

**From:**  
**To:** [Flood Inquiry](#)  
**Subject:** Recovery and Initial crisis response  
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Recovery funding options will cost a huge amount of money....but it has been done before.  
2 examples of Govt help in recovery

Darwin 1974 - pop then 45,000 - around 75% of buildings and homes destroyed or severely damaged (around 5,000 homes); Darwin Reconstruction Commission set up ; rebuilt in 3 years.

ACT 2014 - Govt buy back of 1014 homes with asbestos insulation (Mr Fluffy) ; houses demolished, sites cleaned.

Of course different circumstances and variables ( eg 3/4 of homes insured in Darwin) - but with Govt will and good organisation can be done, and done effectively.

Evacuation Centre at SCU University - although this had been a central evacuation centre in previous disasters - this time was entirely unprepared; no power, clothes, beds, blankets, etc for incoming flood survivors; no proper processes had been set up - and this increased the trauma dramatically for those who had been rescued and evacuated from their flooded homes, and who had nowhere else to go. Medical care and essential prescriptions were not available initially and Security was inadequate for such a situation. Many flood victims chose instead to sleep in their cars.  
Co-ordination only improved gradually over the next week.

In contrast, evacuation centres in Ballina - particularly Xavier College - were comfortable, organised and caring.  
Protocols and responsibilities for setting up in a crisis need to be thoroughly looked at and preparation centrally organised.

Thank you

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