

Media Release



January 2020/ Media contact: Liddy Clark 0403 542 411

OUR HEARTS GO OUT TO ALL COMMUNITIES AFFECTED BY THE DEVASTATING FIRES ACROSS the NATION

The impact on communities in Victoria, NSW, Tasmania and South Australia from the current bush fires is dire.

The VLGA would like to acknowledge our local government colleagues for their efforts and dedication to local communities and beyond.

We also wish to express our gratitude to those fighting fires and the many thousands of people involved in the relief and recovery activities across the nation.

We know that communities value the critical services provided by local government and other agencies during this crisis and many Australians and overseas colleagues want to show their support as we have already seen.

Relief centres are overwhelmed by donations, diverting resources away from critical tasks. The best way people can help impacted communities is through financial donations.

Donations to the new fund set up by the Victorian Government will be held in a dedicated account overseen by Pat McNamara, former Victorian Deputy Premier and Minister for Police and Emergency Services.

Donations may be made at any Bendigo Bank branch or online via: vic.gov.au/bushfireappeal

Other agencies involved in providing assistance are listed below.

- **Australian Red Cross** — 1800 733 276
- **Foodbank Victoria** — foodbankvictoria.org.au

ENDS: