

Chris Minns

Premier of New South Wales

**David Harris**Minister for Aboriginal Affairs and Treaty, Minister for Gaming and Racing,
Minister for Veterans, Minister for Medical Research, Minister for Central Coast

Media Statement

Talisman Sabre Exercise

Tuesday 1 August 2023

We are advised that the search for the crew missing in Queensland Whitsundays, following the Taipan helicopter crash, is now one of recovery.

This is a tragedy. Our thoughts are with the family and friends of the Australian Defence Force (ADF) personnel on board. All were from the 6th Aviation Regiment based at Holsworthy army barracks in Sydney and valuable members of our community.

Our thoughts are also with those who served alongside these four young men – their friends and colleagues in uniform – and the broader defence community.

We will not forget their service and their sacrifice.

The Premier will be moving a motion of condolence in the NSW Parliament in honour of these four young servicemen.

We understand that this is a difficult time for ADF personnel, their families and the community. All current ADF members and their families can contact the Defence all-hours Support Line on 1800 628 036. Families of serving personnel can also contact the Defence Family Helpline on 1800 624 608.

All current and ex-serving ADF personnel and their families can access Open Arms – Veterans & Families Counselling. Open Arms is a national mental health service that provides 24-hour free and confidential counselling. Visit openarms.gov.au or phone 1800 011 046.

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