MEDIA RELEASE

THE BIG THAW

January 18th, 2012

The latest surge in job ads, many of which are public sector positions, highlights the large number of Territorians leaving their jobs and moving interstate.

Shadow Treasurer John Elferink said that between December 2009 and June 2011, 3424 more people left the Territory than relocated here from interstate.

While a number of those are from the Defence Forces many are ordinary Territorians who were struggling under the weight of high prices.

“This is about poor Government policy forcing people to look elsewhere to set up home because of the Territory’s high cost of living,” Mr Elferink said.

“Rents are the highest of any Australian capital and the cost of housing is out of reach for many single workers and young families.

“I’d be happier if the majority of the job ads were in the private sector because but according to the ANZ they’re mostly Government jobs.

“The Government announced a freeze on public sector numbers in March 2010, but it appears to be defrosting.”

Further comment: John Elferink 0418 406 400