Manager of Opposition Business, John Elferink, has condemned the Labor Government for delaying today’s Parliamentary Question Time in Alice Springs for 90 minutes so members could adjourn for lunch.

The Opposition launched a censure motion against the Government this morning condemning Labor for its failure to provide a sufficient response to the Alice Springs law and order crisis.

“The censure debate finished at 2pm, almost to the minute when Question Time was due to begin,” Mr Elferink said.

“A large number of Alice Springs residents had assembled in the gallery to watch the first Question Time in the town for 15 months and the last until after the next Territory election.

“But instead of seeing Question Time, what they saw was Labor members scuttling out the door for lunch.

“By the time Question Time began at 3.30pm, the chamber was nearly empty.

“This is a continuation of the contempt the Labor Party has shown the people of Alice Springs since winning Government in 2001.

“It’s been a long decade for Alice Springs. The lack of marginal seats in the town means it misses out on much of the Government’s largesse.

“The moral from today’s events is never stand between a Labor Party member and a sandwich.”

Further comment: John Elferink 0418 406 400