

Greater Melbourne Flood Information Program Council briefing pack 2026

Roles and responsibilities

Preparing for and managing floods is a shared responsibility. Together we have responsibilities for protecting people, infrastructure, assets, economic activity and the environment.

Melbourne Water is the floodplain manager for the Port Phillip and Westernport catchments and works with organisations and the community to understand and manage flood risks and to minimise impacts to people, businesses, infrastructure and the environment. These responsibilities are outlined in the Flood Management Strategy for Port Phillip and Westernport 2021-2031.

Local councils manage the local drainage network, including street gutters and drains as well as support Melbourne Water with the flood information program delivery.

Victoria State Emergency Service (VICSES) is the designated control agency for floods in Victoria and leads emergency preparation and response.

Bureau of Meteorology is responsible for issuing flood warnings.

Emergency Management Victoria provides flood warning and alerts to the community via their website Incidents and Warnings - VicEmergency and the Emergency Management Victoria app.

Community members and businesses are responsible for understanding personal and local risks and being prepared for floods.

