MEDIA RELEASE

CRIME STATS COVER-UP

February 09th, 2012

The release of several recent sets of national crime data has highlighted the need for the Henderson Government to resume the release of local quarterly crime statistics.

Opposition Leader, Terry Mills, said the snapshots provided by three separate sets of statistics released over recent days reinforce the importance of the trend data that were contained in the quarterly crime figures.

- Australian Bureau of Statistics figures contained on the Treasury website reveal that 40.2% of Territory prisoners were in custody for acts intended to cause injury, such as assaults, compared with 19.2% nationally.
- Australian Bureau of Statistics data show that the Territory had the country’s highest offender rate in 2010-11, with 4562 offenders per 100,000 people aged 10 and over.
- Australian Institute of Health and Welfare figures show the disproportionately high number of Territory children aged between 10 and 17 in juvenile detention.

“Without the benefit of the detailed quarterly crime statistics, it is impossible to determine trend changes in Territory crime,” Mr Mills said.

“It’s also not possible to determine crime levels in regional centres.

“The Government will continue cherry-picking data to back its Banned Drinkers’ Register, but still refuse to make public statistics available.

“Labor’s decision to scrap the quarterly crime statistics was a cynical move designed to hide the truth from Territorians.

“The Country Liberals will re-introduce quarterly crime statistics if we’re elected to Government in August."

(See statistics attached)

Further comment: Terry Mills 0418 833 594