

The following information is extracted primarily from the NSW Government's "Floodplain Development Manual" (2005). The Manual provides a detailed description of the floodplain risk management process and can be viewed at the [following page](#) .

### Overview

The NSW State Government's Flood Prone Land Policy is directed towards reducing the impact of flooding on owners and occupiers of flood prone property and to reduce private and public losses resulting from floods. It also recognises the benefits associated with the use, occupation and development of flood prone land while ensuring new development is compatible with the flood hazard and does not create additional flooding problems in other areas.

Under the Policy, the management of flood liable land is the responsibility of Local Government with financial and technical support provided by the State Government (through the [Office of Environment and Heritage](#)

and

[State Emergency Service](#)

). This is achieved through the development of floodplain risk management plans. A floodplain risk management plan is developed using a staged approach, as outlined in the following flowchart:

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As outlined above, one of the first stages in the floodplain risk management process involves forming a floodplain risk management committee. The committee oversees the entire floodplain risk management process and is responsible for assisting Council in the development of the floodplain risk management plans as well as implementing the plan. The committee is typically comprised of elected Council representatives, Council staff, local industry groups, local community members, environmental interest groups, State and Commonwealth Government agencies as well as specialist consultants engaged by Council. The broad cross-section of committee members is aimed at ensuring that the full range of diverse issues encountered in formulating a floodplain risk management plan is considered through all stages of the project. If you are interested in contributing to the floodplain risk management process or becoming a committee member, please contact your local Council.

Once the committee is established, the floodplain risk management process can commence. As outlined above, the floodplain risk management process involves the following sequential stages. To obtain additional information on any of the stages, click the hyperlinks or press the "Next" button below.

1. **1. Flood Study** (usually also encompasses data collection) - provides a technical assessment of flood behaviour. It provides information on floodwater flows, depths, extents, levels and velocities for a range of different floods.
2. **2. Floodplain Risk Management Study** - identifies, assesses and compares various flood risk management options based upon social, ecological and economic factors relating to flood risk.
3. **3. Floodplain Risk Management Plan** - identifies preferred options for managing the flood risk. Formally approved by the council after public exhibition and any necessary revision due to public comments
4. **4. Plan Implementation** - Implementation of flood, response and property modification measures identified in the Plan.

