While Alice Springs rubbish management needs are now secured for the future it is unfortunate that funding was not made available for delivering real jobs and real economic development in the region, says Shadow Minister for Regional Development, Adam Giles.

“Under the Regional Development Australia Fund $3.5M has been allocated to support an Alice Springs Council investment in a waste management facility – something I welcome, and something that the Territory Labor Government should have got involved in”, Mr Giles said.

“While the Country Liberals as a whole welcome this contribution, I call on the RDA Fund to help deliver on jobs and economic development in the region by, for example, looking at an investment in a training centre like the $3.25M delivered for the HIA in Darwin that would improve the employment prospects of regional youth and support local business.

“The program could also consider opportunities to chip in to deliver public infrastructure that adds to tourism experiences and will attract visitors to the Centre.

“The Alice Springs and Barkly regions need investment that delivers better economic development opportunities and employment so that we can get more locals into work – investment is needed getting locals a job and keeping them in a job.

“This RDA funding should be just the tip of the iceberg.”

Further comment: Adam Giles 0421 588 118