LABOR PROMISES MUST BE HONOURED

The Territory Opposition is demanding Federal Labor honour long standing promises when it brings down its first budget tomorrow night.

“Everyone Territorian touched by the tragedy of cancer will be hoping for the allocation of the necessary funds to establish an Oncology Unit at Royal Darwin Hospital,” says Terry Mills, Leader of the Opposition.

“There are no more excuses for forcing cancer sufferers to travel interstate to seek cancer treatment – Territory Labor has promised an Oncology Unit for years, Federal Labor must deliver its part of the bargain tomorrow night.

“Given Federal Labor has promised $8 million to upgrade treatment facilities at the Cairn’s Oncology Unit, it would be a particularly cruel outcome if Territory cancer suffers were to fall victim to the Rudd razor gang.

“The promised Palmerston health clinic must also be delivered in full in the Federal budget. Territory Labor cynically cut health funding for the people of Palmerston to help Damien Hale get elected – Federal Labor needs to restore those health services.

“The promised Federal funding for CCTV around the city and suburbs of Darwin is critical in the fight against increasing crime and must be honoured. Damien Hale promised to make our streets safer; he needs to come up with the goods.

“I’m also very keen to see the introduction of integrated early learning centres in the Territory. Life would become a great deal simpler for many families if there was a single drop off point in the morning.

“I’ll also be watching to see how much money will be allocated to ensure 18,000 four year olds in northern Australia receive 15 hours of preschool per week; this is a substantial challenge.

“I will also be watching the reaction of the Territory Government closely. Last year it published a long wish list in the lead up to the Federal budget. This year it has been suspiciously silent despite the fact many of the things it demanded weren’t delivered.

“Should we assume that extra GPs, funds for renal health, funds for CDU and funds for capital works at private schools are no longer important?”

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