MEDIA RELEASE

ASLEEP AT THE WHEEL

February 01st, 2012

The closure of the Register of Encumbered Vehicles (REVs), has exposed Territorians to rip offs when they buy second-hand cars with existing financial liabilities.

Shadow Attorney General, John Elferink, said the traditional REVs checks were recently stopped on the understanding they would be replaced by a new national register, supported by the Northern Territory Government.

“When Delia Lawrie was Attorney General, she reassured Territorians that the Commonwealth scheme she supported would take over from the REVs checks from May 2011,” Mr Elferink said.

“The new system will not be fully operational until 2014, even though REVs has been wound up.

“Delia Lawrie promised that the legislation would protect Territorians and now, because of the Government's inaction and failure to ensure the national scheme was operational, there is no protection available.

“Buying a second hand car or other vehicle is a considerable expense and these purchases should be made on the understanding there’s no existing monies owed which would have to repaid by the new owner.

“The Government should now explain what it is going to do to fill the void left by the closure of the scheme.”

Further comment: John Elferink 0418 406 400