

Residents update

McCrae landslide recovery



4 April 2025

Shire update

All of the one-on-one discussions with property-owners in the exclusion zone have now been completed. Discussions focussed on the ongoing risks, works being undertaken and next steps.

This week we were able to organise a brief visit to two properties so residents could collect essential belongings. These visits again necessitated strict safety protocols, including identification of hazards, assessment of risks, and critical monitoring of the landslide area – both visually and online, as well as two-way communications.

We have begun working with the Board of Inquiry and this week submitted a range of requested documents. The Board of Inquiry has requested that the Shire assist coordinating residents to meet the chair of the Inquiry, Renee Enbom KC and members of her staff. The Board requested that a venue close to the site be booked for Wednesday 9 April 2025, with session times of 12pm-2pm and 5pm-6pm. The Dromana Community Centre has been booked for this 'meet and greet' and affected residents have been invited. The Board have indicated that this is an informal meeting with affected residents only, with no evidence being sought. Appointments will be made for residents to submit their information in the coming weeks.

We have now appointed a Deputy MBS internally so that MBS David Kotsiakos can maintain his sole focus on the McCrae landslide. Just a reminder that all necessary Emergency Orders will be reissued this week.

Repairs on Coburn Avenue, next to the Charlesworth Street intersection, have been completed and the road reopened.

Geotechnical update

PSM has now completed visual inspections of slope conditions on various properties across the McCrae escarpment. This on-the-ground activity is an essential step to verify and cross reference the data from our LIDAR surveys.

Works update

We continue to coordinate works with South East Water and a reminder that in early May we will be installing piezometers near or over the existing stormwater or sewer trenches in the area. Sensors installed into the piezometers measure water levels at defined intervals. The intent is to assess groundwater flow in those areas.

South East Water has advised it is rolling out digital water meters in McCrae in late April/early May. The new meters will allow homeowners to track water use and detect possible leaks on their property in real time. South East Water has advised it will not be exchanging any digital meters within the exclusion zone.