Peter Styles, Member for Sanderson

**Country Liberals moving quickly to address Darwin flooding issues**

28 February 2015

Darwin Region Flood Mitigation Advisory Committee Chair, CLP Member for Sanderson Peter Styles, has moved to reassure residents affected by flooding during last night’s wild storm over Darwin that the committee is moving quickly to address flooding issues.

A number of homes in the Ludmilla area suffered flooding at the height of the torrential downpour in the early hours of the morning.

“Flooding in some urban areas happens very quickly, and our discussions around mitigation will address both structural and non-structural measures to protect residents in the immediate, short and long term,” Mr Styles said.

The first meeting of the Darwin Region Flood Mitigation Advisory Committee was held last week and the committee will meet again next week to discuss and endorse a work plan to commence measures towards flood mitigation.

The formation of the Darwin Region Flood Mitigation Advisory Committee was announced by Chief Minister Adam Giles in November last year, following the allocation of $25 million from the sale of TIO towards flood mitigation in the Greater Darwin region.

Terms of reference and committee membership were announced on January 28.

“The Committee has agreed to the Terms of Reference,” Mr Styles said.

“At last week’s meeting, the committee toured areas of Darwin prone to flooding, including Ludmilla, Rapid Creek, industrial areas in Palmerston and areas of Howard Springs, Herbert and Virginia.

“We anticipate a busy schedule ahead, with all committee members aware of the need to address flood mitigation issues as a matter of high importance.

“Ahead of our next meeting the committee has agreed that:

- The recommendations of the Darwin Region Flood Advisory Committee will focus on properties that are impacted upon by riverine flooding and inundation due to trunk drainage issues in the Greater Darwin region.
• TIO will make a presentation to the committee, outlining current insurance models and how TIO might view a range of alternative mitigation strategies

• Briefings will also be sought on strategic planning issues associated with planning for flood mitigation

“We have agreed that a coordinated, strategic approach to stormwater management is imperative to manage localised flooding in the future, involving Territory government, local government and community groups.”

“An email address has been established at Darwinfloodcommittee.dlpe@nt.gov.au and a dedicated webpage will be up and running shortly.”

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