Parliament To Deliver For All Territorians

Leader of Government Business, Delia Lawrie, today said the next two weeks of Parliamentary sittings would have a strong focus on improving and protecting the lives of Territorians.

“Our crackdown on crime will continue – we’re getting even tougher on violent offenders and we will also be targeting repeat drink drivers,” Ms Lawrie said.

“Serious violent offenders will not get a second chance and bail will be tightened under tough proposals debated in Parliament this week.

“The Sentencing (Violent Offences) Amendment Bill means offenders found guilty of serious violent offences will serve a term of imprisonment.

“Amendments to the Bail Act means there will also be a presumption against bail for a serious violent offence.

“Tough new measures to combat drink drivers will also be debated in the form of our Transport Legislation (Alcohol Interlocks) Bill - aimed at making our roads safer.

“The Alcohol Interlocks Bill will require repeat drink drivers to install an ignition lock in their vehicle after a licence suspension in order to get their licence back.”

Ms Lawrie said reform of the gaming industry would take another step forward with the Gaming Machine Amendment Bill to be debated.

“Playing the pokies excessively can seriously affect someone’s life – this legislation caps gaming machines,” Ms Lawrie said.

Ms Lawrie said there would also be an amendment to the Local Government (Consequential Amendment) Bill enabling mayors of municipal councils to exercise a casting vote.

Ms Lawrie said Parliament would also look at the recent decision by INPEX to build its $12 billion gas plant in Darwin.

“This project will be the largest private sector development in our history,” Ms Lawrie said.

“The Northern Territory Government will outline its plans to manage our strong economy that will become even stronger once INPEX starts to build its $12 billion gas plant.”

Ms Lawrie said there would also be condolence motions this week in Parliament for two great Territorians – Sam Calder and “Aunty” Hilda Muir.

Contact: Edwin Edlund 0401 119 563