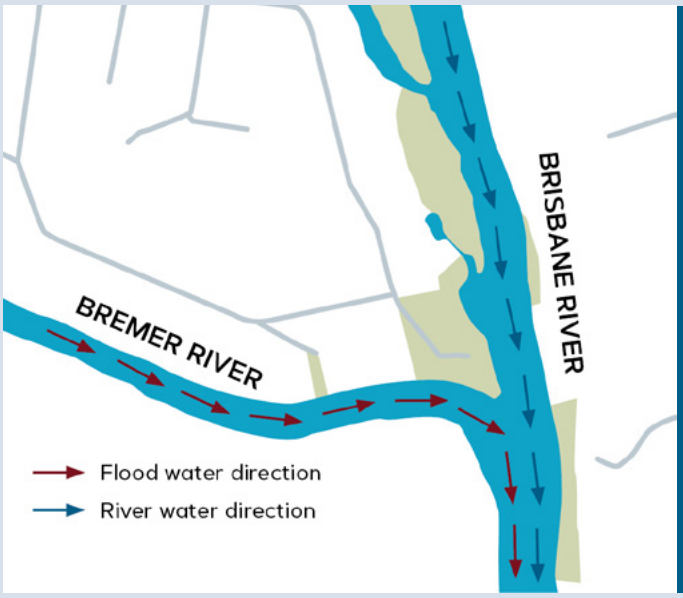
### Brisbane River flooding

When the Brisbane River floods, the force of the water pushes backwards into the Bremer River.

This means the Brisbane River is forcing water one way. The Bremer River is trying to flow naturally, but it can't. As the Brisbane River is stronger during a flood, the Bremer River slows down. Water from the Bremer River then backs up and spreads onto the nearby land.

This backward push is called the 'backwater effect'.




### Bremer River flooding

When the Bremer River floods, the water flows downstream towards the Brisbane River as usual because nothing is pushing back against it.

This means the water follows its natural path. The Brisbane River is not blocking the water flow and there is no backwater effect.

## Why flooding impacts are different

When more than one river is involved, the flooding you see can change depending on which river is rising and how the water is moving.

To explain this, here are two simple generalised examples.

In both examples, Houses A and B are located near the Bremer River and the water level gauge on the Bremer River reads 15 metres. The flooding looks different depending on the river behaviour.

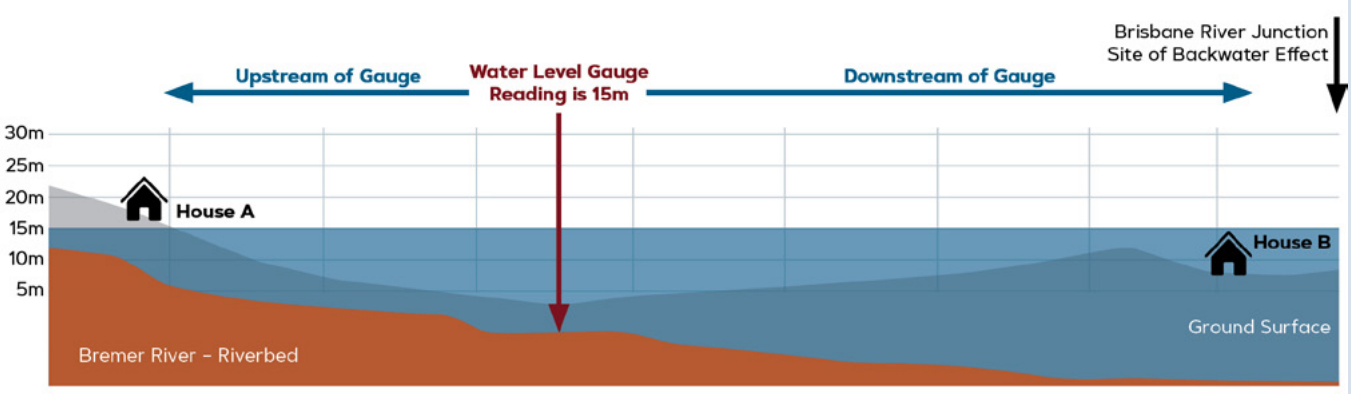
### Before we start:

- House A, is *upstream* of the water level gauge (further away from the Brisbane River)
- House B is *downstream* of the water level gauge (closer to the Brisbane River)
- The water level gauge shows 15 metres in both cases, even though the actual flooding is different.

For more information on the factors that can impact flooding the Flood Risk and Overland Flow Overlay Fact Sheet is here to help.

**Example 1: When water is backing up (backwater effect)**

Here, the Brisbane River is flooding and pushing water back into the Bremer River.




### What that means:

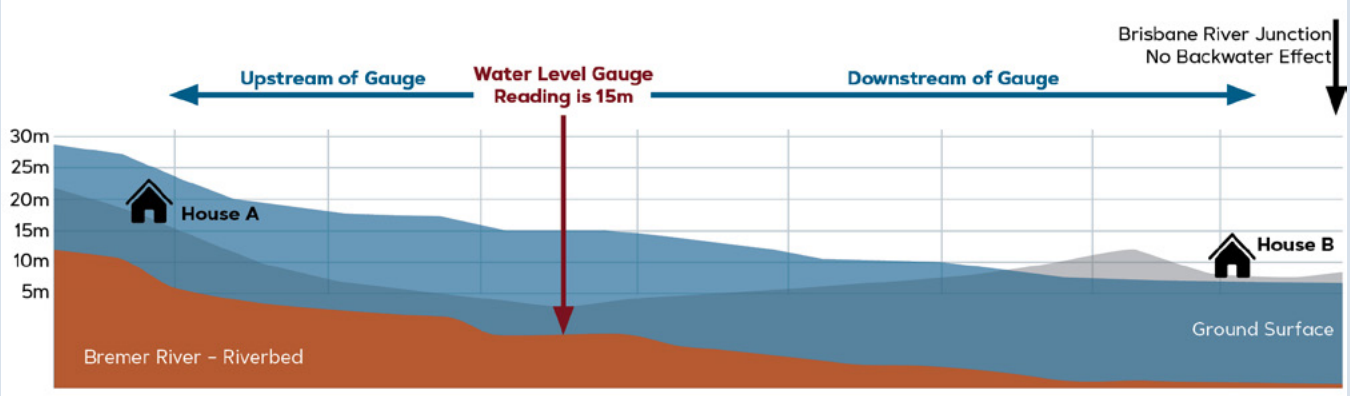
- Water near House B (closer to the Brisbane River) gets deeper due to the riverbed being lower
- The extra water at House B is likely due to the backwater effect caused by the Brisbane River flooding
- House B is more likely to be impacted by flood water than House A in this example
- Water near House A (further upstream) is not as deep due to the riverbed being higher.

### In short:

- House B is more likely to flood than House A
- This happens because of the height of the riverbed and the backwater effect.

**Example 2: When water can flow normally (no backwater effect)**

Here, the Bremer River is flooding by itself and the water can move downstream without being pushed back by the Brisbane River.




### What that means:

- Water near House A (upstream) is higher than the 15m shown at the gauge due to the floodwater being able to move freely from further up the river towards the mouth of the Bremer River
- House A is more likely to be impacted by flood water than House B in this example
- Water near House B (downstream) is lower than the 15m shown at the gauge due to the water flowing freely into the Brisbane River.

### In short:

- House A is more likely to flood than House B
- This happens because the floodwater can flow normally without the backwater effect.

You can visit the Ipswich Disaster Dashboard to check for road closures to help you determine what your best evacuation route may be. Council may also publish evacuation information on the Ipswich Disaster Dashboard if additional information or supports are available.

For a detailed technical description of flood risks in the Ipswich area you can view the Ipswich Integrated Catchment Plan and the related technical flood information

## FLOOD FORECASTING

**Predicting rainfall and flooding is complex. The longer the lead time for a flood warning, the less precise the prediction will be. Predictions and warnings will never be perfect, but they're helpful when combined with local knowledge – especially if you are prepared.**

During a flood event, many agencies such as the Bureau of Meteorology (Bureau), Seqwater and council work together to produce the best forecasts and warnings possible with the information and technology available.

### A simple guide to water level gauges

Water level (flood) gauges measure how deep the water is in a specific spot on a river or creek. Many of them are automatic and show the water level online in near-real time.

These are often called **observation gauges** and they help the community understand what is currently happening in a river or creek—for example, whether water levels are rising or falling.

The Bundamba School Gauge on Bundamba Creek is a good example of an observation gauge for the Bundamba community.

A limited number of locations are referred to as **formal forecast locations, (or forecast gauges)**. These gauges still show current water levels, but the location itself is one where the Bureau will predict future flood levels. During flood events, the Bureau can estimate how high the water might rise and when it is likely to peak at this gauge location.

For example, at a forecast gauge, such as the Ipswich Gauge for the Bremer River and the Moggill Gauge for the Brisbane River, you may see in the Bureau flood warning:

- The flood level category (minor, moderate, or major)
- The expected peak water level
- The time the peak is likely to happen
- More frequent updates during floods.

**The Bureau will generally produce forecast flood heights at the Ipswich and Moggill gauges 12 hours prior to the peak predicted level that may occur at these gauges.**

**These forecast flood heights are useful to understand the amount of flooding in the Bremer and Brisbane rivers.**

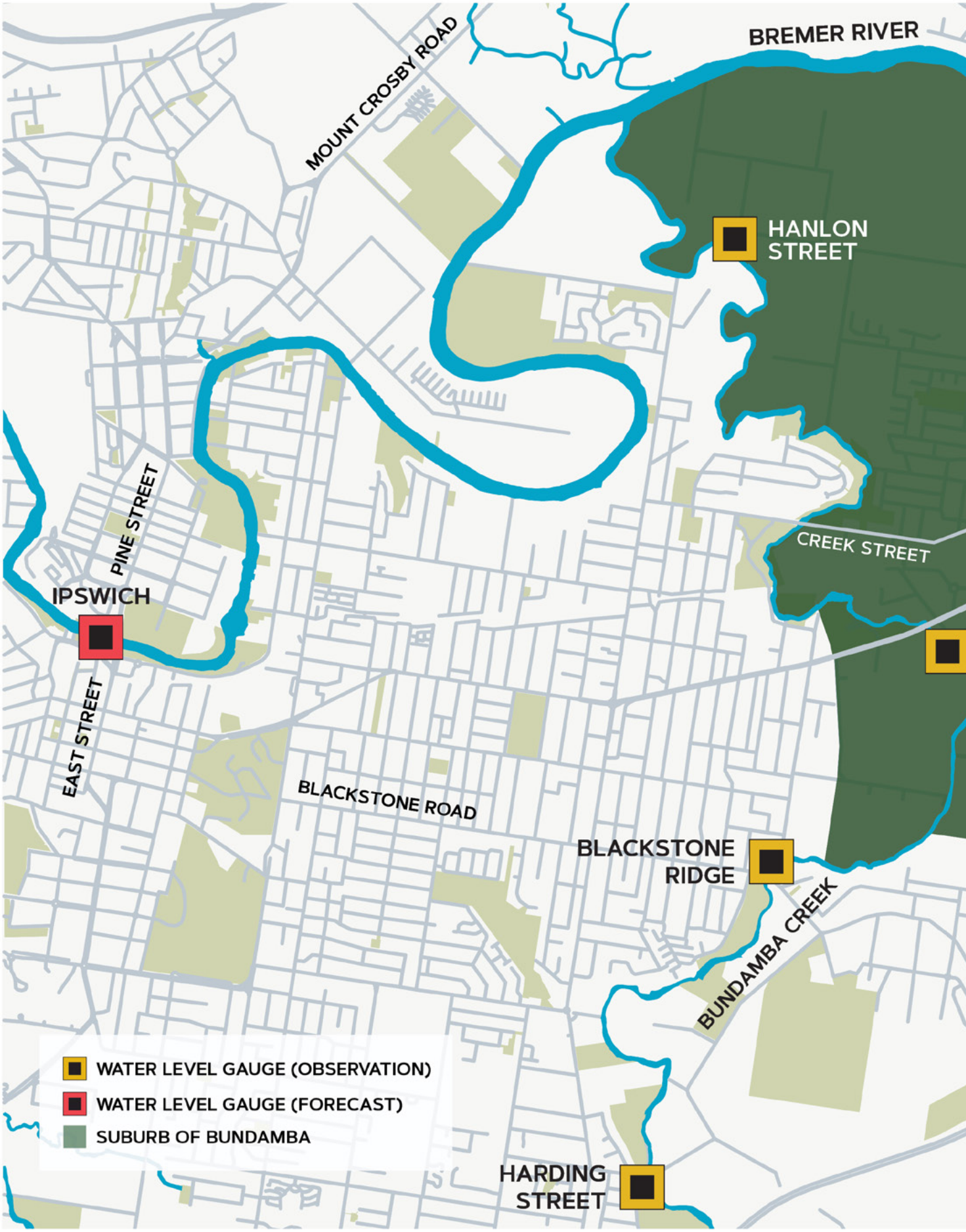
You can find these forecasts on the Bureau website.

Council may also produce a 'predicted flood surface', sometimes referred to as a 'forecast flood extent'. This product is based on the Bureau's predicted heights, showing the possible extent of flooding in Bundamba. You can use this information to inform decisions about what you can do during a flood.

A predicted flood surface is an estimate and does not generally show flood water depth. It can help us understand what might happen, but it can't tell us exactly how much flooding there will be.

A 'predicted flood surface' is the area which is expected to be covered by flood water based on science and computer models. This information, shown in a map, helps people know which places might get flooded so they can make safer choices.

## BUNDAMBA'S FLOOD MONITORING SYSTEMS




WARREGO HIGHWAY
MOGGILL
BRISBANE RIVER
RIVER ROAD
CUNNINGHAM HIGHWAY
BRISBANE ROAD
SIX MILE CREEK
BUNDAMBA SCHOOL
NAOMAI STREET
REDBANK PLAINS ROAD

Bundamba communities have access to a variety of flood warning tools and information available on the Ipswich Disaster Dashboard.

Disaster cameras are strategically placed across the region at familiar sites like major roads and higher flood risk locations. Currently there is a flood camera located in Bundamba (on Keith Street). An additional camera has been installed at the Brisbane Road Bridge and is expected to be commissioned by late 2026. These cameras provide a photo of flood levels at 10-to-15-minute intervals. This can help you to understand road closures and the level of flooding. The cameras can be accessed on the Ipswich Disaster Dashboard here: Cameras.

There are also many rain gauges across the Bremer and Brisbane River catchments. These can help give you a better understanding of how much rain has fallen in different areas. There are up to 300 gauges within the catchments, some of the most relevant to Ipswich can be viewed on the Ipswich Disaster Dashboard. For Bundamba Creek, understanding how much rain has fallen in the following gauges can provide some indication of potential flooding:

- South Ripley Gauges
- Harding Street Gauge
- Bundamba School Gauge.

Upstream water level gauges can give a good indication of what might happen next. For example, if an upstream water level gauge is still rising, it's likely that flooding could get worse at your current downstream location. For Bundamba Creek, the following gauges are relevant to understand water levels:

- South Ripley (Wards Rd) Gauge [Station No: 540666]
- South Ripley (James Ivory Bridge) Gauge [Station No: 540727]
- Harding Street Gauge [Station No: 040873]
- Blackstone Bridge Gauge [Station No: 040872]
- Bundamba School Gauge [Station No: 040875]
- Hanlon Street Gauge [Station No: 540249].

Whilst there are many water level gauges within the Bremer and Brisbane River catchments, the most useful gauges for Bundamba are:

- Moggill Gauge [Station No: 040812] (to understand if the Brisbane River is flooding and might impact Bundamba)
- Ipswich Gauge [Station No: 040831] (to understand if the Bremer River is rising and might impact Bundamba).

You can view the gauges at any time on the Ipswich Disaster Dashboard, through the interactive map.

Photo by Passier G
Confluence Bremer and Bundamba Creek

## FLOOD WARNINGS AND WHAT THEY MEAN

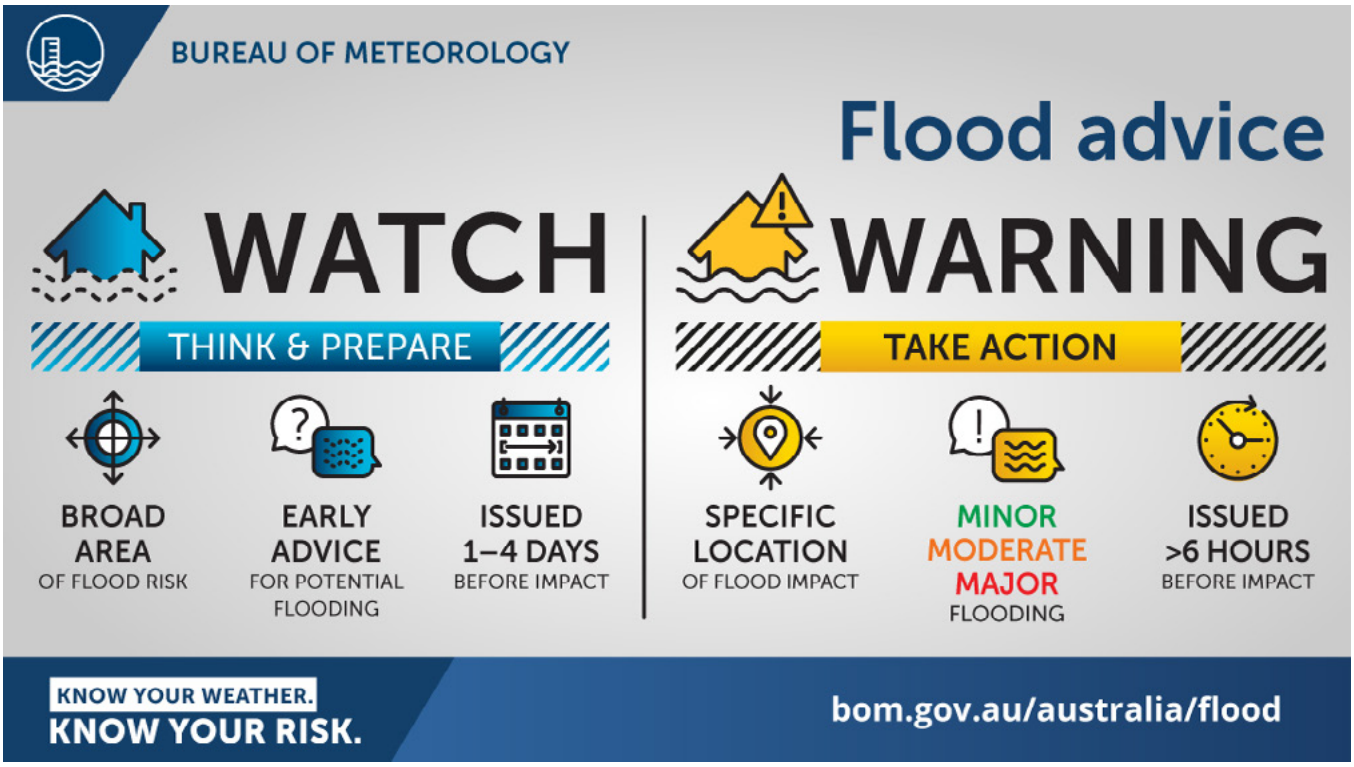



Image courtesy of the Bureau of Meteorology

When you understand your flood risk and how local gauges can relate to flood levels, the flood warnings you receive will help you to decide what action you need to take. The Bureau may issue multiple flood warnings for the Brisbane River and/or the Bremer River before, during and after flood events.

For people living in Bundamba, the flood watches and flood warnings that matter most are the ones for the Lower Brisbane River.

### Flood Watch

A Flood Watch will be issued by the Bureau when there is an increased risk of riverine flooding. The Flood Watch is issued noting which areas are at risk, the expected rainfall, and rivers and creeks that may be impacted. A Flood Watch is not a warning of imminent flooding and can be issued before any sign of flooding occurs or before rain has started falling. More information about Flood Watches is available via the Bureau's Queensland Flood Watch Brochure.

### Flood Warning

A Flood Warning will be issued by the Bureau when there is more certainty that flooding will occur. The Flood Warning is generally issued when rainfall has started and will be more specific, referencing catchments and river systems. Predicted river height levels will also be issued at the Ipswich and the Moggill Gauges if either the Brisbane or Bremer River catchments will be impacted. No flood warnings are provided by the Bureau on any of the Bundamba Creek Gauges as these are not forecast gauges.

You can find more information on Flood Warnings on the Bureau website.

You can use the forecast heights together with the gauge water level maps to work out what the impacts might be for you. Council also shares warnings and updates on the Ipswich Disaster Dashboard to help you understand what's happening across Bundamba and Ipswich.

## Australian Warning System

The Australian Warning System (AWS) aims to provide consistent warnings to all Australian communities so that people know what to do when they see a warning for hazards such as flood, storm, severe weather, bushfire and extreme heat.

Warnings provide point-in-time information about the flood that is impacting or is expected to impact communities. It describes the impact and expected longer-term outcome for communities and includes general advice on what people should do.

When there is a flood warning for Bundamba, you will see the following images.

**There are three warning levels:**

**Advice (Yellow)**

An incident has started. There is no immediate danger.
Stay up to date in case the situation changes.

**Watch and Act (Orange)**

There is a heightened level of threat. Conditions are changing
and you need to start taking action now to protect you and your family.

**Emergency Warning (Red)**

An Emergency Warning is the highest level of warning. You may be in danger
and need to take action immediately. Any delay now puts your life at risk.

You can get more information at Disaster.qld.gov.au/watch-for-the-warnings.

## HOW TO PREPARE FOR FLOODING

We know that flooding in Bundamba will happen again. The good news is there are steps you can take to prepare yourself, your loved ones and your home. Being ready for severe weather and flooding not only increases your safety and peace of mind, but also allows emergency services to focus on supporting other members of the community during major flood events.

### Get Ready in 3 simple steps

**Step 1: Understand your flood risk**

This means learning more about how flooding could impact your community, neighbours, home, loved ones and pets. By reading this guide, you're already taking the first step to being prepared.

**Step 2: Prepare a household emergency plan**

Planning ahead takes the guesswork out of a flood and helps keep everyone calm when it matters most. Your household emergency plan should be done ahead of the severe weather season, which is typically 1 November through until 30 April, and should include details on what your household will do in a flood. This includes how you'll look after pets, who to contact, and where you'll go if you need to leave home. Visit the Ipswich Disaster Dashboard and follow the steps to make your own Household Emergency Plan. You can also use the Get Ready Queensland website to make an Emergency Plan for your Pets.

**Step 3: Pack an emergency kit**

Your emergency kit should contain key items your family and pets need to stay safe and comfortable if power, water or other services are interrupted, or if access is cut due to flooding. Your kit should include things like a torch, spare batteries, non-perishable food, water, copies of important documents, things to keep everyone entertained and pet supplies. The good news is you probably already have most of these things, the kit simply keeps them in one place so they're ready for you to grab in an emergency. Consider also packing a smaller version of an emergency kit, or a 'grab and go' bag, with essential items if you need to leave home quickly. You can keep this at your front door or in your car. You can also download this Emergency Kit Checklist.

For more practical advice and tips on how to prepare for flooding and other severe weather events, visit the Get Ready Queensland website.

## EVACUATION AND ISOLATION

**It is your responsibility to monitor weather conditions and warnings, and take action as needed.**

Depending on the severity of flooding, you may need to leave your home to stay safe or avoid being cut off for long periods. Official evacuation advice may come via Emergency Alerts, updates on the Ipswich Disaster Dashboard, local radio stations (ABC 612 and River 94.9), council social media channels or in some cases doorknocking by emergency services. However, you should always act early and make the best decision for your household. Having these actions agreed ahead of time and written in your household emergency plan will help you make an informed decision during a flood.

Evacuation routes might get flooded, leaving you unable to leave your home, or if you are at work or another place, unable to return home. If you live in a high-risk part of Bundamba, plan to evacuate as soon as possible before it's too late. You may find the 'Your Emergency Contact Information' on page 29 helpful to assist with your planning.


Image courtesy of the Australian Government: NEMA

**AusAlert is the national system that sends emergency warnings straight to mobile phones and other mobile devices in a specific area.**

It uses cell broadcast technology, which is already used in more than 30 countries and is considered one of the best ways to send emergency warnings.

With AusAlert, emergency services and some Australian Government agencies can send messages to the people who need them most.

The system is designed to be more reliable, more accurate and faster than current warning systems. This means authorities can reach people quickly during serious situations, helping to protect lives and property.

In the future, AusAlert will also be able to send automatic voice messages to landline phones.

For more information on AusAlert, please visit AusAlert | National Emergency Management Agency.

**You do not need to register to receive an Emergency Alert**

Emergency Alert messages are sent from: +61 444 444 444.

These messages are not a scam and are official text messages from the Queensland State Disaster Coordination Centre as part of the national emergency alert system. If you receive an Emergency Alert and want more information, follow the instructions in the message.


Image courtesy of Queensland Government

**Finding shelter before or during a flood is important, do not wait until it's too late to make a decision that could save your life.**

If you need to evacuate, do not rely on going to a temporary evacuation centre. Seeking refuge at an evacuation centre should be your very last resort, because they are not a resort. At an evacuation centre you can expect to share a single toilet with up to 50 other people and may be sleeping just 40cm away from a stranger. The best option is to plan to stay with family or friends or arrange alternative accommodation away from areas likely to be impacted by flooding. These arrangements can also be made ahead of time and written in your household emergency plan.


For more detailed information on evacuation and sheltering – please review our 'Prepare for Evacuation and Sheltering' downloadable resource at Download Resources: Ipswich City Council

Before travelling, check the Ipswich Disaster Dashboard to see what information is available that can help you make a decision about whether it is safe to travel and if roads and/or evacuation centres are open.

### Public health advice for disaster management

Queensland Health has resources online to help you manage potential health risks after a flood or disaster, such as safe drinking water, food safety and mould.

## Planning for your needs

People with specific medical needs, mobility challenges or other general wellbeing considerations may require support to develop a suitable emergency plan and to evacuate.

If you or someone you care about needs support, you can find helpful information about the Person-Centred Emergency Preparedness (P-CEP) program, as well as Disability Inclusive Disaster Risk Reduction projects, via factsheets and short videos on the Queenslanders with Disability Network website.

If you live with a disability, it's important to share your emergency plan or P-CEP plan with your family and friends and ensure that your support workers and service providers know where to find it before a flood.

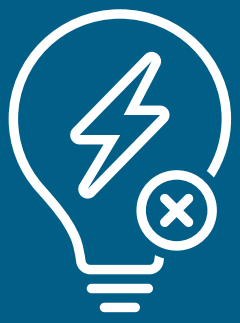
Visit the Get Ready Queensland webpage for inclusive preparedness resources.

### Power outages and powered medical devices

If you rely on a powered medical device, you may be eligible to apply for the Energex Life Support Program. The Life Support Program does not guarantee power supply, but it does provide eligible customers with information to help with preparing for planned power interruptions. Visit the Energex website to learn more: Life support customers | Energex.

Read the Queensland Health fact sheet to prepare for power outages.

Call **13 HEALTH** (13 43 25 84) at any time.



## YOUR QUICK GUIDE TO FLOOD EMERGENCY INFORMATION

**In case of an emergency dial Triple Zero 000**
**Speak and Listen (TTY) Emergency Call 106**

| WHO | GOOD FOR | WHERE TO FIND |
|---|---|---|
| **Ipswich Disaster Dashboard** | Local warnings, power outages, road closures, viewing disaster cameras, information about evacuation centres and recovery support. | Disaster.ipswich.qld.gov.au |
| **The Bureau of Meteorology** | Regular forecasts, push notifications about severe weather warnings (app only), monitoring and advice before, during and after a flood event. | Bom.gov.au/qld<br>Or download the app |
| **Radio** | Regular updates during emergencies like floods. | **ABC Radio**<br>612 ABC Radio Brisbane (AM radio)<br>Abc.net.au/listen/radio<br>Or download the app<br>**River 94.9**<br>River 94.9 (FM radio)<br>River949.com.au/<br>Or download the app<br>(via iHeart Radio) |
| **Qld Traffic** | Up-to-date information on flooded roads. | Qldtraffic.qld.gov.au<br>13 19 40 |
| **State Emergency Service (SES)** | Non-life-threatening flood and storm emergency assistance during severe weather events. | Ses.qld.gov.au<br>132 500<br>Or download the app |
| **Seqwater** | Up-to-date information on dam releases and water quality. | Seqwater.com.au |
| **Urban Utilities** | View interruptions currently affecting Ipswich suburbs. | Urbanutilities.com.au<br>13 23 64 |
| **Energex Outage Finder** | Real-time updates on the number of customers affected, estimated restoration times and the causes of power outages. | Energex.com.au/outages/outage-finder/outage-finder-map/ |
| **Department of Education** | Up-to-date information on state, independent and Catholic schools that have been deemed unsafe for student attendance. | Closures.qld.edu.au |

| WHO | GOOD FOR | WHERE TO FIND |
|---|---|---|
| **Insurance Council of Australia** | Information and advice to help you navigate disaster preparedness, clean up and claims. | Insurancecouncil.com.au/consumers/help-in-disasters/<br>Insurancecouncil.com.au/resource/frequently-asked-questions-after-a-disaster/ |
| **Australian Financial Complaints Authority** | Support if you find yourself in a dispute with your insurer or financial firm about your claim or request for assistance. | Afca.org.au/make-a-complaint/insurance/floods-and-storms-disaster-support<br>1800 931 678<br>1800 337 444 (Significant event hotline) |

## LOOK OUT DISASTER CHASERS ABOUT

Unfortunately, criminals sometimes target flood impacted communities. These offenders are known as 'Disaster Chasers' who typically present themselves shortly after a flood occurs but can also appear months later.

They may doorknock neighbourhoods, claiming to have identified damage at your property, or in some very bold cases they may claim that they are calling on behalf of your insurance company.

The Insurance Council of Australia has a fact sheet with information and advice for identifying or dealing with a Disaster Chaser. If in doubt, report any suspicious activity to the Queensland Police Service via Policelink or phone 131 444 (24 hours, 7 days a week).

## LIFELINE 13 11 14

If you are feeling overwhelmed before, during or after a disaster, Lifeline is available to provide you with free and confidential support.

Call 13 11 14 or visit Lifeline.org.au

Confidential one-to-one text with a trained Lifeline Crisis Supporter is available 24/7, **TEXT 0477 13 11 14**

## PET PREPAREDNESS FOR DISASTERS

Get your pets ready for severe weather and emergencies with a simple three-step plan:

**1. PLAN 2. PREPARE 3. PRACTICE**

Being ready before a disaster strikes could save your pet's life.

RSPCA Queensland, proud partners of Get Ready Queensland

# HELP IN TIMES OF DISASTER

**Do you need help?**

If you require assistance after a flood, visit the Ipswich Disaster Dashboard to see what support is available in your area. You can also visit the Queensland Government website for information about state and federal financial and support services for people impacted by disasters and emergencies.

**Are you able to help?**

If you want to assist after a flood, please be mindful that even good intentions can sometimes get in the way. The suggestions below hope to harness your community spirit so you can make a difference and stay safe at the same time.

## Donate

- GIVIT captures all donation offers online so your donation meets the real needs of people right now, as identified by support organisations working directly with people impacted by disasters.
- Through GIVIT, your donation goes exactly where it's needed, based on requests from organisations supporting people affected by disasters.
- Unrequested items can overwhelm recovery efforts, so please don't send or drop off donations unless asked.

## Volunteer

- Council partners with local volunteer groups who restore and protect natural areas before and after disasters. Find out more on council's Volunteer Portal.
- Register your interest in Emergency Volunteering Community Response to Extreme Weather (EV CREW). Through this program, council works with Volunteering Queensland to place volunteers who have the required skills, availability and locality into the areas of the community that need help.

## Visiting impacted areas

- Visiting flood impacted areas can help stimulate economic recovery.
- Never visit immediately after a flooding event as it hinders emergency responses, risks personal safety and exploits local trauma.
- Wait until official advice confirms it is safe to visit.
- When it is safe and businesses begin to reopen, supporting local shops and services is one of the best ways you can help the community recovery.

## BUNDAMBA FLOOD AWARENESS: AT A GLANCE

| | |
|---|---|
| **CATCHMENT** | Bremer River<br>For warnings from the Bureau look for **Lower Brisbane River** |
| **SUB-CATCHMENT** | Bundamba Creek |
| **FORECAST GAUGE LOCATIONS** | ▪ Ipswich Gauge [Station No: 040831] (for Bremer River flooding)<br>▪ Moggill Gauge [Station No: 040812] (for Brisbane River flooding) |
| **OBSERVATION GAUGE LOCATIONS** | ▪ Harding Street Gauge [Station No: 040873]<br>▪ Blackstone Bridge Gauge [Station No: 040872]<br>▪ Bundamba School Gauge [Station No: 040875]<br>▪ Hanlon Street Gauge [Station No: 540249]<br>▪ South Ripley (Wards Rd) [Station No: 540666]<br>▪ South Ripley (James Ivory Bridge) Gauge [Station No: 540727] |
| **RAINFALL GAUGE LOCATIONS** | For Bundamba Creek:<br>▪ Bundamba School<br>▪ Harding Street<br>▪ South Ripley (Wards Rd)<br>▪ South Ripley (James Ivory Bridge)<br>Refer to Ipswich Disaster Dashboard for Bremer and Brisbane River catchment rainfall gauges. |

**The Bureau will generally produce forecast flood heights at the Ipswich and Moggill gauges 12 hours prior to the peak predicted level that may occur at these gauges.**

**These forecast flood heights are useful to understand the amount of flooding in the Bremer and Brisbane Rivers.**

You can find these forecasts on the Bureau website.

You can view all the gauges at any time on the Ipswich Disaster Dashboard, through the interactive map.

# FURTHER INFORMATION AND READING

## Ipswich Integrated Catchment Plan

The Ipswich Integrated Catchment Plan (IICP) aims to reduce flood risks and help communities increase their flood resilience. Planning also looks at protection of the natural floodplain, improving water quality and supporting biodiversity across the catchment.

The IICP has been developed as two documents:

- Ipswich Integrated Catchment Plan – Strategy and Action Plan
- Ipswich Integrated Catchment Plan – Technical Evidence Report (TER)

## Brisbane River Strategic Floodplain Management Plan

The Brisbane River Strategic Floodplain Management Plan (BRSFMP) was published in April 2019 and provides the framework for a consistent approach to managing flood risk across the floodplain. It is a significant regional plan that considers current and future flood risk, disaster management, mitigation infrastructure, community resilience, building guides, land use planning and landscape management. It has been informed by the Brisbane River Catchment Flood Study.

This document provides relevant information for Ipswich residents.

## Brisbane River Catchment Flood Study

The Brisbane River Catchment Flood Study (BRCFS), published in May 2017, encompassed hydraulic and hydrologic assessments undertaken in response to the Queensland Floods Commission of Inquiry, providing a comprehensive plan to manage Brisbane River flood risk. The document also contains important information for the City of Ipswich.

## How Ipswich City Council Manages Flood Risk

As a city on a floodplain, flooding will remain a natural risk to the Ipswich community. Visit the Ipswich City Council Floods page to explore the measures used by council to manage the risk.

## Ipswich City Council Historical Flood Mapping

This interactive tool allows residents to pan and zoom across the City of Ipswich and apply the three historic flood events (1974, 2011 and 2022) as visual layers across the map, demonstrating flood impacts.

## Ipswich City Plan 2025 Mapping

Ipswich's City Plan 2025 is the primary land use planning tool for managing development of the city's floodplains. The Planning Scheme is continuously updated to meet changing policy, new flood information, technology and best practice.

The interactive City Plan 2025 map allows residents to pan and zoom across the City of Ipswich viewing mapped flood information in the City Plan, when the 'OV12 Flood Risk and Overland Flow' layer is selected under Overlays. To learn more about flood risk and overland flow, see council's fact sheet.

## Flood Terms and Definitions

The Queensland Reconstruction Authority (QRA) is the lead agency responsible for disaster recovery and resilience in Queensland. To assist with promoting consistent terminology when communicating information about flooding, they have developed a comprehensive list of flood terms, definitions and references. To learn more please visit the QRA website on flood terms and definitions.

## YOUR EMERGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION

| NAME | MOBILE NUMBER | EMAIL |
|---|---|---|
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |

Meeting place in case you become separated or need to evacuate:

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

| IN CASE OF AN EMERGENCY CALL TRIPLE ZERO: 000 | |
|---|---|
| State Emergency Service (SES) | 132 500 |
| Ipswich City Council | (07) 3810 6666 |
| Electricity provider, loss of supply | 13 62 62 |
| Electricity provider, report fallen powerlines | 13 19 62 |
| Urban Utilities, emergencies | 13 23 64 |
| Gas (LPG) providers, emergencies | 1800 808 526 |
| Gas (natural) high pressure transition pipelines | 1800 017 000 |
| Queensland Health | 13 HEALTH (13 43 25 84) |
| Local GP or Doctor's surgery | |
| Hospital | |
| Animal emergencies | 1300 ANIMAL (1300 264 625) |
| Local Vet | |
| Children's school | |
| Workplace | |
| Workplace | |

Visit the Ipswich Disaster Dashboard and follow the steps to make your own Household Emergency Plan.

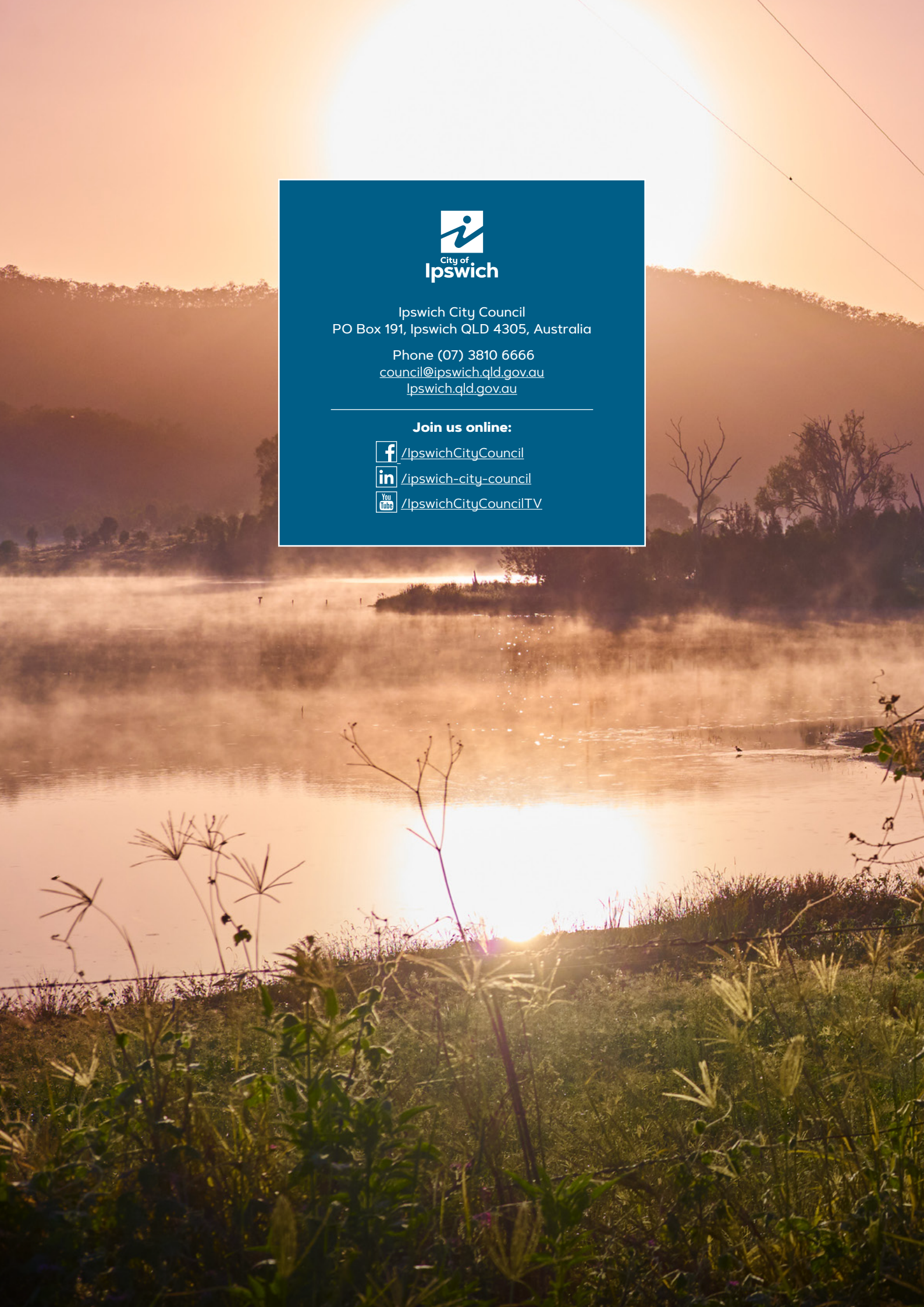
You can print this page at home, fill in the important details, share it with everyone in your household and keep it somewhere easy to find, such as on the fridge, in a kitchen drawer or in your emergency kit.

THIS PAGE IS PURPOSELY BLANK

## RESTRICTIONS ON USE

This information is a guide only and should NOT be used for:

- **Development Applications:** For development-related inquiries, refer to the Council's Planning Scheme, Planning and Regulatory Services Department, and consider seeking independent professional advice.
- **Financial or Legal Decisions:** The data is unsuitable for financial or legal decision-making. Consider seeking independent professional advice for those and like matters.
- **Property Valuation:** The information should not be used for property valuation purposes. Consider seeking independent professional advice for that and like matters.
- **Impact Assessment:** This is unsuitable as a historical record of flooding or validation of actual flooding or impact for any purposes, including, but not limited to, insurance assessment. Consider seeking independent professional advice for that and like matters.




Ipswich City Council
PO Box 191, Ipswich QLD 4305, Australia

Phone (07) 3810 6666
council@ipswich.qld.gov.au
Ipswich.qld.gov.au


**Join us online:**

/IpswichCityCouncil
/ipswich-city-council
/IpswichCityCouncilTV