



Summary: Flood Management Strategy – Port Phillip and Westernport

Flooding is natural and inevitable. Like fire and other natural hazards, it is a part of the Australian landscape. We can't stop floods happening, but we can plan for and manage the risk, and reduce the consequences. Climate change and urban growth will increase flood risk.

The *Flood Management Strategy – Port Phillip and Westernport* sets out how we will work to understand, avoid and better manage flood risks, and how we can support flood-emergency preparation and response, across the region.

Approximately 232,000 properties in Port Phillip and Westernport have at least a 1% chance of flooding in any given year. The damage caused by floods in our region is estimated to cost approximately \$399 million per year. Climate scientists project that, while climate change will likely result in a decrease in overall rainfall in the region, the intensity of heavy rainfall events will increase and the sea level will continue to rise. This can increase severity and frequency of flood events.

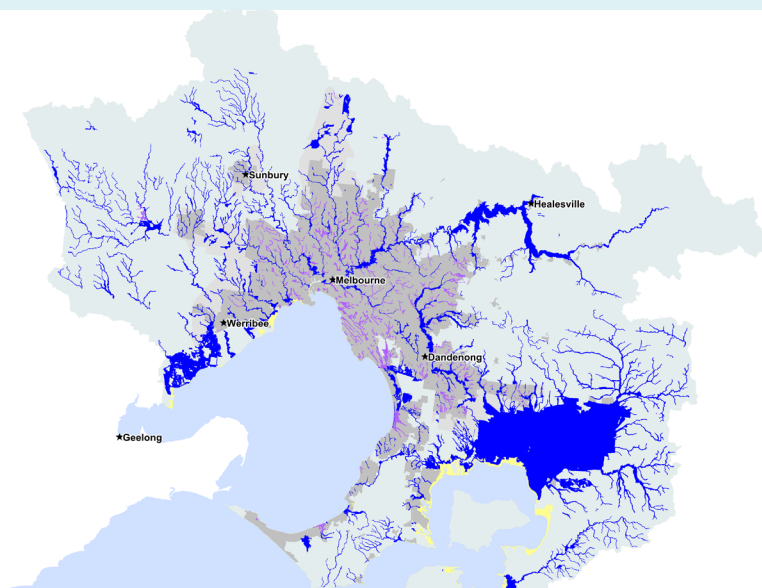
Flooding in our region

The Port Phillip and Westernport region

The region includes almost all of the Port Phillip and Westernport catchments, and is home to over four million people.

Legend:

- Stormwater flooding
- Riverine flooding
- Coastal flooding
- Established urban areas
- Growth corridors



In our region, flooding is managed by many authorities working together to help protect and support communities, including:

- Emergency services
- Federal government agencies
- Insurance companies
- Local and state government
- Water authorities (Melbourne Water)

Communities and businesses also have an important role in understanding local risks and taking appropriate actions to manage the personal impact of floods.

The vision, objectives and actions

The *Flood Management Strategy – Port Phillip and Westernport* sets out a vision, objectives and actions to help all participating organisations work together to manage flood risks, and plan for the future.

The flood strategy vision for Port Phillip and Westernport

Together we are aware, responsive and resilient. Communities, business and government understand flooding, plan for challenges, and take action to manage risks.

Strategic objectives

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| 1. The right information is available at the right time to people who need it. | 2. Flood risks are addressed to reduce impacts and get the best social, economic and environmental outcomes. | 3. Land, water and emergency agencies work together to manage flooding effectively. |
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Progress we've made

Flood risks have been actively managed in Port Phillip and Westernport for many years.

Urban planning and development standards have been improved to ensure new developments will be safe from floods, and will avoid increasing the level of flood waters on nearby properties.

Flood mapping has been completed for much of the region to understand where and how often floods might occur, particularly in locations where older urban areas were established without consideration of possible flood risks. In areas of new urban development, flood mapping information is used to ensure safe development.

This information has been used to manage new developments as well as to support flood education, warning and emergency management programs, and infrastructure improvements.

Improving how we do things

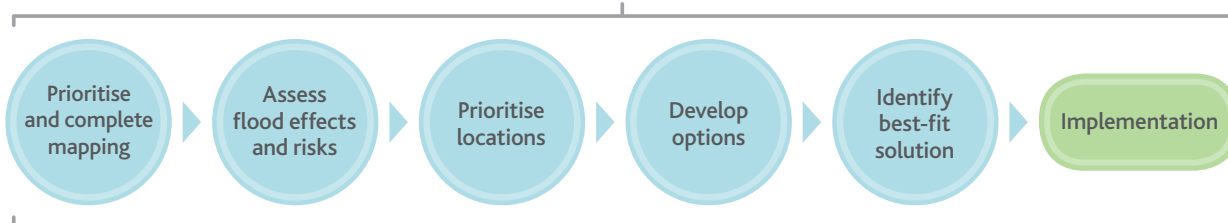
Flood risks are managed by working in the areas in greatest need, and where the benefits of taking action are greatest for the cost.

The Flood Management Strategy – Port Phillip and Westernport outlines how we will use the knowledge and experience developed over many years of flood management to improve how we work, and to respond to the future challenges of climate change and a growing region.

The strategy includes 65 actions that guide how we understand, prioritise and manage current and future flood risks, using the knowledge and expertise of all organisations that can make a contribution to flood risk. The process outlined below will guide how we identify and prioritise flood prone areas, and implement the right mix of solutions.

The flood management decision making framework

More information and data will be used to inform the process (e.g. local floods, community needs, costs and benefits and climate change)



Community and government input helps inform each step

This diagram shows the decision making framework outlined in the strategy, and how improved information will be used in our processes.