



Media Release

# Darwin City Council

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## *Guardian on Duty!*

Darwin City Council is testing plans systems in place to deal with a community emergency such as a Cyclonic weather.

Central to organising resources and dealing with a community emergency is the state of the art Guardian software package. The system was introduced in time for last years wet season. A successful cyclone simulation was conducted at the time. In order to ensure systems and skills levels of staff remain ready for an emergency a simular exercise is being carried out this year.

Dubbed Cyclone Sally-G this the exercise will test the metal of the entire response chain.

The introduction of this program together with systems in place to deal with emergencies will increase efficiencies in response time, the allocation of resources and co-ordination with other government agencies.

Lord Mayor, Graeme Sawyer praises the many staff who have volunteered to be a part of this program to make it a reality "The staff commitment to protecting our community is crucial, even with the best technology it is people that make the difference".

The Guardian System was developed in North Queensland by people in local government specifically for local government. Darwin City Council is the first to come online with the system. The system is suited to any public emergency situation (not only cyclones) and is being introduced right across Australia.

The Guardian software is now an integral part of the Darwin City Council's Counter Disaster Management Plan. This weeks exercise not only tests the functionality of the Guardian system but also provides participants with experience in executing their part in the Plan. This exercise is a part of Darwin City Council commitment to provided the highest levels of service and safety to the people of Darwin.

The exercise will be open to the media on Thursday the 15 October at the Bishop Street Operations Centre.

**What:** Exercise Cyclone Sally-G  
**Who:** Lord Mayor, Graeme Sawyer  
**When:** Saturday 15 October 2009  
**Where:** Darwin City Council Operations Centre Bishop Street.

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