PREPARING FOR FUTURE NATURAL DISASTERS

An annual public education campaign will be launched on flooding in the Katherine region – similar to the regular cyclone campaign in the Top End.

In a statement to Parliament Chief Minister Clare Martin said the response to our recent natural disasters was good – but there’s always room for improvement.

“Our preparation, response and recovery to these natural disasters were positive and professional – but there are always lessons to be learnt,” Ms Martin said.

“An annual public education campaign on flooding in the Katherine region will reinforce what needs to be done before, during and after this sort of disaster.

“An annual cyclone campaign has been running successfully for many years in the Top End and the Katherine region needs a similar effort to prepare for floods,” Ms Martin said.

The Co-ordinator of the Katherine Region Flood Recovery effort Barry Chambers will provide recommendations for what other measures are needed.

“We will use what we have learnt from Cyclone Monica to build on the comprehensive emergency plans already in place for the Top End.

“We’ll also seek advice on our current building codes and our arrangements for cyclone shelters,” Ms Martin said.

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