

# PARHAM COMMUNITY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT PLAN



2022

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This Plan was modelled on the Webb Beach Community Emergency Management Plan. Coastal advice specific to Parham was prepared by Mutual Projects Pty Ltd trading as Integrated Coasts and reviewed by the Coast and Marine Branch Department of Environment and Water.

Front cover images 24 June 2021.

Council acknowledges that we are on the traditional country of the Kaurna people of the Adelaide Plains and pays respect to elders past, present and emerging. We recognise and respect their cultural heritage, beliefs and relationship with the land. We acknowledge that they are of continuing importance to the Kaurna people living today.

# 1.0 Introduction

## 1.1 What is a Community Emergency Management Plan (CEMP)?

A resilient community is one that can work together to anticipate, reduce the impact of, cope with and recover from emergencies, disasters, trauma and stress.

The aim of this Community Emergency Management Plan (CEMP) is to build the resilience of the Parham community by providing information on:

- Flood hazards that may lead to emergencies that affect you, and
- Action you can take to **prevent, prepare, respond and recover** from flood events.

Having knowledge and the ability to access information to make informed decisions will contribute to building your resilience but a Community Emergency Management Plan is only part of what makes a community resilient.

Having strong social connections, supporting neighbours, family and friends, a sustainable natural environment, physical and mental health and wellbeing and supporting infrastructure are all needed as well.

## 1.2 Why do we need a Community Emergency Management Plan for Parham?

Parham's coastal location and low elevation mean it is at risk of being flooded if a very high tide is combined with a severe storm event. Historically, some flooding has occurred on the southern end of Parham before the installation of the levee bank in 2012. The highest event on record at Outer Harbor on 9 May 2016 did not cause any flooding into Parham but flood waters did threaten to overtop some areas of the Parham shore (Figure 1). Coastal flood risks at Parham are projected to increase in frequency and extent as the climate changes and sea levels rise.

**Figure 1: Parham foreshore (end of Second Street) on 9 May 2016**



Photograph: C Muzyk (Adelaide Plains Council), 9 May 2016, 4.57pm

The Coastal Settlements Adaptation Study State of Play report<sup>1</sup> reviewed historic flood events and identified the likely impacts of various sea level events on the Parham settlement. If a rare sea-flood occurred at the height assigned by SA Coast Protection Board, then Parham township would be flooded (See p. 13). The development of emergency procedures was identified as the highest priority response, and Adelaide Plains Council subsequently instigated the development of this Community Emergency Management Plan.

This Community Emergency Management Plan focuses on risks associated with sea-flooding at Parham.

People who take action to get prepared for a flood before it happens are more likely to keep themselves, their families, their pets, and their properties safe during a flood.

This plan does not directly address risks associated with other emergencies. However, by preparing for flood-related emergencies, you and your community will be more resilient and better prepared to cope with and recover from other emergencies that may occur.

Throughout this report, the term **flooding** is used to refer to any event where an area is covered, inundated, or submerged by water (including sea water but excluding rain).

This Community Emergency Management Plan is an adaptation of the plan developed for Webb Beach in 2018. It was prepared by Adelaide Plains Council involving review of the Coastal Settlements Adaptation Study – Parham<sup>2</sup> and input by Mark Western, Integrated Coasts.

### 1.3 Emergency management planning

South Australia's emergency management arrangements, consistent with the National Strategy for Disaster Resilience, identify action to prevent, prepare for, respond to and recover (PPRR) from hazards. This CEMP has been prepared following the PPRR model, with action focused on what you and other Parham residents can do.

**Prevent** - whilst a flood event at Parham cannot be prevented, you can take action to prevent your property and contents from being damaged or destroyed and to prepare for the arrival of flood waters in order to reduce flood impacts.

**Prepare** – you can make arrangements, prepare plans and undertake action before a flood event occurs to reduce the impact of flooding on your property and contents.

**Respond** – if or when a storm tide or flood warning is issued, you will need to activate your preparedness arrangements and plans to minimise the impact of flooding.

**Recover** – after a flood you may need to take action to repair or rebuild, restore wellbeing or help your friends and neighbours.

At a community scale there is overlap between actions to prevent and prepare for flooding. In this plan, prevention and preparation have been considered together.

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<sup>1</sup> Western, M. and Kellett, J. (2013) *Coastal Settlements Adaptation Study, Stage 1: State of Play*, prepared for the District Council of Mallala by the University of South Australia, School of Natural and Built Environments, October 2013.

<sup>2</sup> Western, M. and Kellett, J. (2014) *Coastal Settlements Adaptation Study – Parham Framework Report*, prepared for the District Council of Mallala by the University of South Australia, School of Natural and Built Environments, August 2014.

## 1.4 Roles and responsibilities for flood management

The State Emergency Management Plan states that all levels of government, households, business and volunteer organisations have a role to play in emergency management.

The **South Australian Government** and government agencies have primary responsibility for the protection of life, property and the environment in South Australia.

**Local governments (councils)** support state emergency management arrangements and have responsibilities to protect their areas from hazards (under section 7 of the *Local Government Act 1999*), educate their communities about the risks they face and support response and recovery efforts.

**Individuals and communities** need to understand the risks they face and their own role in preparing for, responding to and recovering from emergencies. Being prepared is a personal responsibility. The better prepared individuals are, the better they are able to cope with and recover from an emergency.

The State Emergency Management Plan identifies specific government agencies to manage key hazards. The **Department for Environment and Water (DEW)** is the flood hazard leader. As hazard leader, DEW undertakes a leadership role for the planning of emergency management activities relating to flood, and ensures that all aspects of the State's approach to the flood hazard are coordinated. In addition, DEW provides hydrology and mapping support to the South Australian State Emergency Service during flood incidents.

The State Emergency Management Plan also identifies control agencies, nominated to take charge during an emergency. The **South Australian State Emergency Service (SES)** is the control agency for flood and extreme weather (including storms and extreme heat). The SES is responsible for responding to extreme weather and flooding events in order to minimise the loss of life, injuries and damage.

The **Bureau of Meteorology** works in partnership with Emergency Services to assist in the delivery of services that help to ensure public safety. The Bureau issues Severe Weather Warnings whenever severe weather including gale force winds, very heavy rainfall, abnormally high tides (or storm tides) or large surf waves are occurring or expected to occur.

If a severe weather event is deemed likely to have a significant impact on life or property, the SES may then provide additional advice or warnings. More information on these warnings is provided in section 5.0.

## 2.0 How is Parham vulnerable to flooding?

### 2.1 Storm characteristics in the Parham region

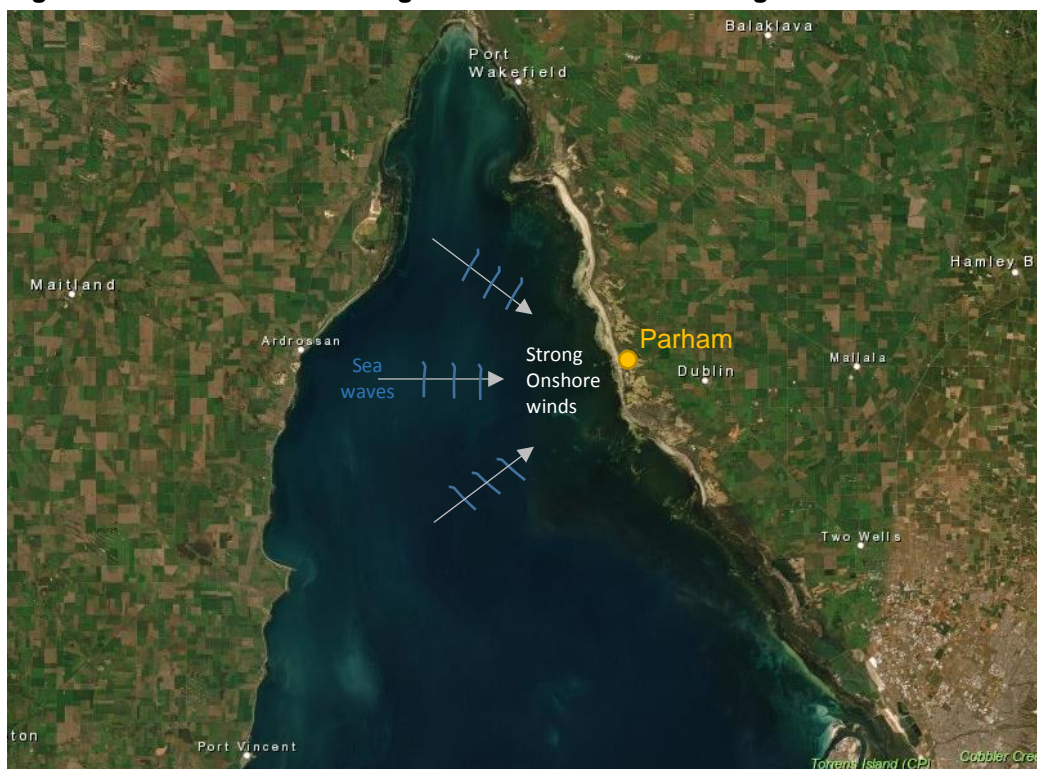
Historic sea-flood events at Parham have been caused by a combination of high tides and storm events, with floodwaters rising and falling with the tides and lasting for between 1 to 3 hours. The characteristics of the sea-flood including its speed of flood flow (velocity), direction of flow, duration, and the potential for warning about an impending flood are summarised in the table below.

**Table 1: Sea Flood characteristics for coastal townships of Adelaide Plains** <sup>3</sup>

Flood characteristic	Mallala region
Velocity of water	Low, due to tidal action and ocean terrain
Direction of flow	From the west
Duration of flood	Short 1-2 hours
Warning	Predictable as flood normally relates to tide.

There are two main ways in which meteorological conditions can combine with a high tide which may impact the Parham coastline. The first way is for a high tide to combine with strong onshore winds that push water up against the coastline and increase the height of waves. However, due to the shallow water and the small distances that the wind can travel over water in the Parham region (30-50kms), this storm scenario is not likely to produce waters high enough to flood Parham, although erosion of the foreshore may occur.

**Figure 2: Storm scenario 1 – high tide combined with strong onshore winds**



Source: South Australian Property and Planning Atlas, Adapted by M. Western, 2021

<sup>3</sup> Western, M. and Kellett, J. (2014) *Coastal Settlements Adaptation Study – Parham Framework Report*, prepared for the District Council of Mallala by the University of South Australia, August 2014.

The second way that meteorological and tidal conditions combine to produce the largest storm surges in Gulf St Vincent occur in association with of a deep depression (low) in the Southern Ocean. With a falling barometer and the onset of northerly winds, the tides are below prediction, but as the wind backs to the north-west an increase in level occurs (waters in the Gulf are backed up against Kangaroo Island). If the strong north-westerly wind switches to the west-south-west at about the time of low water, then a storm surge of maximum amplitude will occur with heights expected from 1m to 1.5m above the predicted tide. The narrowing of the upper Gulf causes the large volume of water to be pushed up against the coast and therefore water levels are higher in a location such as Parham than at Outer Harbor. These high levels will continue until the barometer starts to rise, and the wind moves rapidly to the south east within 12 hours, and with a rapidly rising barometer the tides return to normal at about that time<sup>4</sup>.

In the context of coastal flooding of Parham, the risk is normally related to the peak of the tide height and as the tide falls, the risk reduces.

The time of the year in which these events are most likely to occur is between April and September.

**Figure 2: Storm scenario 2 – high tide combined with a LOW in the Southern Ocean**



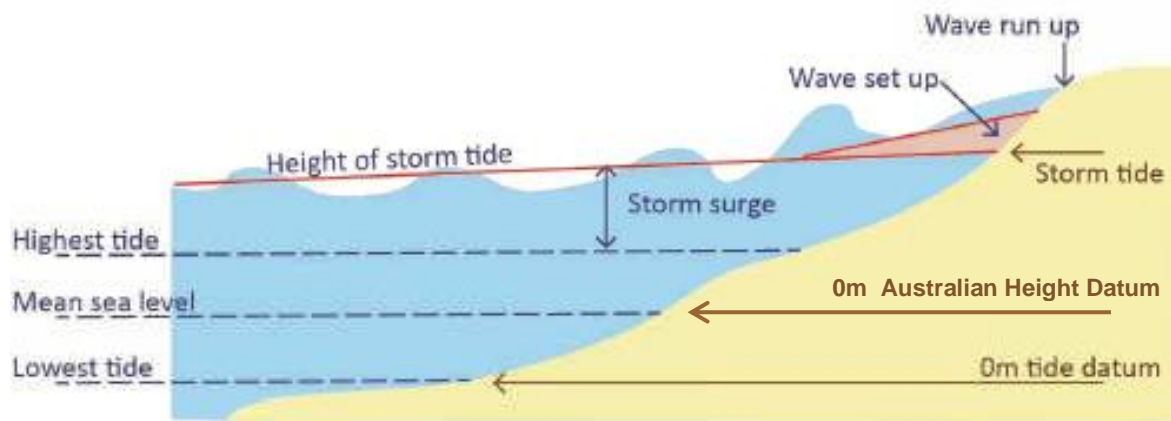
<sup>4</sup> Flinders Ports (ND) Port User Guide – General Information, and Lord 2012, p 22.

Sea storms are usually evaluated within the following contexts as illustrated in the figure below (Figure 3):

- The height of the **storm surge**
- The height of **wave setup**
- The impact of **wave runup**

**Storm surge** is a high tide level caused by strong wind and/or reduced atmospheric pressure (a low-pressure system). **Wave run** is the distance a breaking wave can wash up the beach and **wave setup** is caused by the momentum of the waves as they near the shore causing the ocean to slope up.

**Figure 3: The characteristics of a storm surge as it impacts the land**



### Understanding tide datum and Australian Height Datum (AHD).

The Bureau of Meteorology provides tide predictions for ports and coastal towns around Australia, including Port Adelaide (Outer Harbour) and Ardrossan<sup>5</sup>. In times past, the most important information a mariner required was the depth of water around each port and therefore depths of tides were always measured from the lowest possible tide. These tide charts are known as **chart datum** or **tide datum**.

On the other hand, the height of land is measured in Australian Height Datum (AHD) which is approximately equal to mean sea level, or the mid-point between the highest and lowest tide at any particular tide gauge. If you plan to build a house, a surveyor will measure the height of your land in Australian Height Datum (AHD) and give you a height at which your floor level should be constructed.

There are two tide charts that may be referenced for Parham. The most likely source for tidal information for the local people of Parham is the tide projections for Outer Harbor as these are also the same as the projections found at the online source of Willy Weather. Extreme weather warnings associated with storm tides for South Australia, issued by the Bureau of Meteorology always reference Port Adelaide (Outer Harbour) levels.

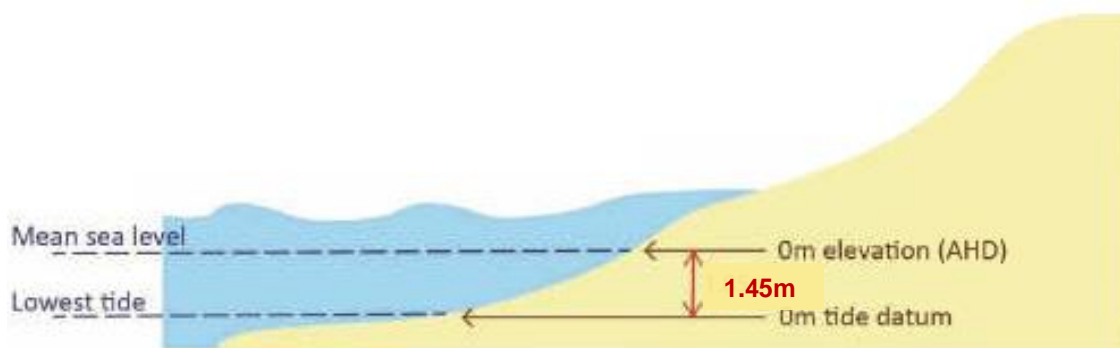
As Parham is located at a similar latitude to Ardrossan, the tide levels are likely to be similar so some people may access the tide predictions for Parham from the Ardrossan tide chart.

<sup>5</sup> <http://www.bom.gov.au/australia/tides/>



In this Community Emergency Management Plan land elevations and projected storm surge heights will be given in Australian Height Datum in accordance with the practice of South Australian Coast Protection Board. See also sea-flood warnings in Section 5, Forecasts and Warnings (p.22) for the range of predictions at Outer Harbor tide gauge that are likely to cause the greatest impact at Parham.

**Figure 4: A comparison of Tide Datum (Outer Harbor) with Australian Height Datum (land-based height measurements).**



### Understanding how sea-flood risk heights are assigned by South Australian Coast Protection Board.

To understand the chance of a major flood, storm or tide event occurring, analysis of long-term records is undertaken to identify the Average Recurrence Interval (ARI). This is the long-term average number of years between events as large as or larger than a given event. The '1 in 100-year event' is designated as having an 'acceptable risk' for planning in most of South Australia.

A storm surge tide as high as, or higher than the 1 in 100 ARI event will occur on average once every 100 years. It is important to note that this does not mean that an event will only occur every 100 years or at any regular frequency. It means that there is 1% chance of this event happening in any given year. Sea water levels associated with the 1 in 100 ARI storm surge events for Parham are assigned by South Australian Protection Board and are shown in Table 2.

**Table 2: Sea-flood risk for 1 in 100-year ARI event (AHD).**

<i>AHD</i>	<i>Parham</i>
<i>Storm surge (1 in 100 ARI)</i>	2.75m
<i>Wave setup</i>	0.10m
<i>Wave run-up</i>	0.00m
<i>Total risk height</i>	2.85m

Note: due to the narrowing of the Gulf St Vincent the 1 in 100-year ARI sea-flood risk is approximately 0.35 to 0.40m higher than the risk level assigned to Outer Harbor.

## 2.2 Routine tides

At Parham, two high tides and two low tides usually occur each day. Typically, the time between each successive high (or low) tide is about 12½ hours.

The Highest Astronomical Tide (HAT) is the highest tide level that can be expected in a particular location in the context of the routine movement of the moon and earth in its orbit around the sun but with minimal meteorological effects (in other words, normal weather conditions with no storm influence). The Highest Astronomical Tide (HAT) is similar to the highest tide height predicted in any one year on the tide charts and is used as a reference level for flood risk.

The highest astronomical tide predicted for Outer Harbor is 2.91m tide datum<sup>6</sup> (1.46m AHD). However, due to the narrowing of Gulf St Vincent the height of the highest astronomical tide is higher at Parham and is estimated at 3.55m tide datum (Ardrossan) or 1.55m AHD<sup>7</sup>.

Sometimes people refer to a 'King Tide'. This is a non-scientific term often used to describe the highest tides that occur each year but also used just to describe a high tide that may also be accompanied by storm conditions.

## 2.3 Sea level rise

Global sea levels have varied greatly over long time periods but have been largely stable over the last 2-3000 years. One of the outcomes from global warming is sea level rise, caused by thermal expansion and melting of ice caps and glaciers. Over the period 1901 to 2000, global mean sea level rose by around 150mm, or an average 1.5mm per year<sup>8</sup>. Tide gauge and satellite measurements since 2000 indicate a global sea level rise of 3.5mm on average per year (plus or minus 0.4mm).

In the Australian context, sea level varies from year to year and from place to place, partly due to the natural variability of the climate system from the effect of climate drivers such as El Niño and La Niña. Based on satellite altimetry observations since 1993, the rates of sea level rise to the north and southeast of Australia have been significantly higher than the global average, whereas rates of sea level rise along the other coasts of the continent have been closer to the global average.

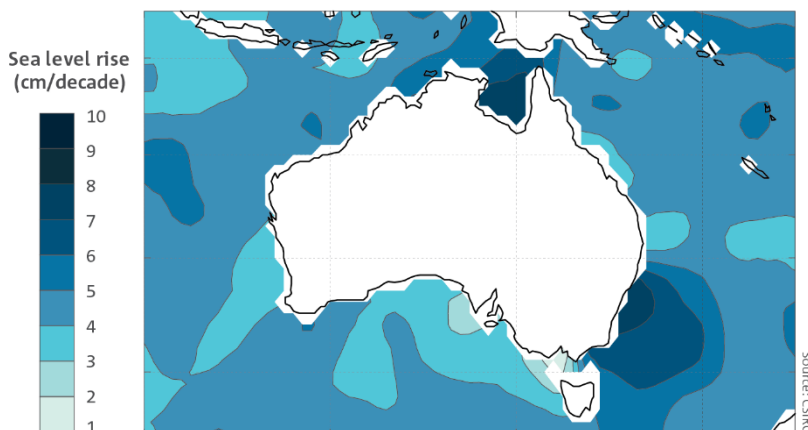


Figure 5: Average rates of sea level rise according to region around Australia. In the South Australian region the rate of rise is approximately 3 to 4 mm per year (or 3 to 4 cm per decade).

<sup>6</sup> Department of Planning Transport and Infrastructure, SA, 2020 Tide Tables for South Australian Ports.

<sup>7</sup> The tide tables for 2020 for South Australian ports assigns a ratio of rises from Outer Harbor to Ardrossan (which is on a similar latitude to Parham) as 1.22 (p. 132).

<sup>8</sup> <https://www.csiro.au/en/research/environmental-impacts/climate-change/State-of-the-Climate/Oceans>

In 1993, South Australian Coast Protection Board policy requires consideration of +0.3m sea level rise by 2050 and +1.0m rise by 2100. These figures have been adopted for the consideration of future flood conditions at Parham.

A summary of the 1 in 100-year ARI sea-flood risk and for Highest Astronomical Tide is provided for Parham for current (2021), 2050 projections, and 2100 projections.

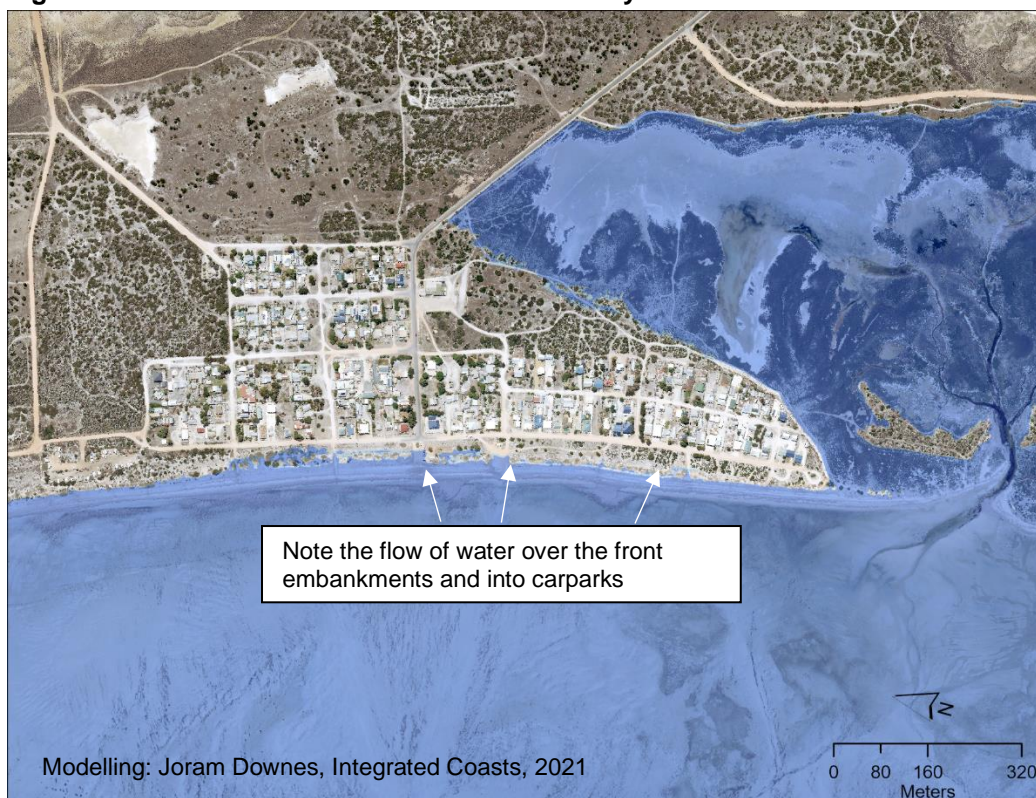
<i>Parham</i>	<i>Current (2021)</i>	<i>2050</i>	<i>2100</i>
<i>Highest Astronomical Tide<sup>9</sup></i>	1.55m	1.85m	2.55m
<i>1 in 100-year ARI storm</i>	2.85m	3.15m	3.85m

## 2.4 9 May 2016 flood event

In the late afternoon of 9 May 2016, a significant storm surge event occurred in St Vincents Gulf. Between 5.20 and 5.40pm the tidal gauge at Outer Harbour registered a height of 3.80m CD (2.35m AHD), eclipsing the old record of 3.76m CD (2.31m AHD) that previously had been the highest level in eighty-five years of records.

A study in the Parham region found that the flood height at Parham on 9th May 2016 was likely to be 2.55m AHD, or 2.65m AHD with wave effects. A comparison with the chart above shows that this event approached the assigned 1 in 100-year ARI risk set by South Australian Coast Protection Board. This flood event is modelled at 2.65m AHD in the map below which shows minor flood flows across the shore and into carparks and access ways.

**Figure 6: Sea-flood model at 2.55m AHD for 9 May 2016.**



<sup>9</sup> Wave setup of 0.10m was added to the Highest Astronomical Tide to model a typical current routine highwater event.

## Impact of sea-flood on 9 May 2016.

The photographs below are congruent with the flood mapping depicted on the previous page.



Sea-water flowed into carparks and pooled against the dunes and vegetation.



In some carparks, water flowed along the coast behind the front embankment / dune.



Seawater flowed south of the levee on the southern end of Parham and flowed to Port Parham Road.



Seawater flowed south of the levee on the southern end of Parham and flowed to Port Parham Road.



Access ways to the beach were generally flooded at greater depth than surrounds (End of Second Ave).

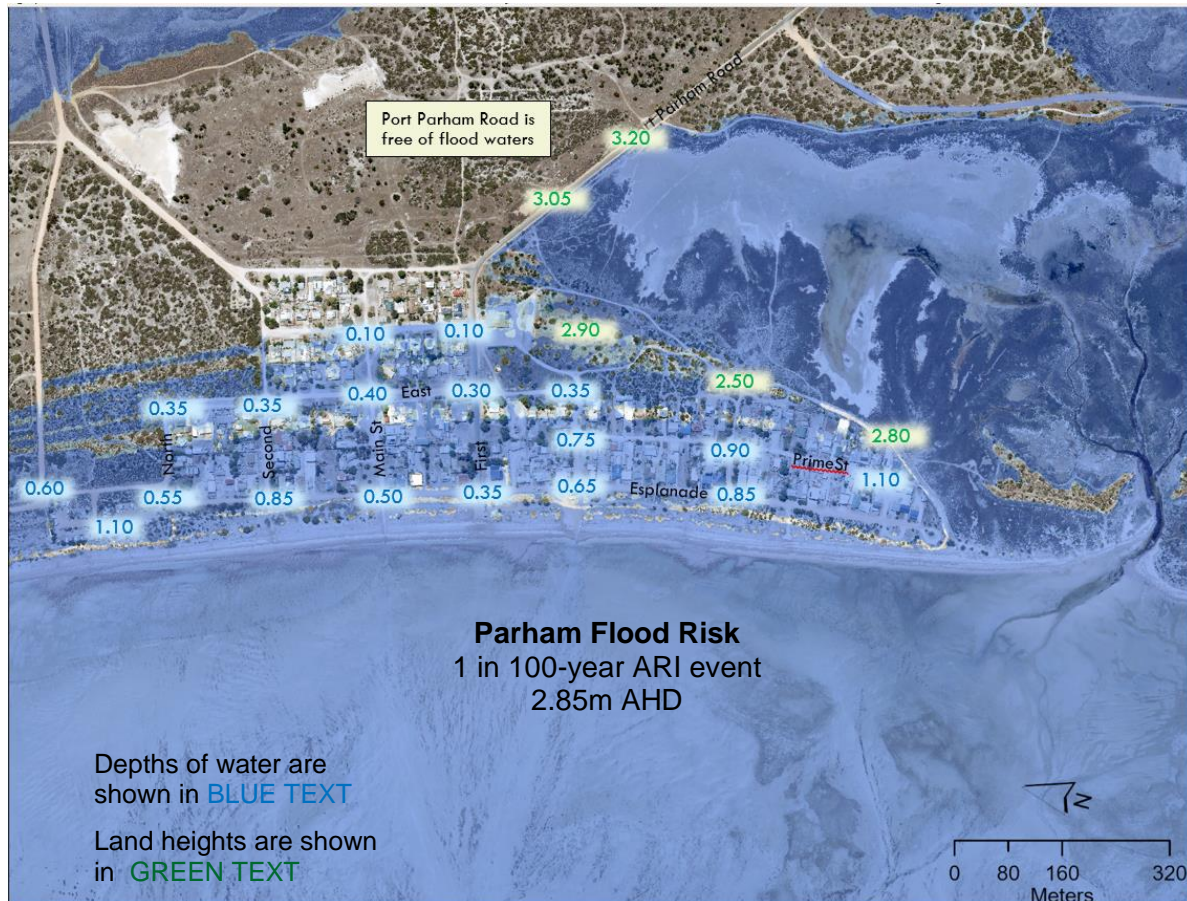
Photographs provided by  
Adelaide Plains Council

## 2.5 Elevation of Parham township

Evaluating the elevation (or height) of the land upon which Parham is situated is a key ingredient to understanding how vulnerable it may be to flooding, both in this current time, but also in the future in the context of rising sea levels.

The following maps demonstrate the flooding risk for the current 1 in 100 ARI event (i.e. the rare storm event).

Depths of water are provided in blue text. Heights of land or road are depicted in green text.



### Key flood risks:

- The camping ground would be flooded to a depth of 1.10m
- The Esplanade Road would be flooded up to a depth of 0.85m.
- The southern area of Parham (Prime Street and the Esplanade) would be flooded up to depths of 1.10m
- East Terrace would be flooded up to 0.40m.

In summary, the greatest flood risk is on the southern end of Parham or nearest to the seafont (along The Esplanade).

First Avenue which is the road directly connected to Port Parham Road (the main access way out of the town) is only flooded to depths of ~0.30m.

Port Parham Road is not affected by this flood and therefore emergency access is viable.

## 3.0 What are the risks associated with flooding?

Flooding at Parham can have consequences for the community, built environment and natural environment. The vulnerability of Parham to flood risks is increased by a number of factors including the low elevation of the settlement, low floor levels of many houses, low elevation of the single access road to the settlement, light-weight construction of many houses, high proportion of dwellings not permanently occupied, high proportion of older residents and rising sea levels.

### Risks to the **Parham community**:

- Injuries or fatalities resulting from people entering floodwaters (either on foot or in a vehicle).
- Injuries or fatalities resulting from people trying to protect their property.
- Injuries or fatalities associated with clean-up or recovery efforts, including risks associated with electrocution, contaminated water or mould.
- Flood-induced stress, during and after a flood event.
- Isolation or inability to get to or leave Parham, particularly for people with vulnerabilities including the aged and people living with physical disabilities or medical conditions.
- Community disruption, if homes are flooded and uninhabitable or services are disrupted including telephones, electricity or water supply.
- Financial impacts associated with property, building or contents damage.

### Risks to the **Parham built environment**:

- Damage to the contents, building structure and condition of houses.
- Damage to household wastewater management systems (on-site septic).
- Inundation and damage to roads and culverts, restricting access and egress and increasing the risk of accidents.
- Damage to the boat ramp.
- Damage to infrastructure including SA Water mains supply and Telstra cables.
- Damage to flood mitigation infrastructure including levees and warning signs.

### Risks to the **Parham natural environment**:

- Damage to dunes, reducing their ability to protect Parham from wind and wave impacts and storm surge.
- Damage to coastal wetlands and vegetation, with adverse impacts on associated cultural, amenity, recreation and biodiversity values including habitat for critically endangered bird species.

## 4.0 What can you do to manage flood risks?

Everyone at Parham will be impacted when a flood occurs. Everyone has a role to play in managing flood risks.

Managing flood risk means thinking about what you would do to:

**Prevent and prepare** before a flood happens

**Respond** when a storm tide or flood warning is issued

**Recover** after flood waters recede

Everyone has different abilities to prevent, prepare for, respond to and recover from emergencies. In an emergency, the pressure and stress of responding can make it difficult to solve problems and make good decisions about what you need to do.

By preparing a Household Emergency Management Plan that identifies your unique capabilities and requirements and decisions about staying or evacuating, your response to a flood can follow a preplanned process that was developed without pressure or stress. This means you will be more likely to look after the things that are most important to you.

The following sections provide general information on what to do to prepare, respond and recover in the event of a flood. A Household Emergency Management Plan template is provided at the end of this document for you to fill out.

### 4.1 Prevent and prepare – what to do before a flood happens

People who understand their risk and have prepared for flood events are more likely to keep themselves, their properties and their pets safe if it does flood. Thinking about what might happen to you if it does flood and developing a Household Emergency Management Plan is the best way for you to prepare.

The Parham Household Emergency Management Plan template provides forms and checklists to help you consider the points described below.

#### **Know your risk**

- Find out about the flood history and flood risks at Parham from this CEMP. Adelaide Plains Council and SES can provide more information if required.
- SES – phone 8115 3800 or email [SES.feedback@sa.gov.au](mailto:SES.feedback@sa.gov.au)
- Adelaide Plains Council – phone 8527 0200 or email [www.apc.sa.gov.au](http://www.apc.sa.gov.au)
- When has it flooded, where exactly, how quickly and for how long?
- Is your home likely to become inundated or isolated?

#### **Think about how you might feel or think if it does flood**

- Consider how you might feel if your property or home gets flooded. People react differently to stressful situations and how you react might be different to other people in your household.
- How do you manage other stressful situations in your life? Do you have any techniques that might help you in the event of a flood?

- Remember that in a flood there are people around to help you. Identify which of your neighbours, friends and family will be most useful to help you.

### **Learn about the flood warning system**

- Learn how the flood warning system by the Bureau of Meteorology and SES works (see section 5.0).

### **Keep an eye and ear on the weather**

- Stay alert to the weather outdoors.
- Check tide predictions for the coming weeks and months. The Bureau of Meteorology provides predictions for Outer Harbor and these are also provided by Willy Weather. Predictions are also provided for Ardrossan which approximate Parham tides.
- Be aware on days of predicted 'higher' tides, particularly between April and September.
- Listen to local radio and check the Bureau of Meteorology website or the BOM weather app for warnings.
- Check seawater levels and if they are rising higher before the predicted high tide time, this could indicate the development of a storm surge tide.

### **Check your house and property are 'flood ready'**

- Do you know the elevation of your house's floor level?
- How will you protect your house and contents in the event of flood?
- How will you prevent water entering your house?
- Will you need sandbags and sand?
- Could you install flood shields or gates to prevent flood water entering doors, windows or front and backyards?
- Will you need to sand bag toilets or tank covers to prevent flood water entering your septic system?
- Do you need to move valuables, furniture, floor coverings or other contents?
- Is there anything in your shed you need to move?
- Is the building structurally sound?
- Could electrical systems (power points or switch boards), septic systems or bottled gas be inundated by flood waters?
- Do you keep any hazardous substances including fuel, garden chemicals or poisons in your house or shed? Are hazardous substances stored out of the way of possible flood waters?
- If your property is left vacant for long periods, ensure it is 'flood ready' each time you leave

### **Keep your important records safe**

- Keep important records such as passports, marriage and birth certificates, wills, financial records, photos and computer back-ups together in a safe place ready to pack into a waterproof bag in case you need to leave your house.

### **Check your insurance**

- Does it cover your property and contents for flood damage specifically from storm surge (coastal) floods?
- Have you got enough insurance to repair or rebuild your home if it is damaged?

### **Keep a store of food and drinking water**

- Keep a store of drinking water and non-perishable food items to sustain your household (including pets) for up to 72 hours in the event you become isolated if the causeway becomes unpassable.



### **Consider getting a mobile phone**

- Phone lines may go down in a flood. Consider having a mobile phone, keep it charged and have ways to keep it charged if there is loss of power or if you need to leave your home (eg car charger, mobile charging devices).

### **Plan for what you will do before and during a flood – prepare a flood action plan**

- How will you protect your house in the event of flood?
  - How will you prevent water entering your house?
  - Will you need to turn off water, electricity, solar or gas?
  - What will you do if it floods at night?
  - Will you need sandbags and sand?
- Are you going to stay at home and wait for the flood waters to recede or will you go somewhere else?
  - If you do stay, is there a higher place where your family and pets could stay dry?
  - If the electricity is cut, how long will you be able to stay without lights, hot water or cooking?
  - If you are going to leave - when will you evacuate and where will you go?
  - How you will care for or evacuate your pets if needed?
- What will you do if you are not home?
  - Where will you go if you cannot get back to Parham?
  - Is there someone who can help protect your house if you are away?

### **Keep a list of emergency numbers**

- Keep local emergency numbers handy (near your phone, in your mobile and on your fridge).

### **Create an emergency kit**

- Including a first aid kit, torch, battery operated portable radio, spare batteries, emergency numbers etc. Keep it in a handy place known by all household members. See the checklist in the Household Emergency Management Plan for what to include.

### **Plan for what you would take if you need to evacuate**

- Identify important items you will take (along with your emergency kit) when you evacuate, for example important documents, medicines, photos, money, credit cards, mobile phone, dry clothes and blankets, non-perishable food for people and pets, jewellery or other valuables that would cause distress if they were lost.

### **Share and practice your plan**

- Share your plan with all those in your household (as well as carers and your neighbours). Make sure everyone understands the plan and what you will do if a flood warning is issued.

## 4.2 Respond – what to do when a warning is issued

Once a storm tide or flood warning is issued, flooding is likely and it is time to implement your flood action plan. Emergency assistance may not be immediately available so it is important you are prepared to look after yourself.

The Parham Household Emergency Management Plan template provides forms and checklists to help you consider the points described below.

### Know who to call

- In a life threatening emergency, call 000 (triple zero).
- For emergency help in floods and storms, call the SES on 132 500.
- For current information on floods and storms, call the SES on 1800 362 361.
- Keep local emergency numbers handy (near your phone, in your mobile and on your fridge).

### Secure your property and valuables

- Secure your property to prevent water entering your house.
- Turn off water, electricity, solar or gas.
- Sand bag toilets, drains and tank covers to prevent flood water entering your septic system.
- Move valuables, furniture, floor coverings or other contents to high places like tables, benches or beds.
- Electrical appliances and equipment should be unplugged and, where possible, moved to a high place.
- Think about what is in your fridge or freezer and what you will do with it.
  - As a general rule, food will remain safe in your refrigerator for 2 hours without power. If the power is out for between 2 and 4 hours, the food will be safe to eat however do not put it back in the fridge. If it has been more than 4 hours, throw the food out.
  - Food in the freezer will last longer. A full freezer can retain its temperature for up to 2 days. A half full freezer can retain its temperature for about 1 day.
- Lighter household items could be stored in ceiling space.
- Move hazardous substances including fuel, garden chemicals or poisons in your house or shed to higher places.
- Pack important records such as passports, marriage and birth certificates, wills, financial records, photos and computer back-ups together in a safe place ready to pack into a waterproof bag in case you need to leave your house.

### Decide to stay or go

- Follow your flood plan which should identify if you will stay at home and wait for the flood waters to recede or go somewhere else.
- Find out if flood waters are predicted to peak at night time and review your decision to stay or go.
- If you are staying, go to a high place where you and your pets can stay dry.
- If you are leaving, follow your evacuation plan, take your emergency kit and other important items and go to your identified evacuation location.

### Take care moving around

- Avoid driving and walking through flood waters. People and vehicles can be swept away in fast moving floodwater. It's often deeper and faster than it looks. Submerged hazards such as debris or washed out sections of the road may not be visible. Flood water may be contaminated by sewage, toxic chemicals or other hazardous substances. Sea water is corrosive to some metals and materials and your car may be damaged.

- The unsealed roads at Parham are particularly vulnerable to damage when wet so avoid driving on them when they are inundated.
- If you have to walk through flood water, wear solid shoes and take a stick to check depth and surface stability.
- Stay away from fallen power lines.

#### **Check on your neighbours**

- Inform them as soon as you can of the flood advice or warning.
- Inform them of your decision to stay or evacuate.
- Offer them assistance if you are able to do so, once your property is secure.

#### **Stay tuned to local media**

- Check local media including the radio, websites and apps for information, updates and advice.

#### **Follow the advice of emergency services**

- Always follow the advice of emergency services.
- If roads are closed, do not attempt to use them. They may be damaged or dangerous.

### **4.3 Recover – what to do after a flood**

If you stayed during the flood, or if you are returning home after leaving, there may be damage to your home, essential services may not be working and there may be damage to local roads. If your house gets flooded it is important to start cleaning up and drying out as soon as possible to avoid the growth of potentially harmful mould.

The Parham Household Emergency Management Plan template provides forms and checklists to help you consider the points described below.

#### **Take precautions**

- If roads have been closed or access restricted, wait for the roads to be reopened before going back to Parham. Check [traffic.sa.gov.au](http://traffic.sa.gov.au) for the status of road closures.
- Assume all flood water is contaminated and prevent contact with skin and eyes.
- Do not drink mains tap water until it has been declared safe by SA Water. Boil water or drink bottled water.
- Check electricity and services.
- Look out for vermin including snakes, spiders and rats.
- Mosquito populations can increase after flood events. Make sure there are no small pools of water, including in old tyres, pot plant saucers and puddles. Cover up and use insect repellent on exposed skin.

#### **Returning home**

- Continue to listen to the radio, check local media for information and updates and follow the advice of emergency services. Access may be restricted to some or all of Parham if flood damage has made roads or areas unsafe.
- Don't be embarrassed to ask for help. There will be people in emergency services, the council, friends, family and neighbours who will be happy to help you.

#### **Check electricity and services**

- Make sure gas and electricity is turned off before you enter the house.
- Don't use gas or electrical appliances until they have been checked for safety. Residue water and moisture can remain in electrical systems after floods.

- Phone lines may not function effectively if water has entered underground connection boxes. Contact Telstra by mobile if your phones are not working.

### **Inspect your home and property**

- Use a torch to inspect inside and outside your house and any sheds or outbuildings. Do not use matches, cigarette lighters or naked flames due to the potential of flammable gas.
- Check for damage to windows, walls, floors and the roof.
- Look out for vermin. Snakes, rats and spiders in flood waters often end up in houses.
- If your home or property has suffered damage, call your insurance company as soon as possible to request an assessment and advice.
- Take photos or videos and make a list of all damaged items to assist with insurance claims.
- Check your septic system. Flooded septic systems may not operate effectively and may need to be pumped out before use. Call the Environmental Health section at Adelaide Plains Council for more information.

### **Check on your neighbours**

- Check in with your neighbours to make sure they're safe.
- If you are able, ask them if they need help cleaning up or getting help from others.

### **Cleaning up inside your home**

- Take everything that is wet and transportable outside to avoid trapping moisture in the house and increasing the risk of mould.
- In dry weather, leave doors and windows open to dry out your home. Moisture may be trapped between walls and in porous materials such as timber and plasterboard.
- Turn on heaters (one per room) and leave on with the window open to assist drying.
- Wear rubber gloves and goggles during all clean up to protect your skin and eyes and protective shoes and clothing.
- Clean every part of your home that has been inundated by flood water with a commercial grade cleaner, then use disinfectant on all surfaces.
- Throw away food or medications that might be contaminated with flood water or that has been in a fridge without electricity for more than 2 hours.
- If mattresses or upholstered furniture have been soaked with flood water, they should be disposed of.
- Where possible, remove the backs of furniture to allow air to circulate.
- Remove any carpet or floor coverings that have been soaked. Ensure floors are left to dry completely before laying any new floor covers.
- Wash all clothes and materials that get wet or muddy with hot water and, where possible, bleach, disinfectant or sanitiser.

### **Cleaning up outside your home**

- Remove any rubbish, decaying vegetation, driftwood and stacked damaged or loose materials away from your house, water meters, telephone and power lines.
- Make sure there are no pools or puddles of water for mosquitos to breed.
- Wash off mud or dirt from walls, verandas and decks.
- Ensure vents are clear of mud and debris.
- Make sure buildings are completely dry before starting repair work or painting. This may take several months.
- Oil locks and hinges to prevent rust developing.
- Make sure door and window frames are completely dry before replaning or adjusting. This may take several weeks.

## 5.0 Forecasts and warnings

Warnings are issued when there is a need to provide the community with information on heightened risk situations to enable them to make informed decisions about their own preparedness and safety.

Being prepared for flooding means understanding what the Bureau of Meteorology and SES's forecasts, advice and warnings mean. The Bureau will issue storm tide **advice** when predictions are above 3.50m (tide datum) at Outer Harbor or a **warning** when predictions are above 3.75m (tide datum).

The warnings issued by the Bureau of Meteorology and SES follow the National Emergency Warning Framework. The three-stage warning system aligns with an increasing level of threat, however it is important to note that warnings may not be issued sequentially if flood conditions change rapidly.

### 5.1 Bureau of Meteorology advice and warnings

<p><b>Forecasts</b></p>	<p>Daily tide and weather forecasts are issued by the Bureau of Meteorology. The Bureau of Meteorology does not specifically predict tides for Parham.</p> <p>Tide predictions for Ardrossan and Port Adelaide (Outer Harbour) are released more than one year in advance and can be found on the Bureau's website <a href="http://www.bom.gov.au/australia/tides/">www.bom.gov.au/australia/tides/</a></p> <p>When accessing Willy Weather for Parham, these tide heights are for Outer Harbor.</p>
<p><b>Storm Tide Advice</b></p>	<p><b>Storm tide advice</b> may be issued by the Bureau of Meteorology if sea levels are predicted to rise more than 1m above Highest Astronomical Tide at Port Adelaide (Outer Harbour). Storm tide advice will generally be issued 6-8 hours before high tide when it is predicted that tide heights will exceed 3.50m (Tide Datum) at Outer Harbor.</p> <p>Storm Tide Advice will include the following information:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The time the warning is issued</li> <li>• The area for which the warning is issued, for example, the coastal areas of Gulf St Vincent</li> <li>• The expected high tide time and sea levels forecast for Port Adelaide (Outer Harbour)</li> <li>• The time the next update will be issued</li> </ul> <p>Storm tide advice will not specifically mention Parham, however, any warnings issued for coastal areas of Gulf St Vincent are likely to be relevant to Parham.</p> <p>The peak tide time and height for Parham will differ from those forecast for Outer Harbour. The high tides for Parham will generally occur slightly before the Outer Harbour high tide and the low tide for Parham will occur slightly after.</p> <p>Updates will generally be issued every 6 hours, however, more frequent updates may be provided if conditions change more rapidly than anticipated.</p>

<b>Severe Weather Warning</b>	<p><b>Severe Weather Warnings</b> are issued by the Bureau of Meteorology if potentially hazardous or dangerous weather such as gale force winds, very heavy rainfall, abnormally high tides (or storm tides) or large surf waves are occurring or expected to occur.</p> <p>A storm tide warning will be given when it is predicted that tide heights will exceed 3.75m (Tide Datum) at Outer Harbor.</p> <p>A Severe Weather Warning will include the following information:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The time the warning is issued</li> <li>• The area for which the warning is issued, for example coastal areas of Gulf St Vincent</li> <li>• The nature of the severe weather expected (wind speed, heavy rain, high tides)</li> <li>• A description of the threat (for example likely damage to homes or infrastructure)</li> <li>• Action statements (for example seek shelter, stay indoors, secure items that could blow around)</li> <li>• The time the next update will be issued</li> </ul> <p>Severe weather warnings will not specifically mention Parham, however, any warnings issued for coastal areas of Gulf St Vincent are likely to be relevant to Parham.</p> <p>A severe weather warning will usually be updated every 6 hours, however, more frequent updates may be provided if conditions change more rapidly than anticipated.</p>
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At time of writing of this document, the warnings issued by Bureau of Meteorology for Outer Harbor that may indicate increased risk of flooding at Parham include:

- **Storm Tide Advice - Predictions of 3.50m (Tide Datum) at Outer Harbor.**
- **Storm Tide Warning – predictions of 3.75m (Tide Datum) at Outer Harbor.**

## 5.2 SES advice and warnings

If an extreme weather event is likely to lead to flooding that may have a significant impact on life or property, including cutting evacuation routes or inundating property, the SES may issue a flood advice or warning.

Advice or warnings issued for areas described as the Mallala coastal communities, Adelaide Plains coastal communities or Gulf St Vincent coastal communities will be relevant to Parham. It is unlikely that public warnings will specifically mention Parham.

<b>Flood Advice</b>	Flood advice may be issued to keep you informed about developing flood risks. There is no immediate danger to the community, however, you should continue to follow the Bureau of Meteorology and SES warnings.
<b>Flood Watch and Act</b>	A watch and act message means you need to take action now to protect you, your family, neighbours and property.
<b>Flood Emergency Warning</b>	A flood emergency warning means you are in danger and need to take immediate action. This warning is calibrated to the highest level of risk to life and aligned with the principle message that the safest option is to not be near flood waters.
<b>Flood Advice Reduced Threat</b>	Once the threat has passed or reduced, a reduced threat flood advice message may be issued to down-grade or close off the warnings cycle.

Each of these warnings will include the following information:

- The area for which the warning is issued, for example, Adelaide Plains coastal communities.
- The nature of the flood risk, for example, damaging waves and coastal flooding
- Action statements, for example, what you should do to prepare your family and home from flooding
- Likely impacts in your area
- Ways to stay informed and monitor local conditions, for example, through the radio, websites and phone numbers

# 6.0 Household Emergency Management Plan Template



# HOUSEHOLD EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT PLAN

NAME

ADDRESS

## Emergency Phone Numbers

For life threatening emergency  
**Triple zero (000)**

Emergency TTY for speech or hearing impaired  
**106**

For SES emergency assistance (flood or storm)  
**132 500**

For police assistance (non-urgent)  
**131 444**

## Emergency Warnings

Bureau of Meteorology – Storm tide advice and severe weather warnings

**1300 659 215**

<http://www.bom.gov.au/sa/warnings/>

SES Warnings

**1800 362 361**

<http://www.ses.sa.gov.au>

Emergency broadcast  
ABC Radio Adelaide (891 AM)

Cruise 1323 (1323 AM)

FIVEaa (1395 AM)

Nova 919 (91.9FM)

Mix 102.3 (102.3 FM)

TripleM (104.7 FM)

hit107 (107.1 FM)

# PREPARING YOUR HOUSEHOLD EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT PLAN

Follow the steps below to help you get prepared for a flood at Parham:

## **1. Your property**

Review your property and location map.

## **2. Assess your knowledge and capacity**

Assess your knowledge of flooding and your capacity to cope with and recover from a flood.

## **3. Write down important contacts and details**

Write down the important contacts and details you might need if there is a flood.

## **4. Get your home 'flood ready'**

Go through the flood preparation checklist.

## **5. Emergency kit**

Prepare an emergency kit following the checklist.

## **If flood advice or a warning is issued...**

### **6. Flood action checklist**

Follow your flood emergency management plan that identifies what you will do if there is a flood.

### **7. Recovery checklist**

Follow the checklist to make sure you stay safe after the flood and as you clean up.


# 1 - YOUR PROPERTY

Contact Adelaide Plains Council to get a map of your property.

## 2 – ASSESS YOUR KNOWLEDGE AND CAPACITY

Complete the checklists over the next two pages to assess your knowledge of flood risk and capacity to respond and recover.

### Your flood risk knowledge

	This checklist can help you understand how much you know about floods and how vulnerable you might be to flooding.
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	Do you know what causes flooding at Parham?
	Do you know the elevation of the land around your house?
	Do you know what the approximate floor level of your house is?
	Is your home likely to be isolated or inundated?
	Do you understand the levels of warnings that may be issued for flooding at Parham?
	Do you know where to get information about an emergency?

If you don't know the answer to these questions, the Parham Community Emergency Management Plan provides most of the information you need.


Further information can be obtained from:

**SES** - phone 8115 3800 or email [SES.feedback@sa.gov.au](mailto:SES.feedback@sa.gov.au)

**Adelaide Plains Council** - phone 8527 0200 or [www.apc.sa.gov.au](http://www.apc.sa.gov.au)


## About you

Recognising your own abilities and limitations to cope with an emergency situation is really important so you can identify when you might need help, and plan for how you might get this help.

	This checklist can help you think about your ability to cope with and recover from a flood.
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	Are you able to cope with stressful situations? How do you manage other stressful situations in your life?
	Have you thought about how you might you feel if your home or property is flooded?
	Are you in good health? Do you have any physical or mental health conditions that might impact how you respond to a flood?
	Do you require any assistance to manage your daily routine?
	Are you reliant on any medical equipment or medicines?
	Do you have someone you can get support from at any time?
	Do you know the names of your neighbours?
	Do you have a mobile phone?
	Do you have any pets?

## Your insurance

	This checklist can help you think about your insurance.
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	Does your home insurance cover your property and contents for flood damage specifically from storm surge (coastal) flooding?
	Is your insurance adequate to repair or rebuild your home if it is damaged?

It is important that you understand the types of flooding and water-related events that may occur to your home and property at Parham. Not all insurance companies cover actions of the sea (coastal flooding). Insurers do not cover future impacts of sea level rise.

If you are not sure, call your insurance company and ask them directly if you are covered for actions of the sea.

More information about the different types of insurance can be found on the Insurance Council of Australia's website <http://understandinsurance.com.au>.

## 3 – IMPORTANT CONTACTS AND PERSONAL DETAILS

Noting all your important contacts and details in one place will make it easier during and after a flood.

### Household Details

Name	Medicare number	Centrelink Number	Passport number	Tax File Number	Drivers License Number

### Important contacts

	Name	Contact Details
Doctor		
Hospital		
Dentist		
Other Health Specialist		
Vet		
Neighbour		
Neighbour		
Neighbour		

### Utilities and Services

<b>Electricity – SA Power – network faults and emergencies, including loss of supply</b>	13 13 66
<b>Water – SA Water – burst water mains</b>	1300 650 950
<b>Telstra – report a fault</b>	13 22 00
<b>Adelaide Plains Council</b>	8527 0200

### Your utilities and services account numbers

	<b>Account name</b>	<b>Account number</b>	<b>Other details</b>
<b>Electricity</b>			
<b>Water</b>			
<b>Phone</b>			
<b>Internet</b>			
<b>Other</b>			

### Insurance details

	<b>Insurer</b>	<b>Policy number</b>	<b>Contact details</b>
<b>Building/Home</b>			
<b>Contents</b>			
<b>Health</b>			
<b>Car</b>			
<b>Life</b>			
<b>Income Protection</b>			
<b>Business</b>			
<b>Other</b>			



## 4 – GET YOUR HOME FLOOD READY

This checklist will make sure you and your home are as prepared as possible.

What is the approximate level of your house's floor level?	
How will you prevent water from entering your home if it is going to flood?	
What would you do if it floods at night?	
Could you install flood shields or gates to prevent flood water entering doors, windows and front and back yards?	
Might you need sandbags and sand? Are you able to fill and move these yourself?	
Are important records such as passports, marriage and birth certificates, wills, financial records, photos and computer back-ups stored together in a safe high place ready to pack if you need to leave?	
Do you have any valuables, furniture, floor coverings or other contents which may need to be moved if it floods? Where will you put these?	
Do you have any electrical systems close to the floor of your house? For example power points less than 0.5m above flood level? Could you get these moved higher if there is a risk they could get flooded?	
Do you have bottled gas?	

Is your home structurally sound?	
Have you got drinking water and non-perishable food items to sustain your household (including pets) for up to 72 hours in the event you become isolated if the causeway becomes unpassable?	
Do you keep any hazardous substances including fuel, garden chemicals or poisons in your house or shed? Are hazardous substances stored out of the way of possible flood waters?	
Is there anything in your shed you need to move?	

**Decide if you will stay at your home during a flood or go somewhere else**

**I am planning on staying at home**

**I am planning on going somewhere else**

**If you are going to stay:**

Where is the highest part of the building to shelter?	
Do you have water storage containers to fill in case the mains water is affected?	

## If you are going somewhere else:

Where are you going to go?	
When are you going to go?	
How will you get there? Do you need someone to drive you?	
Who do you need to tell you are going?	
What will you need to take? Refer to the emergency kit checklist on the next page.	

# 6 – EMERGENCY KIT CHECKLIST

Use this checklist to tick off the items as you put your emergency kit together

network will not work during a power blackout. Make sure you have a battery powered radio and your mobile phone is fully charged.

Having an emergency kit ready to go can help you save precious time if you have to leave in a hurry.

Keep it on the fridge once completed and use it to remind yourself to check/restock your kit.

### My emergency kit has

<input type="checkbox"/>	battery powered radio with
<input type="checkbox"/>	spare batteries
<input type="checkbox"/>	torch with spare batteries
<input type="checkbox"/>	first aid kit
<input type="checkbox"/>	candles and waterproof matches
<input type="checkbox"/>	important papers including
<input type="checkbox"/>	emergency contact numbers

### We will add these items when we are ready to leave

<input type="checkbox"/>	mobile phone and charger
<input type="checkbox"/>	prescriptions and medications
<input type="checkbox"/>	toiletries
<input type="checkbox"/>	clothing and strong shoes
<input type="checkbox"/>	non-perishable food and
<input type="checkbox"/>	drinking water
<input type="checkbox"/>	anything special you need for other family members

### Other items to pack

<input type="checkbox"/>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	

If you have pets don't forget leashes, food and bowls too.

### Useful tips

- keep your emergency kit in a waterproof storage container
- check and restock items regularly (eg. use-by dates on batteries)
- keep a list of emergency numbers near your phone or on your fridge.

## 6 – FLOOD ACTION CHECKLIST

### When flood advice or a warning is issued:

	Check on your neighbours to make sure they are aware of the warnings.
	Secure your property to prevent water entering your house.
	Switch off electricity, solar, water and gas, taking note of the time the electricity is switched off so you can keep food safe.
	Sand bag toilets, drains and tank covers to prevent flood water entering your septic system.
	Get your emergency kit ready and add the extra items you have identified you will take.
	Move valuables, furniture, floor coverings or other contents to high places like tables, benches or beds.
	Unplug electrical appliances and equipment and, where possible, move to a high place.
	Fill your water storages before flood waters rise.
	Keep your fridge and freezer closed as long as possible.

### If you are you going to stay at home and wait for the flood waters to recede:

	Go to the highest place you can.
	Stay tuned to local media for information and updates.
	If it is safe and you are able to, check if your neighbours need assistance.

### If you are you going to leave and go somewhere else:

	Pack your emergency kit and other important items.
	Leave.

### Avoid driving or walking through flood waters.

People and vehicles can be swept away in fast moving floodwater. It's often deeper and faster than it looks. Submerged hazards such as debris or washed out sections of the road may not be visible. Flood water may be contaminated by sewage, toxic chemicals or other hazardous substances.

## 7 – RECOVERY CHECKLIST

### Take precautions

	If roads have been closed or access restricted, wait for the roads to be reopened before going back to Parham.
	Assume all flood water is contaminated and prevent contact with skin and eyes.
	Do not drink mains tap water until it has been declared safe. Boil water or drink bottled water.
	Check electricity and services.
	Look out for vermin including snakes, spiders and rats.
	Mosquito populations can increase after flood events. Make sure there are no small pools of water, including in old tyres, pot plant saucers and puddles. Cover up and use repellent on exposed skin.

### Returning home

	Continue to listen to the radio, check local media for information and updates and follow the advice of emergency services. Access may be restricted to some or all of Parham. if flood damage has made roads or areas unsafe.
	Don't be embarrassed to ask for help. There will be people in emergency services, the Council, friends, family and neighbours who will be happy to help you.

### Check electricity and services

	Make sure gas and electricity is turned off before you enter the house.
	Don't use gas or electrical appliances until they have been checked for safety. Residual water and moisture can remain in electrical systems after floods.
	Phone lines may not function effectively if water has entered underground connection boxes. Contact Telstra by mobile if your phones are not working.

## Inspect your home and property

	Use a torch to inspect inside and outside your house and any sheds or outbuildings. Do not use matches, cigarette lighters or naked flames due to the potential of flammable gas.
	Check for damage to windows, walls, floors and the roof.
	Look out for vermin. Snakes, rats and spiders in flood waters often end up in houses.
	If your home or property has suffered damage, call your insurance company as soon as possible to request an assessment and advice.
	Take photos or videos and make a list of all damaged items to assist with insurance claims.
	Check your septic system. Flooded septic systems may not operate effectively and may need to be pumped out before use. Call the Environmental Health officer at Adelaide Plains Council for more information.

## Check on your neighbours

	Check in with your neighbours to make sure they're safe.
	If you are able, ask them if they need help cleaning up or getting help from others.

## Cleaning up inside your home

	Take everything that is wet and transportable outside to avoid trapping moisture in the house and increasing the risk of mould.
	In dry weather, leave doors and windows open to dry out your home. Moisture may be trapped between walls and in porous materials such as timber and plasterboard.
	Turn on heaters (one per room) and leave on with the window open to assist drying. Wear rubber gloves and goggles during all clean up to protect your skin and eyes and protective shoes and clothing.
	Clean every part of your home that has been inundated by flood water with a commercial grade cleaner, then use disinfectant on all surfaces.
	Throw away food or medications that might be contaminated with flood water or that has been in a fridge without electricity for more than 2 hours.

	If mattresses or upholstered furniture have been soaked with flood water, they should be disposed of.
	Where possible, remove the backs of furniture to allow air to circulate.
	Remove any carpet or floor coverings that have been soaked. Ensure floors are left to dry completely before laying any new floor covers.
	Wash all clothes and materials that get wet or muddy with hot water and, where possible, use bleach, disinfectant or sanitiser.

## Cleaning up outside your home

	Remove any rubbish, decaying vegetation, driftwood and stacked, damaged or loose materials away from your house, water meters, telephone and power lines.
	Make sure there are no pools or puddles of water for mosquitos to breed.
	Wash off mud or dirt from walls, verandas and decks.
	Ensure vents are clear of mud and debris.
	Make sure buildings are completely dry before starting repair work or painting. This may take several months.
	Oil locks and hinges to prevent rust developing.
	Make sure door and window frames are completely dry before replaning or adjusting. This may take several weeks.