John Elferink
Minister for Health

**Labor backflips on health policy**

25 February 2016

Labor has today again displayed their financial recklessness by failing to properly explain where the money is coming from to fund their health policy.

When referring to the budget for Labor’s multi-storey carpark, Lynne Walker today said ‘there is existing money within the infrastructure budget within the Northern Territory (and that) we are very confident we have costed this.’ (Source: ABC Radio, 25 February 2015)

Minister for Health John Elferink said the infrastructure budget was fully committed and questioned what part of the budget Labor would cut to pay for a car park.

“What part of the infrastructure budget will Labor take from? Which school should we not fund? Or is Labor saying we should not update the paediatrics ward at Royal Darwin Hospital?

“Labor’s policy outlined $10 million for this project but if the project was confidently costed Labor would realise that they require closer to $30 million.”

In Labor’s *Healthy, Strong Communities* paper, they stated that in their first term they will undertake planning to “replace the Royal Darwin Hospital”.

Today on radio though, Ms Walker claimed “we have not said that we are going to shut down the Royal Darwin Hospital.” (Source: ABC Radio, 25 February 2015)

“This kind of backflip is typical of Labor’s haphazard method of planning,” Mr Elferink said.

“Two policy launches, two crashes and burns.

“Labor are not fit to govern and Territorians cannot risk a Labor government.”

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