COUNTRY LIBERALS

MEDIA RELEASE

HENDO, YOU’VE SHRUNK THE TERRITORY

Terry Mills MLA

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The latest Australian Bureau of Statistics population figures showcase the Henderson Government’s ignorance of the problems facing ordinary Territorians.

Opposition Leader, Terry Mills, said while the Labor Government tries to sugar-coat issues such as the housing crisis and the cost of living, Territorians are packing up and leaving in their hundreds.

In the December quarter, the Territory’s population fell by 312 – the first quarterly population decline since March 2003.

It’s only the fourth time the population has fallen – and the largest decline – since 1981.

“The Northern Territory should be growing, but under Labor it’s actually going backwards,” Mr Mills said.

“While I acknowledge the re-deployment of troops from Robertson Barracks to Adelaide will have contributed to the decline, this isn’t the only factor.

“During the past 5 quarters, in excess of 100 more people a month have left the Territory than migrated here.

“Since October, 2022 more people have left the Territory than moved here.

“A major factor in this trend are the cost of living pressures brought about by the Government’s failure to release enough land to meet housing demand.

“As a result, Territorians are being stopped from getting a home by record house prices and the highest capital city rents in the country. In other words, it’s cheaper to get a home and raise a family down south.

“Electricity prices have climbed by nearly 25% over the past two years and a basket of groceries is the most expensive in the country.

“Meanwhile, the Henderson Government has thrown its full support behind the inflation inducing carbon tax.”

(See attachments)

Further comment: Terry Mills 0418 833 594