

BOARD OF INQUIRY INTO THE McCRAE LANDSLIDE

Melissa Burrage

Witness Statement

Prepared for the purpose of a Board of Inquiry

11 June 2025

WITNESS STATEMENT OF MELISSA BURRAGE

Name:	Melissa Burrage
Address:	2 Queen Street, Mornington VIC 3931
Occupation:	Manager – Climate Change and Sustainability – Mornington Peninsula Shire Council
Date:	11 June 2025.

1. I make this witness statement in response to the Request to Produce a Witness Statement dated 27 May 2025 (**Notice**). This statement has been prepared with the assistance of lawyers and Shire officers.
2. This statement is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief. I make this statement based on matters within my knowledge and documents and records of the Shire that I have reviewed. I have also used and relied upon data and information produced or provided to me by officers within the Shire.
3. I provide a response in relation to Question 9 of the Notice.

Monitoring risk

Question 9

Did or does the Shire utilise any sensors, early detection, or other equipment to monitor the risk of landslides or landslips in areas identified as high risk in the Cardno GIS Assessment? If not, did the Shire contemplate their use prior to 2025 and on what basis were such measures not adopted or progressed?

4. Yes, the Shire does monitor a set of inclinometers that would provide early detection of landslide movement. In preparing this witness statement, I have been shown a document titled “Inclinometers Monitored by the Mornington Peninsula Shire”, a copy of which is at [\[MSC.5063.0001.0001\]](#) and which I understand shows the inclinometers that the Shire currently monitors, or has a history of monitoring, including their installation date.
5. It is my understanding, based on my review of the Shire’s records and my cumulative experience while working at the Shire, that the inclinometers the Shire monitors were installed historically as a direct response to locations that had already experienced landslides or showed clear indications (on site) that a landslide was likely to occur.

6. To the best of my knowledge, the Shire's inclinometers were not installed as a direct response to the Cardno GIS Assessment. For example, some of the inclinometers were installed in 1999, 2000 and 2001, which was well before the Cardno GIS Assessment.

Personal Information

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Signed by Melissa Burrage