I’D HATE TO SEE A LARGE AMOUNT OF MONEY

John Elferink MLA
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The Treasurer’s flippant dismissal of $657 million as ‘a small amount’ of money demonstrates the spend-thrift attitude that has permeated Delia Lawrie’s time as Treasurer.

“During Estimates hearings today, the Treasurer was asked how much extra money the GST windfall had delivered to Treasury’s coffers,” says Shadow Treasurer John Elferink.

“The response was telling. The Treasurer fobbed off the question by saying the sum of money was ‘a small amount’, that could employ a few extra public servants.

“When asked to add up the ‘small amount’, it came to $657 million dollars.

“How can Territorians have faith in the holder of the Territory’s purse strings when she considers more than half-a-billion-dollars ‘a small amount’?

“Additional revenues of $657 million over the past 10 years could have put the Territory budget in the black by saving hundreds-of-millions in interest payments.”

(Extract attached)

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