



*Picture for demonstration purposes only*

We are Mike and Jill. We built our own home in an estate in Drouin. We are living the dream, well almost!

We were so happy to move into our lovely house 18 months ago. It has four bedrooms, a study and a really nice open plan kitchen and living area. We even have an alfresco area off the living area. We use it a lot for meals when it is warm outside. There isn't a big yard, which suits us because we are not into gardening.

Our block is opposite a T intersection on the estate. We looked at it before we purchased and it was in a good area. The streets are narrow in this estate so we thought this would be a good block because when we got home we could drive straight into our driveway.

The street opposite our house runs up a slight hill. We didn't even notice the hill until it started to rain. When it is light rain it's not so bad but the water runs down this hill and fills the gutters in front of our house. However, when we had that heavy rain recently the water rushed down the street like a river and ran into our front yard. The yard was really wet and the water even went into our garage. We couldn't walk on the front lawn for weeks because it was so soggy.

Now we worry that one day the water will come into the house. There is no drain in front of our house to collect the water, just the street gutter. We have been to the Council but they say there is nothing we can do because the estate passed the approval process and the house has met all of the criteria.

The Council should be looking after us; we are the ones paying the rates! We have heard that some Councils have adopted a framework for sustainable design (insert correct name) and that our Council chose not to do it. If they had adopted it our house would not be subject to flooding because we are opposite a street!