

## Response ID ANON-DUXZ-422V-S

Submitted to Northern Australia Insurance Inquiry  
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## About you

What is your name?

Name:

[REDACTED]

I do not want my name to be published.

Do not publish my name

What is your email address?

Email:

[REDACTED]

What is your suburb/town and postcode? (Only one is required.)

Suburb/town::

[REDACTED]

Postcode::

[REDACTED]

If you live in northern Australia, please tick all descriptions that apply to you.

[REDACTED]

What type of residence do you live in?

[REDACTED]

What insurance do you currently have? Please tick all descriptions that apply to you.

[REDACTED]

What is important in your decisions about insurance?

1. How important is the price ('premium') in your decision?

You could also tell us: Did you know about the price of insurance in your town before you moved there? Has price changed a lot? Have you tried to get a lower price? :

Insurance sky rockets every year, it's almost unbelievable how much we pay!!

Try to get a lower price most year to no avail!

2. How much choice of insurers do you have?

You could also tell us: Where you live, how much choice is there between insurers? Do you think different insurers offer different policies (i.e. is coverage different)? :

Limited for proper cover!

Living in NQ we must have cyclone insurance, however we must have flood insurance even though I live on a massive hill I am not allowed to take it off! So I have to pay for it regardless if I need it or not

3. What are you covered for?

You could also tell us: Can you get the sort of insurance you want? Do you want flood insurance? How confident are you that you know what you are covered for and what limits you have? If you have made a claim, were you covered for what you thought you were?:

In recent experiences of the community insurance companies, even with the correct insurances find a way to void insurances regardless of the situation! Almost making it impossible to make claims or drawing it out long enough so people don't make claims! I am insured for everything car, Home, contents the lot!

However, I live on a hill with no need for flood insurance, I have no option to remove flooding from my insurance policy! And then they word it so, let's say, a bath overflows is considered flooding but then bump excess up to make t not viable

4. How important is customer service and claims handling reputation?

**You could also tell us: How much does an insurer's reputation matter? How much does customer service matter? Have you seen an insurer behaving in a way that you think is unfair or confusing?:**

Claim handling is a major part and the biggest let down with insurance companies! It's a tort they can get away with it time and time again

**5. Have you seen an insurer behaving in way that you think is unfair or confusing?**

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Just about every insurer is unjust in time of need! Cyclone Debbie's repairs haven't started for so many do to the companies incompetence! Refusing or making it hard for the consumer to make claims

**6. Has an insurer told you that they won't insure you or renew your insurance policy? If they have, what were the reasons they gave you?**

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Yes because I live in a cyclone affected area they can no longer insure me

**How you get information about insurance and how easy it is to understand?**

**7. What information does your insurer give you and how useful is it?**

**You could also tell us: Does your renewal notice say if price has changed and the reason? Does it say how premiums are calculated? What could insurers do to make it easier to understand their products? :**

I went to an insurance broker to get the best cover I could get for the best price, going alone is asking for trouble

**8. Where else do you see or look for information?**

**You could also tell us: How much effort is it to look for better or cheaper policies? What sort of advertising do you see? Have you used websites, tools or calculators? If you live in Queensland, have you heard about or used the North Queensland Home Insurance website? What did you think about it?:**

Insurance brokers, word of mouth is huge also

**9. Have you used, or thought about using, a broker? Why or why not?**

**You could also tell us: Did it make it easier for you to get a policy that you were more confident suited your needs?:**

Yes everytime as they have a selection of insurers and can get you a better deal happy with my broker

**10. Is there information to meet the needs of all consumers?**

**You could also tell us: Who can you ask if you need help understanding insurance? Is there information for people who are unable to read or write or use a language other than English? Do insurers have an office in your area or do they visit? Is mail, phone or internet access an issue in remote areas?:**

I'm not sure haven't had this issue

**11. What special information do owners or managers of strata units need?**

**You could also tell us: How difficult is it to get clear and useful information about strata insurance? How transparent is the information provided to strata unit owners?:**

I'm unsure of what strata insurance is

**12. Have you seen examples of tools, technology or information in other industries that should be used to make insurance easier to understand?**

**Have you seen examples of tools, technology or information in other industries that should be used to make insurance easier to understand?:**

Not interested at this stage

**Have you switched insurers?**

**13. Have you considered switching insurance in recent years? Did you go ahead and switch? Why or why not? Please tell us about your experience.**

**You could also tell us: Did you consider switching policies with the same insurer, to a different insurer, or both? How did you find and compare policies? How many quotes did you compare? Was it a lot of effort? How does the use of standard definitions, such as for 'flood', make it easier to compare? Was your focus on price or coverage or both? Did you use a broker to help you? :**

We did switch insurers do to one not being able to cover us anymore ( I would like to know how they took my money before hand for the same insurance then not be able to insure us) and once for a better deal

**What can households and insurers do to make insurance more affordable?**

**14. Have you considered renovating or altering your home, or building a new home to, to reduce the risk of storm or cyclone damage? Did you go ahead?**

You could also tell us: How did you find out about building for your local conditions? How did you decide that it was a 'worthwhile' investment? If you made any alterations, did this have any impact on your insurance premium? Has it already, or will it, save you money in the long run?:

It stood through the last two bad cyclones I'll hedge my bets

15. What are insurers doing to make it easier and could they do more?

You could also tell us: Would your premium be lower if you made your house or belongings safer? Can you pay fortnightly or monthly and how much extra does it cost to do so? Does your insurer offer Centrepay to eligible customers? Have you seen new or different policies to target particular consumers, such as tenants, households on a low income, or people with only a small amount to insure? :

Thought about install a recorded security system not sure if my insurance would drop or not,

16. What are you doing to manage the cost of insurance?

You could also tell us: Have rising premiums motivated you to spend more effort looking for better policy options? Have you, or would you, reduce your level of coverage to save? Who else can you get help from?:

Most definitely look around for better options for same level, most insurers won't let you assure less coverage

Other issues

17. If you have a view or experience to share that you haven't already covered in another question, please tell us about it. (Optional)

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