Kezia Purick
Deputy Opposition Leader
Media Release

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PUBLIC HOUSING WAITING LISTS GROW

The Minister for Housing, Rob Knight, today tabled figures substantiating that waiting lists for public housing in the Territory are growing at an alarming rate.

The Housing Minister’s statistics have 3353 Territorians waiting for public housing on the 30th of June 2008 – up from 2600 on the public housing waiting list as at 30th June 2007 (ABS figures).

“These figures confirm that poor policy decisions of yesterday are hurting Territorians today and will that pain will increase in the future,” says Kezia Purick, Deputy Opposition Leader.

“The twin mistakes of restricting land release for private development and selling off the public housing stock has pushed private rents through the roof and increased the number of people needing public housing.

“Today’s figures are also a deep embarrassment for the Treasurer.

“Yesterday the Treasurer accused the Opposition of attempting to mislead the Parliament when we tabled figures that showed the Territory has the second largest per capita waiting lists in the nation.

“Today’s figures confirm the Territory still has the second largest per capita waiting lists in the nation and are now just a nose behind the worst performing state – South Australia.”

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