March 29th, 2012

The latest population figures show more Territorians continue to relocate interstate than make the move here.

Opposition Leader Terry Mills said in the September quarter, net interstate migration was down 157.

This is the eighth consecutive quarter net interstate migration has declined and over the past two years, 3500 more people have left the Territory than settled here.

This is on top of the sharp slowdown in overseas migration which contributed to the Territory’s population increasing by just 901 during 2010-11 – down from 3261 the previous year.

“Territorians are showing just what they think of the Henderson Government’s inflationary policies,” Mr Mills said.

“The cost of housing continues to hurt workers and families and the rents are the highest of any capital city in the country.

“Electricity prices increased by almost 25% over the past few years, the price of fuel is increasing and the Government’s container deposit scheme has also had an inflationary impact.

“The Henderson Government isn’t listening to Territorians and is dismissive of criticisms of their failed policies.

“It showed its sensitivity with its dismissal of the findings of the Property Council’s ‘My City’ survey.

“Instead of condemning the messenger, Labor should address issues like housing and the cost of living that are important to Territorians.”

(See attached link)

Further comment: Terry Mills 0418 833 594