

Question on Notice

No. 957

Asked on 1 September 2022

MRS L GERBER ASKED MINISTER FOR TRANSPORT AND MAIN ROADS (HON M BAILEY)—

QUESTION:

With reference to the February/March floods this year and the ongoing Varsity to Tugun M1 construction works—

Will the Minister detail what actions he is taking to mitigate the likelihood of homes in the Tallebudgera Creek catchment area and Elanora around the M1 construction from flooding again?

ANSWER:

I thank the Member for Currumbin for the question.

The Department of Transport and Main Roads (TMR) evaluated the extreme weather event that occurred in February and March 2022 to determine whether the impacts from the event align with the assumptions used in modelling which informed the design of the project. TMR undertook compliance audits to ensure that construction contractors were meeting the obligations of the relevant permits, standards and specifications issued in relation to the construction of the motorway upgrade. It was found that all obligations were met by the contractors.

The Tallebudgera Creek area is an extremely complex catchment and has a history of being impacted by severe wet weather events. Several factors impact on flood levels within the area, including the intensity and duration of rainfall, tidal influence, ground conditions, and man-made structures and developments.

As previously advised in my response to Question on Notice 406 tabled on 10 June 2022, TMR's design consultants—including hydraulic specialists and independent consultants—are continuing to consider the extreme wet weather event that occurred in February and late March 2022. It is not possible to provide a response to this question until those reviews are complete.