Saturday, 1 April 2017

## **NSW** deployment leaves tomorrow morning

A deployment of South Australian emergency services personnel will leave tomorrow morning for northern New South Wales as the cleanup continues following Tuesday's Tropical Cyclone Debbie.

Tomorrow's deployment comprises 21 rapid damage assessment specialists drawn from the South Australian State Emergency Service (SASES), South Australian Metropolitan Fire Service (SAMFS) and SA Police (SAPOL).

The team will fly out tomorrow from Adelaide Airport for Coolangatta at 8.50am on Virgin Australia flight 1447. It will return to Adelaide next Thursday.

Tomorrow's deployment will be based in the Richmond Tweed area and will assist New South Wales SES as it responds to significant flooding and property damage resulting from the category four storm in the northern parts of the state.

Rapid damage assessment teams have a critical role in the response phase of an emergency. They record the location and severity of damage to buildings, roads, bridges and other critical infrastructure such as schools and hospitals along with water and sewerage systems.

The SASES is coordinating South Australia's response to Tropical Cyclone Debbie. The first deployment of 10 South Australian incident management specialists left Adelaide on Thursday.

SES continues liaising with Queensland and New South Wales emergency service authorities to determine whether further deployments are required in the next few weeks.