I S THE NEW PRI SON TO BE BUILT AT HOWARD SPRING S?

Gerry Wood, the Independent Member for Nelson, says there are rumours flying around that the Government intends to build the new prison at Howard Springs. He says it’s curious the Government has not said where it will waste $300m of taxpayer’s money by moving the prison from its perfectly suitable site at Berrimah to a mystery site in the rural area.

Gerry says that perhaps we won’t know until after the next election so that the Government can avoid any possible backlash if the prison was sited close to rural residences.

Gerry says it would be ironical if the Berrimah Prison was demolished so that it wouldn’t interfere with the Government’s five minute planning concept of a housing estate at Berrimah Farm but then it moves the prison onto land already zoned residential or adjacent to existing residential subdivisions.

Gerry says
• that the existing Berrimah Prison site should be upgraded and part of Berrimah farm used as a prison farm.
• the rest of Berrimah farm should be used for industrial development because of the proximity to the port.
• any new housing development should be at Weddell which is the planned site for the next satellite city.
• and small low security prisons should be built near Katherine and Tennant Creek.

Gerry says that the decision to completely demolish the 30 year old prison after only recently adding a new wing at Don Dale and a low security wing at Berrimah (total value $10m) clearly highlights that this government
• couldn’t plan a birthday party let alone a city
• and is happy to waste taxpayers money.

Cessi foro gallinarum sed surgo