Chief Minister, Clare Martin, today said that the Territory Government was continuing to address the protection of critical infrastructure across the Territory as part of its counter-terrorism planning.

Ms Martin said the Northern Territory Critical Infrastructure Protection Plan, currently being developed, would cover critical services such as hospitals, power and communications operated by both Government and the private sector.

"Minimising the potential for terrorist action against critical infrastructure is an important element of the Territory’s counter-terrorism planning," she said.

"It is a partnership between Government and business for the protection of the community.

"The Critical Infrastructure Plan, once fully developed, will provide a mechanism for ensuring that critical infrastructure operators are quickly informed of any terrorism alerts relevant to them.

"Businesses should be aware that Government officers will be approaching particular private sector facilities and services that can be potentially classified as critical infrastructure, and I ask that they be given all possible assistance in their important task."

Last month the Chief Minister announced that the Government would introduce new counter terrorism laws in February 2003.