

Dolphin Sands Bushfire Clean-up Program Stage 2 – Community Information Session

17 February 2026

On Tuesday 17 February from 4pm – 5pm, a community information session was held at the Old Courthouse, 4 Noyes Street in Swansea.

Glamorgan Spring Bay Council, pitt&sherry, Batchelor Construction Group, and Resilience and Recovery Tasmania were in attendance to answer questions from the community about Stage 2 of the Dolphin Sands Clean-up Program.

Frequently asked Questions

I have already signed and returned my consent form for clean-up work. When can I expect work to start?

Scheduling of individual property clean-ups is being informed by risks to public safety, occupation status (e.g. primary places of residence) and logistical and operational factors (such as availability of specialist resources and equipment).

We anticipate that works to clean up all fire impacted structures and debris will conclude around early May.

Will property owners be made aware when the Program ends?

Yes. We anticipate that work will conclude around early May. This is based on the current schedule of works for consenting properties.

We will confirm the end date for the Program with property owners well in advance.

What are the rules around fire damaged vegetation clearing?

Dolphin Sands is an environmentally protected area, so removal of any vegetation must be undertaken in accordance with all relevant legislation, policies and guidelines.

BCG will remove any fire-impacted trees or organic debris which pose a risk to the property users and/or the works being completed, including:

- Safe access for property owners and all personnel involved in the clean up;
- Safe working conditions for all personnel involved in the clean up;
- Other impediments to carrying out clean-up operations.

Fire-impacted trees and organic matter which has been stockpiled by participating property owners will also be removed and disposed of, if located in an area that is accessible by machinery suitable for this task.

You will need to complete a consent deed which gives BCG permission to access your property and remove fire impacted vegetation.

Update 17 Feb 2026

Glamorgan Spring Bay (GSB) Council has developed a FAQs document on what you can and cannot clear. Property owners should contact Council directly if they are unsure. GSB Council will not be removing any fire impacted vegetation.

Call: 03 6256 4777

Email: admin@freycinet.tas.gov.au

Will property owners be notified when contractors are going to collect their green waste?

Yes. Contractors are attending Dolphin Sands 2-3 days each week to remove green waste that has been stockpiled by property owners.

When you have finalised stockpiling your green waste, contact pitt&sherry to organise collection.

You will need to complete a consent deed which gives BCG permission to access your property and remove any green waste.

Call: 0482 166 711 or 0488 227 427

Email: engagement@pittsh.com.au

Where should green waste be stockpiled for chipping by the clean-up crew?

Green waste should be stockpiled inside property boundaries in an area close to the property entrance that is accessible by machinery suitable for this task.

Stockpiles do not need to be outside of the property in order for the contractors to access it.

You will need to complete a consent deed which gives BCG permission to access your property and remove any green waste.

Call: 0482 166 711 or 0488 227 427

Email: engagement@pittsh.com.au

Can stockpiled waste be left on the verge/nature strip?

Stockpiling green waste on verges/nature strips could become a hazard and result in a liability concern for Council.

Glamorgan Spring Bay Council will investigate whether an exception could be made possible for a limited time and for this specific purpose and provide advice to property owners.

What is happening with burnt vegetation on land that is not privately owned?

It is the responsibility of the landowner to remove fire impacted vegetation that poses a safety risk.

Fire impacted vegetation on Crown or Council owned land will only be removed if it is identified as a safety risk.

Unnecessary removal of fire impacted vegetation can have environmental impacts, such as erosion, water run-off, and removal of habitats for wildlife.

Can destroyed fencing be removed by contractors?

Yes. Fire-impacted fencing material including wire and posts will be removed if stockpiled by property owners in an area close to the property entrance that is accessible by machinery suitable for this task.

Stockpiles do not need to be outside of the property in order for the contractors to access it.

Update 17 Feb 2026

You will need to complete a consent deed which gives BCG permission to access your property and remove any damaged fencing.

Call: 0482 166 711 or 0488 227 427

Email: engagement@pittsh.com.au

Do fire impacted gas bottles still pose a risk?

Gas bottles are designed to vent if they are exposed to extreme heat. Any gas bottles with signs of fire impact should therefore not be at risk of spontaneous venting once the fire has passed.

However, as with all fire impacted debris, residents are encouraged not to disturb them unnecessarily.

As part of the Clean-Up Program where consent has been provided, contractors will safely vent and remove gas bottles found on properties.

Damaged gas bottles will be disposed of and an arrangement has been established with Origin Energy to collect undamaged gas bottles. Residents/property owners are advised to contact their supplier to cease billing for disposed of gas bottles.

You will need to complete a consent deed which gives BCG permission to access your property and collect gas bottles for disposal or return to Origin Energy.

If you are concerned about any gas bottles on your property, you can arrange for them to be collected prior to other clean-up works commencing by contacting pitt&sherry.

Call: 0482 166 711 or 0488 227 427

Email: engagement@pittsh.com.au

Can any of the material removed from properties be recycled?

Unfortunately, no. Due to the contamination that occurs with fire damaged materials from heavy metals and from the amounts of asbestos found, decontamination and sorting of materials for recycling would be too costly and time consuming.

All material removed from properties is being taken to landfill at Copping.

Can Dolphin Sands property owners be granted a concession for free or discounted disposal of green waste in recognition of their bushfire risk?

GSB Council must consider fairness to the whole municipality and the financial implications of free green waste disposal. Therefore, this decision would need to be considered by Elected Members.

This matter has been raised with the Acting CEO for consideration. In addition property owners can write to admin@freycinet.tas.gov.au to request that this is considered by Council.

What is the process for supplementary rates being applied to impacted properties?

Adjustments to council rates may apply to impacted properties. There is a standard process for this, which is currently underway.

The Office of the Valuer-General and Resilience and Recovery Tasmania are working together to assess any loss of property value due to bushfire damage. The Office of the Valuer-General may automatically adjust your property value, where appropriate.

You do not need to contact the Office of the Valuer-General. Property owners will receive a new valuation notice if an adjustment is made.

Update 17 Feb 2026

The Office of the Valuer-General will communicate these values to local councils and the State Revenue Office.

GSB Council are able to provide advice on the process when property owners are ready to rebuild.

Call: 03 6256 4777

Email: admin@freycinet.tas.gov.au

What planning requirements or permits are required for rebuilding?

Different planning requirements and permits may be required for rebuilding, depending on what is being built. GSB Council will support property owners through this process.

Property owners can reach out to Council directly for advice regarding their individual properties when they are ready.

Call: 03 6256 4777

Email: admin@freycinet.tas.gov.au

Will there be any other recovery support?

While the current focus is on the Clean-up Program, the Department of Premier and Cabinet and Glamorgan Spring Bay Council will continue to support the community in recovery.

This will include working with the community to determine what additional supports may be needed.

Is communication being provided to ratepayers on what is happening?

Yes, information is available to the community, including ratepayers, through a number of channels.

TasRECOVERY.com is the primary source of information on the Clean-Up Program and other recovery activities.

Glamorgan Spring Bay is providing information and updates to the community through the Dolphin Sands Community Association Facebook Group.

The Glamorgan Spring Bay Community Development Coordinator is also available at the office next to the Swansea Courthouse every Thursday 9am – 3pm.