

# Brisbane River Catchment Flood Studies

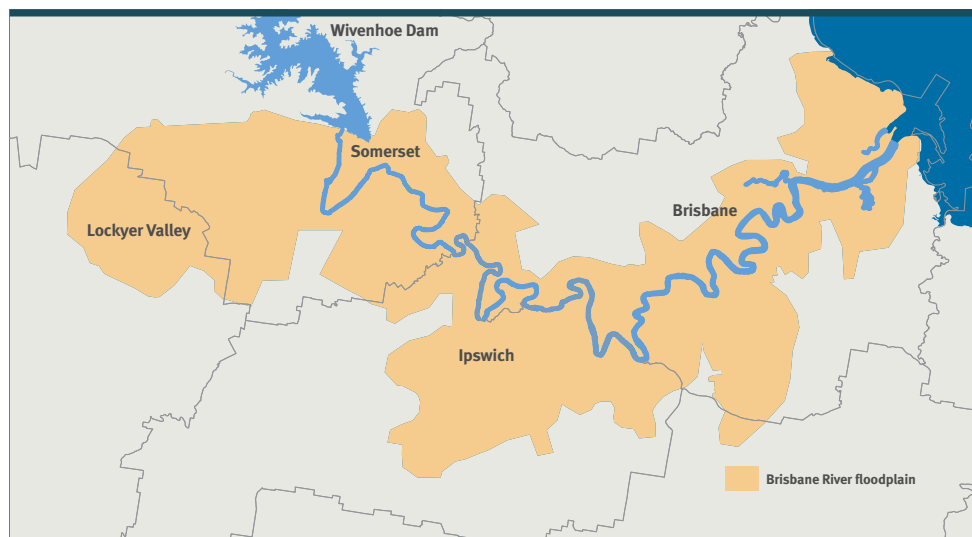
## Strategic Floodplain Management Plan

Following the 2011 floods, a Commission of Inquiry recommended that a comprehensive Brisbane River Catchment Flood Study be completed and floodplain management plans be developed for urban areas.

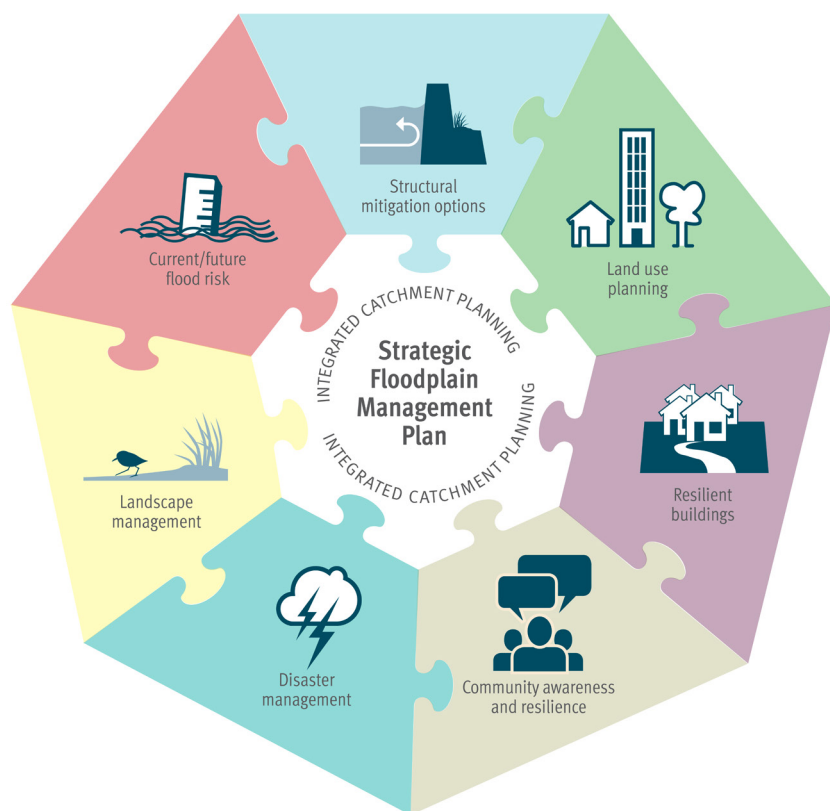
### About the flood studies

The Queensland Government partnered with Brisbane City Council, Ipswich City Council, Somerset Regional Council, Lockyer Valley Regional Council and Seqwater to deliver the Brisbane River Catchment Flood Studies.

The Brisbane River Catchment Flood Study was completed in early 2017 and is the most comprehensive study of its kind ever undertaken in Australia. Information from the study was used to develop the Brisbane River Strategic Floodplain Management Plan (Strategic Plan). The Strategic Plan sets out an efficient and coordinated flood management approach across the floodplain downstream from Wivenhoe Dam.



Brisbane River floodplain



The Queensland Government and local councils are working on a long-term plan to manage the impact of future floods and improve community safety and resilience.

The Strategic Plan is Queensland's most comprehensive regional scale floodplain management plan and will guide the delivery of local floodplain management plans.

The purpose of the Strategic Plan is to develop a consistent and coordinated approach to manage flood risk across the four local governments located within the floodplain.

The first step of the plan involved assessing current and future flood risk. The full range of regional scale flood risk management measures were then considered for land use planning, building and structural mitigation. The plan also assessed current flood management activities and community resilience levels to inform a coordinated approach to disaster management and community responsiveness to floods across the Brisbane River floodplain.



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# Brisbane River Strategic Floodplain Management Plan

## Understanding current and future flood risk



The Flood Study identified the likelihood of different sized floods occurring in the Brisbane River floodplain ranging from small and frequent floods to very large and rare floods. The Strategic Plan builds on this information to identify the impact of different sized floods on our community, natural environment, economy and the urban environment. Current and future flood risk was assessed, including parts of the floodplain that are particularly vulnerable to flood as well as how development, population growth and changes to our climate may affect flood behaviour in the future. The Strategic Plan establishes frameworks for managing both current and future flood risk to ensure decisions made in one part of the floodplain consider potential impacts to other areas.

## Structural mitigation options



Infrastructure can help reduce flood risk where appropriate and economically viable. Potential mitigation structures were sourced from almost 300 options submitted through the Queensland Floods Commission of Inquiry as well as options previously identified by state government agencies and the four local governments. The list of recommended regional-scale structural options are detailed in the Strategic Plan.

## Disaster management



All four local governments now have access to the same information source for understanding the impact of floods in real-time. The information from this shared system will help local governments to quickly determine potential consequences of a flood on the community, based on flood forecasts by the Bureau of Meteorology.

## Land use planning



New regional-scale data acquired through the Strategic Plan will be used to inform flood risk assessments. This will enable both current and future risks to be considered for future developments and to ensure that changes to one part of the floodplain do not negatively impact flood risk elsewhere.

## Community awareness and resilience



Community input has helped identify opportunities for even greater collaboration across government to support clear and consistent information being available before, during and after a flood. The Queensland and local governments will work together to develop regionally consistent flood risk information for people living and working in different parts of the floodplain. This includes greater consistency in online flood awareness mapping, property-scale flood information and community messaging.

## Integrated catchment management



The Strategic Plan acknowledges the benefits of catchment landscape management to improve flood resilience and recommends it be considered as part of the suite of resilience actions undertaken to manage flood risk.

## Resilient buildings



The *Flood Resilient Building Guidance for Queensland Homes* has been produced for planners, engineers, homeowners, architects, builders and certifiers about increasing the flood resilience of new and renovated residential properties. The guide is available at [www.qra.qld.gov.au/BRCFS](http://www.qra.qld.gov.au/BRCFS)



## More information

-  Visit [www.qra.qld.gov.au/BRCFS](http://www.qra.qld.gov.au/BRCFS) for more information about the Brisbane River Catchment
-  Visit [www.getready.qld.gov.au](http://www.getready.qld.gov.au) for information on preparing for a flood
-  Contact your local council for flood risk information specific to your property