

McCrae Landslide 14 January 2025

Summary of Events

Subject Property: 10-12 View Point Road McCrae and 3 Penny Lane McCrae

Claudio Flores



Date	Description of event
14 Jan 2025	At about 9:30am I received notification of a landslip that had occurred at the subject property and that Municipal Building Surveyor Matt Glover was injured and on his way to hospital. I attended the site together with Jack Divers, Deputy Municipal Building Surveyor. While driving to the scene, Jack and I called geo technical engineer Dane Pope and requested his attendance on site. Dane had been working with Matt Glover on the landslip that had occurred on or about 5 January 2025 and had knowledge of the site. I met Maharlia P, Assistant Building Surveyor who advised that she was onsite to assist Matt with an Inspection. She advised that she was not injured however seemed shaken about what had occurred. I advised her to fill in an incident report and contact the EAP if she needed to talk about the incident. I later told Maharlia that she could go home if she felt ok to drive. Jack and I met with Emergency services who established an evacuation zone and they advised that they would evacuated multiple dwellings. Power and gas was also shut off to these properties. Jack and I inspected the area surrounding the landslip from point Nepean Road and View Point Road. I observed the dwelling which had been impacted by the landslip and caused it to collapse. I also observed water was continuing to flow from driveway at 3 Penny lane. The incident is under control of emergency services.
15 Jan 2025	Incident is under control of emergency services In discussion with Acting MBS Jack Divers I commenced preparing draft orders to prohibit occupation to the properties within the established evacuation zone. This was to ensure a formal direction was provided to property owners. The list of affected properties was provided by the emergency management team in who are the point of contact with the emergency services The properties within the evacuation zone included 2 Penny Lane McCrae VIC 3938 3 Penny Lane McCrae VIC 3938 4 View Point Road McCrae VIC 3938 6 View Point Road McCrae VIC 3938 10-12 View Point Road McCrae VIC 3938 14-16 View Point Road McCrae VIC 3938 603 Point Nepean Road McCrae VIC 3938 605 Point Nepean Road McCrae VIC 3938 607-609 Point Nepean Road McCrae VIC 3938 1/613 Point Nepean Road McCrae VIC 3938 2/613 Point Nepean Road McCrae VIC 3938 3/613 Point Nepean Road McCrae VIC 3938 4/613 Point Nepean Road McCrae VIC 3938

	I received an email from Dane POPE <i>Recommendations/matters that we should discuss on Site today (15/01/2025) include the following:</i> • <i>Water chemistry results (SEW and Council)</i> • <i>Results/methodology to inspect and divert stormwater system</i> • <i>Unloading landslide head scarp as per previous email (Monday 13/01/2025) – who can effectively make this happen given SES/Work Safe control of the Site</i> • <i>The outcomes of Fire services monitoring of 6 View Point Road.</i> <i>We recommend that council commissions a lidar survey (to AHD) of the impacted area so that the team can assess the landslide effectively and to assess what earthworks have been completed in recent years near the escarpment. We typically use a company called Diospatial who have significant experience in landslide work (preferred supplier to DTP Geotechnical teams). I can provide their details as needed.</i> The email has been forwarded to our emergency management team.
16 Jan 2025	Incident is under control of emergency services I continued preparing draft orders to prohibit occupation to the properties within the evacuation zone. The Draft emergency order and building notices were sent to legal for review and comment. I also reached out to the VBA and asked if they could provide advice on the emergency orders and building notices. As of 2:42pm Council's Tom Haines-Sutherland confirmed via teams that temp fencing had been installed to the exclusion zone.
17 Jan 2025	Incident is under control of emergency services Email received from HA legal with comments relating to emergency orders and building notices. Jack Divers sought clarification of the evacuation zone established by emergency services with emergency management team and Dane POPE. It is unsure if the emergency services evacuation zone has been established with the proper geotechnical advice. Dane has advised that he was unaware of any other geotechnical expert being onsite this week. An email was received by Dane POPE showing the area where he had undertaken a walk through on 16/01/2025 with the view to understand the landslide sources. It was recommended that monitoring systems are installed including a lidar survey to inform of safety of the surrounding properties.



At approximately 3pm Jack called Dane Pope to discuss the exclusion zone. Rory and I were listening in to the conversation and Dane advised that he had completed a walk around of the area shown above.

Dane was asked if the exclusion zone should be extended until the appropriate investigations and monitoring had taken place. Dane advised that based on his observations it would not be unreasonable to evacuate additional properties that were not currently in the emergency services nominated evacuation zone and additional properties to the north. This was based on the following:

- The additional properties being located on the same escarpment as those evacuated and the escarpment showing similar characteristics to that of the failed area;
- The water issues including the unknown source of water and its path of travel down the slope are unknown.
- The observable characteristics of the additional properties being the slope, tall retaining walls etc are similar to the property on which the landslide occurred.

A decision was made to extend the evacuation zone in order to protect the life safety of the occupants until further information was available.

A request was made to SES by Council to evacuate the following properties

- 16 Prospect Hill Road
- 2 View Point Road (Which is already out due to the isolations on gas, power and water)
- 18-20 View Point Road.
- 22 View Point Road.
- 617 Point Nepean Road.

At about 9:00pm SES confirmed that they would not evacuate the above properties.

Emergency orders to vacate the additional properties were served by Building Surveyor Paul Bucknell with the assistance of police between 9:00pm and 11:00pm.

18 Jan 2025	The emergency orders and building notices were finalised and served via multiple methods including onsite service in a conspicuous position by myself and Jack Divers.
19 Jan 2025	Incident is under control of emergency services No further information received.
20 Jan 2025	Incident is under control of emergency services Jack and I met with State Building Surveyor Steve Baxtsas via teams. This had occurred after the State Building Surveyor had reached out last week to offer assistance. We advised that emergency services still retained control of the site. He advised that we should continue working with the geotechnical engineer to work through the matters. This would include turning our mind to how we will provide brief entry to residents in order to collect any essential belongings and clear perishables.
21 Jan 2025	Incident is under control of emergency services Jack and I had a conversation with Dane Pope. This included how we could let people back in to their properties in order to collect important belongings in a safe manner. - Need to have monitoring installed and functioning - Must be in the presence of the geotechnical engineer and under strict instruction of geotechnical engineer - Spotters with 2 way radio - safe work method statements The suitability of the current evacuation zone. - The current investigative work concentrates on the current zone. The full scope needs discussion. Dane advised that monitoring equipment is being setup.
22 Jan. 25	Incident is under control of emergency services. Awaiting further information on suitability of the current evacuation zone. Spoke to Dane at 12:30pm. We advised Council had received reports of water pooling either in yard or under house. 1 Prosect Hill Road McCrae (outside exclusion zone) 5 Prospect Hill Road McCrae (outside exclusion zone) 18-20 Viewpoint Road McCrae (inside exclusion zone) He advised that he had inspected these properties in the last few days and will review again when he is back onsite tomorrow. Meeting with infrastructure – It was advised that water damage to roads is occurring and is suspected to be coming through South East Water sewerage trenches. A meeting will be organised to discuss with SEW asap with the view of relaying this information to the incident controller.
23 Jan 2025	Incident is under control of emergency services. Awaiting further information on suitability of the current evacuation zone. Discussion with Dane and legal informed that current evac zone is appropriate based on the information we have so far.

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