



**The Hon Michael Keenan MP**  
**Minister for Justice**  
**Minister Assisting the Prime Minister for Counter Terrorism**

**The Hon Natasha Fyles MLA**  
**Northern Territory Attorney-General and Minister for Justice**

**JOINT MEDIA RELEASE**

31 January 2017

**Disaster assistance for Northern Territory communities impacted by the  
Central Australia flash flooding**

Minister for Justice Michael Keenan and Northern Territory Attorney-General and Minister for Justice Natasha Fyles today announced disaster assistance in response to the flash flooding that affected Central Australia in December and January.

Minister Keenan said the assistance is being provided through the jointly-funded Commonwealth-State Natural Disaster Relief and Recovery Arrangements (NDRRA).

“The Australian and Northern Territory governments are committed to working together to ensure disaster affected communities receive the support they need to recover as quickly as possible,” Mr Keenan said.

Minister Natasha Fyles said torrential rain and flash flooding caused widespread damage to housing and public infrastructure across Central Australia, most notably in the township of Kintore.

“Eligible individuals and families in the Kintore township can now access a range of personal hardship and distress assistance,” Ms Fyles said.

The available personal hardship and distress assistance for Kintore includes:

- Immediate hardship grants of up to \$1,245 for a household, \$495 for an adult (over 18 years) and \$250 for a child to aid families and individuals recover from the disaster. Applicants will be required to show evidence of permanent residency and the number of dependants.
- Essential household contents grants of up to \$7,165 to cover the cost of replacing essential items that were damaged or destroyed by the disaster. This assistance is subject to means testing and applicants will be required to show evidence of tenancy or permanent residency, and of damaged goods.

Disaster assistance is also available for the flood affected regional councils of Central Desert and MacDonnell for the clean-up and restoration of essential public assets.

To enquire about the assistance call Territory Families on 08 8992 5598.

Further information on disaster assistance is available on the Australian Government's Disaster Assist website at [www.disasterassist.gov.au](http://www.disasterassist.gov.au) and the Northern Territory Government's emergency information and response website at [www.secure.nt.gov.au](http://www.secure.nt.gov.au).

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