

## Successful Council Advocacy in response to the Recent Storm Event

After the devastating storm event that hit our region, South Gippsland Shire Council has been working hand-in-hand with the local community and State and Federal Government agencies to seek greater support in responding to the storm impacts in our community.

As the large-scale clean-up continues, Council has been pleased that the State Government has listened to Council's requests on behalf of the community and announced support towards the recovery effort.

A recent visit by Council's Mayor, Clare Williams and Chief Executive Officer Kerryn Ellis to the Victorian Parliament on Wednesday 21 February was an exceptional opportunity to represent South Gippsland and share how badly our community has been impacted.

Meetings with the following Ministers assisted in securing funding for the clean-up and a commitment to continue supporting our community into the recovery phase of this event:

- Minister for Local Government and Roads Melissa Horne MP;
- Minister for Government Services and Public and Active Transport Gabrielle Williams MP;
- Minister for Emergency Services Jaclyn Symes MP;
- Minister for Regional Development Gayle Tierney MP;
- Minister for Water and Housing Harriet Shing MP;
- Minister for Small Business Natalie Suleyman MP;
- Minister for Environment, Tourism Sport and Major Events, and Outdoor Recreation Steve Dimopoulos MP; and
- Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action Secretary John Bradley.

To view the latest storm event information, please visit: [www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/stormeventupdate](http://www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/stormeventupdate)

**Quote attributable to Kerryn Ellis, Chief Executive Officer South Gippsland Shire Council**

*“It has been a privilege to advocate on behalf of our community to get funding support after the horrific storm event. The road to recovery will be a long one, and Council stands at the ready to help in whatever way we can.”*

**Quote attributable to Cr Williams, Mayor South Gippsland Shire Council**

*“Thank you to our community and all government ministers who have met with us either in Parliament or in our region. It is not until you are in towns such as Mirboo North that you realise the magnitude of the destruction.”*

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