

12th April 2011

Flood Risk Management Study for Berry and surrounds.

Shoalhaven City Council and Cardno are currently undertaking the floodplain risk management study for Berry and the surrounding area. The purpose of the study is to identify options and measures to mitigate flood risk where possible. This follows from the previous flood study undertaken by Council (completed in 2009) which identified the existing flood risk within the study area.

The data collection phase of the flood risk management study is nearly complete. Data has been collated from the resident survey that was distributed in November 2010, and additional survey and historical flooding data has also been compiled for the purposes of the study.

The recent storm experienced over 20-21 March 2011 resulted in what has been estimated as being slightly smaller than a 1 in 5 year flood event in Berry. There is a 20% chance of this type of flood event occurring in any given year. Residents may wish to share with Council any photos, videos or other information they recorded during the flood.

In particular, Council would be interested in obtaining information on flood extents, water depths and flood duration. This information will inform the flood risk management study. Should you wish to contribute any information, please forward it to Tanja Mackenzie at Cardno via:

- Email to tanja.mackenzie@cardno.com.au, or
- Post to PO Box 852, Pymble NSW 2073.

A revised computer model is currently being prepared by Cardno to analyse how flooding affects Berry. This computer-based flood model will provide an improved understanding of flooding within the township. Once established, the flood model will be used to describe the flooding behaviour that results from different storm events.

Based on careful consideration of the findings of this investigation, a number of potential flood mitigation options and measures will be developed for consideration.

As part of the flood risk study, Council and Cardno have also conducted the first of a number of meetings with the RTA to explore opportunities to work together on incorporating flood mitigation options into the design of the proposed Berry Bypass of the Princes Highway.

The flood mitigation options will be subjected to a preliminary feasibility assessment, after which the community will be asked for feedback on their preferred options.

This will ensure that any flood mitigation options identified are also consistent with the community's views and objectives.

If you would like any further information on this process, please contact Matthew Apolo of Shoalhaven City Council on (02) 4429 3145, or Tanja Mackenzie of Cardno (02) 9496 7837.

CONTACT: Natural Resources and Flood Manager Isabelle Ghetti (02) 4429 3300