MEDIA RELEASE

SERIOUS DELIVERY FAILURE

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The Henderson Government’s failure to deliver on key services is highlighted in a new Property Council Report.

Opposition Leader, Terry Mills, said the Council’s ‘My City – The People’s Verdict 2011’ report provides a damning critique of the Henderson Government’s performance.

The report delivered Darwin the ‘wooden spoon’ in terms of its livability – a dismal result considering it was up against all other capital cities, Wollongong and Newcastle.

Darwin residents rated the Henderson Government last or second last in:

• The release of land for new homes
• Planning and managing urban growth
• Making housing more affordable
• Renewing inner-urban areas with high quality apartments and townhouses

Darwin residents rated the city last or second last in:

• The availability of good schools and other educational facilities
• A good balance of different housing types
• Its safety for people and property
• Whether it is an affordable place to have a good standard of living
• The provision of affordable quality housing
• The provision of healthcare services

Darwin also rated poorly in terms of its overall look and design.

“We all love Darwin and the Northern Territory, but the Henderson Government is selling us short,” Mr Mills said.

“This survey is evidence of the Labor Government’s failure to plan and inability to meet the demands of the Territory’s growing population.

“Darwin’s anticipated growth over the next decade will challenge Government
and policy makers.

“Over the past 11 years, the Labor Government has failed to release enough residential land and this has left Territorians with the highest capital city rents in the country and a housing market out of reach for many young families and workers.

“While the report is positive about the prospects of getting a job in Darwin, the cost of housing has contributed to more than 3,500 people abandoning the city over the past two years.

“In other words if you do get a job, you still may not be able to afford to live here.

“By contrast, the Country Liberals’ Greater Darwin Plan identifies how the opportunities available into the future can be maximized through proper planning.”

“The Property Council report clearly shows the Government has failed to deliver key services and make the most of the opportunities presented to it over the past 11 years.”

Further comment: Terry Mills 0418 833 594