DUTY OF CARE

December 15th, 2011

The Chief Minister must take steps to prevent a repeat of the alleged assault incidents that occurred at Darwin’s Wave Pool earlier this week.

Member for Port Darwin, John Elferink, said the Government should ensure Territory students are not put at risk from assault by asylum seekers.

“The Henderson Government has a duty of care to Territorians and as the owner of facilities like the wave pool, should be putting the safety of locals at a premium,” Mr Elferink said.

“The reason asylum seekers are placed in detention is because we don’t know their circumstances, their histories and their character make-up – on that basis they should not be allowed exposure to school students and other potentially vulnerable Territorians.

“The Chief Minister should urgently contact the Department of Immigration and make it clear any future access to the Wave Pool and other Territory Government infrastructure by asylum seekers is done outside of hours.”

Further comment: John Elferink 0418 406 400