MEDIA RELEASE

NOT THE FULL STORY

February 02nd, 2012

The statistics emerging from Operation Thresher tell only part of the crime story in Alice Springs.

The Country Liberals’ Alice Springs members say while the police involved in Thresher deserve praise, a number of significant questions need to be answered about Labor’s ongoing commitment to fighting crime in the town.

The Government’s decision not to release quarterly crime statistics makes it difficult to assess the overall success of the Operation.

“The large quantities of alcohol poured out during Operation Thresher confirmed the Country Liberals’ view that problem drinkers can still get grog despite Labor’s restrictions,” says Member for Greatorex, Matt Conlan.

“Locals and visitors to the town are being restricted from buying takeaway alcohol, but problem drunks are still obtaining large volumes of grog.”

Member for Braitling, Adam Giles, said the statistics in the police media release tell only part of the story this Summer.

“There was still a great deal of crime in Alice Springs even with Operation Thresher in place,” he said.

“The added police focus in the town raises the question why the Government won’t adopt Country Liberals policy and place an additional 20 full time police into the town.”

Member for Araluen, Robyn Lambley, said the Government should say what plans they have in place now that Operation Thresher has come to an end.

“Labor has no plan for Central Australia and residents in and around Alice Springs are fed up with the Government’s piecemeal policy approach,” she said.

“People in the town want a consistent, coherent response to the problems that have been present for many years, not just ad hoc announcements with no long term strategy.”

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