Territory Government spends $2.97 million on new short term accommodation in Darwin

The Territory Government will spend nearly $3 million for new short term accommodation in Darwin as part of the comprehensive package to address anti-social behaviour.

Housing Minister, Kon Vatskalis, said over the next two years the Government will fund a total of 127 new beds at the Darwin Christian Outreach Centre Ministries facility off Boulter Road.

“We’re addressing the growing concern about the shortage of appropriate short term accommodation and its link to anti-social behaviour in Darwin,” said Mr Vatskalis.

“We’ve funded 32 beds to come online immediately - another 15 will be added this year, and an 80 bed facility will be up and running in the next two years.”

The Minister today met with Pastor Merv Westbrook to look over the plans for the new building.

“We are spending $2.5 million to construct 20 short term accommodation units which will provide 80 beds.

“We will also fund Darwin Christian Outreach Centre Ministries a further $400,000 over the next two years for managed accommodation services.

“This will provide Indigenous families from rural and remote communities somewhere to stay while visiting Darwin to access health and other essential services.”

Mr Vatskalis said the Territory Government’s comprehensive plan to tackle anti-social behaviour in Darwin and Palmerston includes:

- First Response Patrol
- Dedicated Anti-Social Behaviour Reporting Line
- Darwin Area Night Patrol
- Closed Circuit Television cameras
- Increased Short-Term Accommodation
- Return To Home Program boosted
- New level of co-operation between all Government and non-government agencies

Media contact: Nikola Lekias 0438 323660