SHADING THE GOVERNMENT

With the announcement of an early election campaign the Country Liberals have pledged to fund shading for the park between Plowman and Bruce Streets, the Nelson Tce park and at Charles Darwin University Oval.

“Providing shade for the people of Alice Springs to play under is such a sensible policy that the Government should immediately match this initiative,” says Jodeen Carney, Member for Araluen.

“I wrote to the Alice Springs Town Council about the matter last month, but was advised that there were no funds available in its current budget.

“The Mayor advised that from time to time funds become available from Government that Council may access for purposes such as erecting shade in parks.

“Putting shade up at the 3 sites would improve their appearance and increase the likelihood of people using the facilities.

“That’s why the failure of the Henderson Government to honour its 2005 election promise to provide shade at the Nelson Tce park was so foolish.

“Earlier this year I wrote to the Minister for Sport, Matthew Bonson, proposing he fund simple, inexpensive shade structures at CDU to provide some basic protection from the sun for the sports community of Alice Springs,” says Matt Conlan, Member for Greatorex.

“That request was fobbed off the ludicrous response he was ‘unable to provide financial assistance as the facility is not owned by a sporting organisation’.

“With an obesity epidemic stalking our kids we need to be encouraging them to do as much exercise as possible.

“Putting them in danger of sun stroke in the short term and skin cancer the long term is bloody negligent.”
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