Residents from Galiwin’ku have moved into the first cluster of temporary transportable houses following the devastation wrought by Tropical Cyclones Lam and Nathan.

Chief Minister Adam Giles said Budget 2015 had allocated over $90 million to support the recovery and rebuilding work.

“More than 80 houses in Galiwin’ku were severely damaged or are beyond repair and will take many months to be rebuilt, displacing more than 300 people,” Mr Giles said.

“These transportable houses ensure these residents will have suitable, comfortable accommodation until they can move back into their homes.

“The accommodation has been designed to be fully self-contained and is being progressively installed in a number of agreed locations across the Galiwin’ku community.

“Leaders from the affected communities have been clear they want to be involved in the rebuilding program through jobs, training and business development opportunities and the NT Government is working closely with each community to ensure the rebuilding program delivers this.

“The Government is determined to ensure the rebuilding program achieves these community aspirations.”

Minister for Housing, Bess Price, said the design of the transportable homes was developed in consultation with the Elcho Island leaders group.

“The transportable homes, which are made up of two transportable buildings joined by a covered breezeway, will provide rooms for around ten people.”

The last of the transportable homes are expected to be installed by the end of June to enable Camp Elcho tents to be packed down and returned to the New South Wales Rural Fire Service.
“The Northern Territory Government has consulted with this group throughout the rebuild process,” Mrs Price said.

“Responding to community feedback, the rebuilding program will be undertaken at two speeds. Firstly, there will be a faster rebuild of half of the damaged houses to ensure priority is given to getting the most affected families back into their homes.

“A tender was release last week for the first 20 houses as part of this fast tracked program.

“The second phase, for the remaining homes, will be a longer term program over a period of around three to four years to ensure the opportunities for real jobs, training and community development are maximised.”

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[First family to move into temporary home at Galiwin’ku. Names available on request.](#)