

## Guy Barnett MP

Minister for State Development, Construction and Housing  
Minister for Energy and Renewables  
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Minister for Veterans Affairs  
Liberal Member for Lyons



Tasmanian Government **Media Release**

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Guy Barnett, Minister for State Development, Construction and Housing

### Operation Sheean to help in storm cleanup

Last month, the Kentish Council municipality was hit by a severe weather event, which saw gale forces winds reaching up to 200kmh sweeping through from the south west.

Damage was caused to homes, farm outbuildings, pumps and kilometres of fencing due to the large volume of fallen trees.

It has been great to see a whole of community approach in support of the clean-up effort from community groups, local council, State Government and assistance from the Federal Government. To bolster this effort, an additional clean-up being called Operation Sheean, will take place over the next three weeks.

Following a week of survey work using drone footage, Disaster Relief Australia is providing a team of more than 20 volunteers to begin Operation Sheean – named after local Tasmanian Victoria Cross recipient Teddy Sheean.

This work will focus on the fallen trees which could cause future risk of flooding and damage to infrastructure.

This will be the first operation in Tasmania to be conducted by Disaster Relief Australia, which now has a newly established branch in the State.

Disaster Relief Australia was founded in 2016 and deploys veterans and emergency services specialists to assist communities with both resilience and recovery.

The Tasmanian Liberal Government thanks Disaster Relief Australia volunteers for their effort on behalf of the local community.

I have visited the Kentish region in recent weeks and spoken directly to those affected by last month's tragic storm.

Over the weekend, I met with some of the volunteers and it has been wonderful to see how the community is coming together.

I fully understand and appreciate the impact it's had for so many in the community, and the need for financial assistance.

The Tasmanian Government has been providing support to the Kentish Council to assist in the recovery effort and I welcome the jointly funded Commonwealth-State Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements that will be provided to the region.

This disaster assistance will help those in the region get back on their feet, particularly our primary producers who suffered significant infrastructure and stock damage.

DRA have set up email address for the community to contact them for requests for assistance - [opsheean@disasterreliefaus.org](mailto:opsheean@disasterreliefaus.org)