

Maribyrnong Community Flood Plan: Frequently Asked Questions

July 2026

1. What is the Maribyrnong Community Flood Plan?

The Maribyrnong Community Flood Plan is a community emergency management plan that helps residents, businesses, community organisations and government agencies better prepare for, respond to and recover from flood events. It outlines local risks, community strengths, important information and actions that can improve community resilience. It also contains a series of recommendations for agencies based on local knowledge and lived experience.

2. What is the purpose of the plan?

The plan aims to increase community preparedness, strengthen local connections, improve awareness of flood risks, and support coordinated action before, during and after flooding. It complements, but does not replace, the operational plans and responsibilities of emergency services and government agencies. It also creates an avenue for community to shape emergency management planning.

4. Who owns the plan?

The plan is owned by the Maribyrnong community. While Council and partner agencies support its implementation and maintenance, the plan reflects a shared commitment to improving flood resilience across the municipality and relies on ongoing community involvement. It was developed by the Maribyrnong Neighbourhood Flood Network, a local community group, with wider community engagement.

5. Who is responsible for implementing the plan?

Implementation is a shared responsibility. Community members, local organisations, businesses, Council and emergency management agencies all have a role to play in supporting the actions and objectives identified in the plan.

6. How does the plan influence emergency management planning?

The plan will be presented to the agencies responsible for emergency management planning at the next Municipal Emergency Management Planning Committee (MEMPC) meeting. The MEMPC is the group responsible for local level emergency management planning. The Community Flood Plan will enable the MEMPC to reflect community needs, strengths and local knowledge within their plans and sub-plans.

7. Does the plan replace emergency service plans or flood warnings?

No. The plan does not replace emergency service plans, operational procedures or official warnings – it compliments them. During an emergency, residents should continue to follow advice issued by emergency services.

8. How often will the plan be reviewed?

The plan will be reviewed every three years – in line with the Municipal Emergency Management Plan review schedule. This will ensure it remains relevant and reflects changes in community needs, flood risks and lessons identified from real events or exercises. The is a living document and may be amended outside of this schedule.

9. Why doesn't the plan capture AusAlert?

The plan has been developed based on the information and processes available at the time of issue (July 2026). It will be amended to reflect changes to the warning systems as this evolves.

10. Can a colour-coded map be issued?

Council is working closely with the Bureau of Meteorology and Victoria State Emergency Service (VICSES) to generate a local resource, including a colour-coded map containing depth information. This will be added to the plan as an appendix once finalised.

11. What is the role of the Maribyrnong Neighbourhood Flood Network?

The Maribyrnong Neighbourhood Flood Network is a community volunteer network that helps strengthen flood preparedness by sharing and amplifying information from emergency services and other trusted sources. Network members support their local neighbourhoods or communities of interest by helping people understand flood risks, and available information, particularly where accessibility barriers may exist. The Network plays an important community connection role before, during and after emergencies, while not replacing official warning systems or emergency service legislated responsibilities.

12. How do I get in touch with the Maribyrnong Neighbourhood Flood Network?

Each neighbourhood is different. Some neighbourhoods have established WhatsApp group chats, while others use different channels. This will depend on the network member and their neighbourhood. As a community group, it is important to note that they do not have a formal responsibility for sharing warnings or information, instead they increase the reach of the information already available.

For more information, contact council at emergencymanagement@maribyrnong.vic.gov.au or speak with your local Maribyrnong Neighbourhood Flood Network.