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PRIME MINISTERFOR PRESS19 OCTOBER 1976FLOODING IN QUEANBEYAN AND THE A.C.T.

The Prime Minister announced this morning that the Commonwealth would join in providing financial assistance for the relief of immediate personal hardship and distress to persons affected by the flooding.

It would also consider sympathetically any requests from the New South Wales Government to assist on other agreed relief and restoration measures.

"It is too early to know the extent of assistance that would be required", Mr Fraser said.

The Prime Minister extended his sympathy to the people affected by the flooding in New South Wales and the Australian Capital Territory.

Mr Fraser paid tribute to the government and non-government organisations in New South Wales and the A.C.T. which acted so promptly and effectively to evacuate people from danger, and to minimise the risks in the areas which were inundated or liable to be inundated. The flood warning system in operation was particularly effective.

The work of volunteers and the offers of aid and emergency accommodation from many citizens in both of the areas principally involved was also deeply appreciated.

The main burden of organising relief operations lay with the police and the State and Territory Emergency Services, assisted by government and non-government organisations.

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