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**Condolence motion for Mrs Elizabeth Jordan****Ordinary Council 3-22 | 24 March 2022**

I move that Council express its condolences on behalf of the city to the family of Mrs Elizabeth Jordan.

Mrs Jordan, formerly of Ebbw Vale and later Brassall, was the city's, and among the nation's, oldest residents when she passed away at the grand age of 110 earlier this month.

I spoke earlier this year on Mrs Jordan when she turned 110.

I'd like to share a story with you I have with Mrs Jordan.

Last year at the official opening of the Ipswich Show. Mrs Jordan and I were to speak along with local politicians and show society leaders. Before I gave my speech, Mrs Jordan leaned over and said, "I hope your speech will be short".

I was not going to disappoint Mrs Jordan ... I said welcome to our 148<sup>th</sup> show hope everyone has fun and sat back down!

It's advice I cherish today.

In that spirit, and in her memory, I pass on the city's condolences to her children Peter and Valerie, her grandchildren, and great-grandchildren, and her extended family.

Mrs Jordan loved baking and crafts, was known for her competitive spirit, and was very active in her church community. She will be remembered for her love of socialising, especially with her grand- and great-grandchildren.

She will be dearly missed.



**MATTER OF PUBLIC INTEREST | 2022 Flood Event****Ordinary Council 3-22 | 24 March 2022**

As 2021 wound down, and we looked forward to 2022, many of us were looking forward to a fresh start.

But, as predictions for a La Nina weather event were realised in January and through February, and the rain started coming down, and down, and down, and down, the rivers, creeks, and streams started coming up and up.

Our last Ordinary meeting was on Thursday, 25 February, with the first emergency alerts for the city issued the next day, and the Local Disaster Management Group began 24 hour operations.

The evacuation centre opened the next day, and it was very clear that our city was in for a flood with levels that we had not seen since 2013.

To give you a sense of the volume of rain that fell over those few days, rain gauges at Mt Glorious recorded 1,776 mm of water – 1.77 METERS of rain – in the week or so around the 27<sup>th</sup> of February.

This is nearly three times the rain that fell in 2011, and more rain than in 1974.

Rain fell, and fell, and didn't stop: it has been described as a rain bomb, and that's a good description for the volume of rain that constantly fell for days on end.

As the rain fell, the rivers came up. Some observed river heights in the city included 6.83 meters at Rosewood, 16.72 meters in central Ipswich, and 14.2 meters at Moggill.

During the emergency response, Council housed more than 400 people in the evacuation centre, served over 3,800 meals, distributed around 30,000 sandbags, and received 1 million-plus views on critical disaster information on our online Disaster Dashboard.

I am very grateful that our city avoided any fatalities during this flooding event and appears to have avoided any major injuries to residents as well. We kept each other safe. Our community kept us safe.

The resulting inundation yet again caused massive damage and devastation in our community, to many who have now rebuilt their lives at least once in the last decade, and now face the prospect of starting again, again.

Rapid damage assessments from the Queensland Fire and Rescue Emergency Service indicate at least 890 houses or properties in the city have been impacted by flood waters, with 450 in the severe to moderate impact category.

































