Jodeen Carney  
Opposition Whip

Media Release

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WHERE WAS WALLY?

The Territory Government failed to ensure that just 2 members were present at the start of Budget Estimates in the Health portfolio yesterday.

Highly paid and well-prepared public servants were left twiddling their thumbs until the committee had a quorum.

When Ted (Wally) Warren turned up, after leaving everyone awaiting one waiting for 10 minutes, the session opened.

“This is slack and arrogant behaviour by a Government that has an overwhelming parliamentary majority,” says Jodeen Carney, Opposition Whip.

“Incompetence may also have been a factor.

“With 19 members in Parliament it’s inexcusable that the Government failed to ensure 2 of its number were sitting on the Estimates Committee to allowed proceeding to continue.

“Former Chief Minister, Clare Martin, and former Deputy Chief Minister, Syd Stirling, have failed to appear at all.

“Former Local Government Minister, Elliot McAdam, has also been conspicuous by his absence.

“I hope this is the last time the Parliament can't function because of arrogance or incompetence.

“One can only wonder what the public servants thought of the delay.”

Further comment: Jodeen Carney 8951 5588