CONFIDENCE IN CO-OPERATION

The Country Liberals will end the current dysfunctional relationship between the Territory Government and Councils by establishing a policy of constructive co-operation between the two levels of government.

The Country Liberals have released their complete Better Neighbourhoods policy at the Parap Pool.

“Our Better Neighbourhoods policy is based on the need for the Territory Government and Councils to co-ordinate the development of local infrastructure, the delivery of services and improved safety for local communities,” says Terry Mills, Leader of the Country Liberals.

“To help build Better Neighbourhoods the Country Liberals will create a $48 million fund which Councils would be able to access to improve amenities in their local communities.

“The days of the Territory Government deciding on local projects from the top floor of Parliament House without consultation or cooperation must end.

“Time and again, when the Territory Government tries to impose a project on Councils it falls over because of inadequate consultation.

“The Country Liberals comprehensive Better Neighbourhoods policy creates a number of funding allocations that can be used for different purposes.”

In recognition of the importance of community pools in the Territory, and the significant costs associated with them, the Country Liberals Better Neighbourhoods policy commits $17 million capital investment fund for Councils to access for building a new community pool or upgrading an existing one.
To facilitate the development of other infrastructure initiatives local Councils believe are important to the development of stronger communities, the Better Neighbourhoods policy also creates a $23 million pool of funding for infrastructure and service initiatives. Each Councils share of this fund will be determined by a per capita calculation and the money available on a dollar for dollar basis. This money could be used to establish kerbside recycling, installing lights on sports fields, youth cafes.

The third component of our Better Neighbourhoods policy, the Local Streets package will provide $8 million over three years to assist Councils and residents to fix minor damage quickly and provide maintenance and upgrades to public facilities such as parks and to combat anti-social behaviour at a grass roots level. This money is also made available on a dollar for dollar basis. (The Anti-Social Behaviour fund is included in this package)

The policy will apply to Darwin, Palmerston, Alice Springs, Katherine, Litchfield and Tennant Creek Councils.