



## August 2025

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### Key Items from Meeting 92

The board of the Stormwater Management Authority met on the 4th August 2025 in Adelaide. Key agenda items from the meeting included:

- The board considered a paper on the Engineering Standards and comments provided to the State Planning Commission.
- The board received a presentation from the Department for Housing and Urban Development team on the background, current status, and forward work plan for the Flooding Hazards Code Amendment.
- The board considered updates to a number of Stormwater Management Plan projects.
- The board approved the draft SMA Annual Report.

## Stormwater SA Awards - SMA receives top gong at the Stormwater night of nights



*Photo supplied by Stormwater SA. Belinda Skilton and Shanti Ditter of the SMA with Dr Kylie Hyde, Water Tech and Drew Jacobi, Southfront*

The Stormwater Management Authority, together with Southfront, were crowned as the winners for Excellence in Policy and Education category at the 2025 Stormwater SA Excellence Awards on August 14. The accolade recognises the Stormwater Management Planning Priorities project which was completed in 2022 and provides a framework to support the assessment of priority catchments for stormwater management planning.

Overlooking the hallowed Adelaide Oval turf, the champions of the stormwater industry were awarded for their innovation, strategic planning and delivery since 2020. Ms Cate Hart, a member of the SMA Board, provided the keynote address. Speaking to the advancements that have been made in the industry, she encouraged the industry to view our role as facilitating the building of communities particularly in a time of rapid development.

The award nominee videos paid homage to the amazing projects delivered and individuals that are the heart of the industry. In addition to the Authority's win, a number of winning projects in other categories were supported by grants from the SMA including the South Park Lands Wetland and Flood Mitigation Project.

## Gleneagles Reserve Stormwater Detention Basin



Stage 1 of the Gleneagles Reserve Detention Basin project has been delivered. The project was co-funded by the City of Charles Sturt, the Disaster Ready Fund and a Stormwater Management Fund grant. The SMA's contribution was \$1,225,000. Stage 1 of the project included the construction of an additional 7200 cubic meters volume of detention in the passive recreation areas of the reserve to mitigate flooding in an 20% AEP event (2070 RCP). A timelapse of the construction is available [here](#).

The West Lakes Stormwater Management Plan listed the Gleneagles Reserve as a key site for investigating measures to reduce flooding problems in Seaton. Future stages of the project are planned to respond to the increasing rainfall intensity expected due to climate change. The future stages will use underground storage to enable dual use of this highly valued open space.

The Authority would like to congratulate the City of Charles Sturt on the successful delivery of an additional stormwater detention, in a site with many physical constraints that meets the multiple needs of the community.

## **Changes in High-Intensity Rainfall Events in SA**

A pilot research project seeking to understand changes in high intensity rainfall events across the Greater Adelaide region was completed earlier this year. High intensity rainfall events across multiple durations were analysed for gauged sites at Adelaide Airport, Kent Town, Parafield Airport and Hindmarsh Valley as well as radar stations at Buckland Park and Sellicks Hill.

The study found there is 'likely' to be an increasing trend for higher intensity rainfall in the Adelaide region, particularly for the shorter duration events. Due to the limited data available there remains some uncertainty in the findings however, the

findings are broadly in line with the national guidance on climate change in flood estimation (Australian Rainfall and Runoff).

The technical report outlining project methodology, results and practical implications is available here: [Analysis of changes in high-intensity rainfall events in South Australia | Goyder Institute](#).

The project delivered by the Goyder Institute for Water Research. A representative from the Stormwater Management Authority was on the steering committee which provided technical advice and guidance for the project.

## **New Grants Management System On The Way**

The SMA will adopt the use of a Smarty Grants-based grants management system to improve the experience for our applicants to the Stormwater Management Fund. We will reach out to current grant applicants with more information about the transition to this system in the coming months.

## **Next Board Meeting**

The 93rd Stormwater Management Authority Board Meeting will occur on the 27th October with a site visit to Light Regional Council.

## **Contact Us**

Stormwater Management Authority

Level 5, 81-95 Waymouth Street, Adelaide, 5001

Phone (08) 8124 4740

Email: [sma@sa.gov.au](mailto:sma@sa.gov.au)

Visit us on the web at: <https://www.sma.sa.gov.au>

## **About Us**

The Stormwater Management Authority (SMA) is a partnership between the Government of South Australia and the Local Government Association of South Australia. The SMA operates under the Local Government (Stormwater Management Agreement) Amendment Act 2016 and comprises a nine-member board appointed by the Minister for Climate, Environment and Water. The board meets approximately bi-monthly.

Previous issues of our newsletter are now available on our website <https://www.sma.sa.gov.au/about/newsletter/>



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