

May 17, 2010

St George, Bollon and Roma residents meet to consider legal action against flood insurers

A meeting of St George and Bollon families and business owners this Tuesday (May 18) will hear what legal options they may have to force insurers to cover damage caused by flash flooding earlier this month.

The meeting, hosted by Mr Peter Long, Slater & Gordon Practice Group Leader in Gunnedah, will be held at 2.00 p.m. in the Care Balonne Association building at 138 Victoria Street, St George on Tuesday 18 May 2010.

A similar meeting will also be held in Roma on Wednesday (May 19) in the CWA Meeting room at 12.30pm for the more than 200 flash flood victims in Roma.

Mr Long said he would be meeting with residents who think they have a claim following what has been described as the biggest flood in many decades for some parts of south-western Queensland.

"I will be meeting people who suffered property and contents damage during the flash flooding from the storm events in the week between 2 and 7 March 2010 and who made a claim under their insurance policies but were knocked back by their insurer," Mr Long said.

"More than 25 homes and buildings in St George, eight in Bollon and some 200 in Roma were inundated following the flash floods and now we have insurers playing their usual games and refusing to pay legitimate claims.

"It is time insurers understand they can't get away with just scooping up premiums without paying out legitimate claims.

"Insurers have a duty to their clients and they can't treat them like second-class citizens when they try to make a claim," Mr Long said.

The meetings follow Mr Long's legal win earlier this year against Elders Insurance Limited after it refused to pay for storm damage to a Gunnedah man's home in 2008.

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