

# Maribyrnong River Flood Review

## Submission Template



### How to use this template

This template has been created to assist you with your email or postal submission to the Maribyrnong River Flood Review. It guides you through what information to provide, based on the scope of the review.

You can lodge a submission by:

1. Completing this template and sending it to [maribyrnongriver.floodreview@melbournewater.com.au](mailto:maribyrnongriver.floodreview@melbournewater.com.au) (with subject line 'Submission to flood review') or Maribyrnong River Flood Review, PO Box 4342, MELBOURNE, VIC, 3001
2. [Completing the online form on the flood review website.](#) The online form contains the same questions as this template but it a guided process.
3. Writing a submission without using the template and sending it to [maribyrnongriver.floodreview@melbournewater.com.au](mailto:maribyrnongriver.floodreview@melbournewater.com.au) or Maribyrnong River Flood Review, PO Box 4342, MELBOURNE, VIC, 3001. If you use your own format, please remember to provide your name, phone number and email.

### What to include in your submission

Submissions should outline:

- your interest in the review
- how you were impacted by the Maribyrnong River flood event
- the issues and information you would like the independent Review Panel to consider.

You can provide supporting documents, such as photos, as part of your submission.

The information you provide in your submission should be within the scope of the review as contained in the [Maribyrnong River Flood Review Terms of Reference](#) and focus on the following factors:

- the causes and contributors to the Flood Event in the urban catchment, including any potential impacts of the Flemington Racecourse Flood Wall on the extent and duration of the Flood Event;
- any impact of prior works or activities in the urban catchment on flood levels and extent during the Flood Event; and
- whether any other matters may have significantly contributed to the Flood Event.

For more information on the scope of the review, visit the Maribyrnong River Flood Review website.

**If you have information to share that is outside of the scope of the review, you can provide this by [Sharing your Story on the Maribyrnong River Flood Review website](#) or at a community information session.**

# Maribyrnong River Flood Review

## Submission Form



### Contact information

Your contact details must be included to make a valid submission. For more information on why this information is needed see the Privacy Collection Notice at the end of this form.

Name

Phone

Email

### Your interest in the review

**What is your interest in the review? (select one)**

- ☐ My property was flooded (complete the section 'How you were impacted')
- ☐ I live close to the areas flooded
- ☐ Other interest, please describe: [Click or tap here to enter text.](#)

### How you were impacted

**Only complete this section if your property was flooded during the Maribyrnong River flood event**

#### 1. Property address

#### 2. Property type:

- ☐ Residence (go to Q3)
- ☐ Investment property (go to Q7)
- ☐ Business (go to Q8)
- ☐ Public asset, e.g park, sportsfield, etc (go to 'Your Submission' section)
- ☐ Other, please describe (then go to 'Your Submission' section)  
[Click or tap here to enter text.](#)

#### For residences only

- 3. Is this your usual place of residence? ☐ Yes ☐ No
- 4. Did you have to move out? ☐ Yes (go to Q5) ☐ No (go to 'Submission Details' section)
- 5. If Yes, are you still living elsewhere?  
☐ Yes (go to Q6) ☐ No (go to 'Submission Details' section)
- 6. If Yes, do you intend to return? ☐ Yes ☐ No

## How you were impacted continued

### For investment properties only

7. Do you intend to keep or sell the property? ☐ Keep ☐ Sell

### For businesses only

8. What is your business name? [Click or tap here to enter text.](#)

9. What does your business do? (e.g. café, shop, service station, industry, office, etc)  
[Click or tap here to enter text.](#)

10. Did you have to close your business as a result of the flood?

☐ Yes (go to Q8) ☐ No (go to 'Your Submission' section)

11. Have you been able to reopen your business yet?

☐ Yes (go to 'Your Submission' section) ☐ No (go to Q9)

12. If No, do you intend to reopen your business? ☐ Yes ☐ No

## Submission details

Use this section to provide any information that you would like to be considered by the Independent Review Panel.

The information you provide must be relevant to the scope of the review; for more information on the scope of the review refer to page 1 of this template.

If you have information to share that is outside of the scope of the review, you can do this by [Sharing your Story on the Maribyrnong River Flood Review website or at a community information session.](#)

Please note that text boxes will expand as you type. If you are using a printed copy of this form you can attach separate pages. You can also submit supporting information, such as images, with your submission.

It's not possible to click and enter information in the boxes provided above but, 'Yes' to Q3, [REDACTED] is my place of residence. 'Yes' and 'No' to Q4 – I slept elsewhere for 56 nights but did not completely move out. Ate here, continued to work from here (sole trader), worked on the clean-up and restoration – which continues to this day.

In the week beginning 10<sup>th</sup> October 2022 we knew there was going to be a lot of rain. There were warnings on TV weather reports but no actual messages from Melbourne Water until it was too late. Until we were underwater.

On Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> October, all the available advice online – from the BOMB – indicated that the flood level would be approximately 2.7 metres and my partner was persuaded by this that the water would not get inside the house. I'm more of a pessimist and, on Thursday night, set about putting as many possessions as I could in the safety of our upstairs extension – where the kitchen and living area are located.

We put a lot of things up there but had we known that the water would inundate our house to waist level and completely submerge the back yard, we would (a) have put a LOT MORE stuff upstairs and/or (b) hired a truck and thrown all our beds, office furniture, filing cabinets and equipment, the piano, libraries full of books and

countless other personal items of clothing, memorabilia in it and driven the truck up to Highpoint.

Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> October was a sleepless night with NO WARNINGS from any official body, just a general sense of dread and anxiety.

The door-to-door evacuation order came at 5am on Friday 14<sup>th</sup> and by about 8am the water was up the steps, over the verandah and into the house. I had driven my car up the street and sat parked in it outside [REDACTED] until about 5.30pm, watching the water roll in like surf at Bondi. My partner stayed in the house but was helpless against the flood.

Floods and fires happen. No one can stop them. But someone has to take responsibility for warning residents of a worst case scenario and no one seems to be prepared to do that. They prefer the Blame Game - the council blames Melbourne Water, Melbourne Water blames the BOMB, etc. etc.

Some official body has to take full responsibility for early, accurate warnings of impending disaster. The notion of a 'once in a 100 year event' is a totally outmoded concept. There will be more floods. We need to have a community-based plan of action and official bodies need to adopt a more responsible attitude.

I don't believe the selfish Racecourse Wall made any difference to the damage where we are, but it has a lot to answer for as regards properties downstream.

I would like this review to find that Melbourne Water was less than helpful - to the point of criminal negligence - in preparing residents for this flood and that it will make a clear assurance that it will undertake to DO A LOT BETTER.

## Privacy collection notice

As part of the submission process you will be asked to provide your name, phone number and email, plus your address if you were directly impacted by flooding.

We're collecting this in case we need to verify or clarify the information you provide, including if the Review Panel wishes to conduct a one on one interview with you. It won't be used for any other purpose.

Our collection, use and disclosure of your personal information is regulated by Victorian privacy laws including the *Privacy and Data Protection Act 2014* (Vic).

Please note that all submissions are public documents and will be placed online as part of the Review Panel process. Any identifying information will be redacted, and your name and contact information will not be shared.

By making a submission, you consent to Melbourne Water collecting any personal information which you provide in, and with, your submission.

For more information about how Melbourne Water protects your privacy view our [Privacy Policy](#).







