Chief Minister and Minister for Indigenous Affairs, Clare Martin, today reaffirmed the Government’s commitment to represent all Territorians during a visit to the community of Hermannsburg (Ntaria) in Central Australia.

"For many years now vast areas of the Northern Territory have been neglected, left out of the decision making process because they were seen as too removed from the main population centres," she said.

"This Government is determined to maintain regular contact with towns and communities across the Territory to gather an appreciation of the issues affecting those areas and ways we can address those problems.

"Developing better service delivery to remote areas is a priority for this Government to ensure we grow the Northern Territory as a whole and maximise our opportunities.

"Aboriginal communities, in particular, require better service delivery and we are committed to delivering this with a real focus on training and education."

Ms Martin said Hermannsburg (Ntaria) was significant historically, culturally and financially (tourism) to Central Australia.

"This Government’s commitment to the area is highlighted by its plans to allocate significant funding for the sealing of Larapinta drive. We are currently in detailed negotiations with representatives of the traditional owners and remain determined to deliver on our promise."

The Chief Minister said today’s visit to Hermannsburg served as another step in understanding and addressing the needs in isolated areas.

"This community deserves the attention and respect of government, and it’s my pleasure to visit today to discuss the needs of local residents," she said.

Representatives of the Ntaria Council took Ms Martin on the tour of the community. The Chief Minister also visited Tjuwanpa Out Station Resource Centre.