

Question on Notice

No. 985

Asked on 24 August 2023

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

QUESTION:

With reference to the hydraulic reports commissioned by Transport and Main Roads on the 2022 Flooding event in the Tallebudgera catchment area—

Will the Minister (a) release the dataset used to formulate the conclusions for each report and (b) explain the discrepancy between findings in the initial report which stated ‘over-floor flooding may not have occurred if the temporary construction works were not in place at the time of the event’ and the second report which concluded ‘... it was unlikely that the works caused any property to suffer additional flood damage.’?

ANSWER:

I thank the Member for Currumbin for the question.

- (a) The dataset requested cannot be released as doing so would result in a release of data or opinion that is protected as personal information in accordance with the Department of Transport and Main Roads’ (TMR) privacy and confidentiality obligations outlined in the *Information Privacy Act 2009*.
- (b) The initial flood assessments reflected in the original report were based on incomplete flood level information and a hydraulic model which did not extend as far upstream as Coplicks Bridge. That modelling therefore could not take account of flood level information available at that site, although it did use the flow information from the Coplicks Bridge gauge for calibration purposes.

Following the release of the original report, TMR obtained new photographic and video evidence of the February 2022 flooding event from members of the public and extended the hydraulic model upstream to the bridge, enabling the flood level data available at that site to be used in model calibration. The inclusion of flood level information from the Coplicks Bridge stream gauge in the hydraulic model gave rise to a change in the modelled flood levels, which more closely aligns with the photos and videos provided by members of the public.

The revised hydraulic model was relied on in the Addendum Report.