19 November 2012

Children and Families Advisory Board Disbanded

Shadow Minister for Children and Families for Natasha Fyles said it is concerning to hear that the Territory Government has scrapped that Children and Families Advisory Board.

Ms Fyles said she has heard that members of the Advisory Board have received letters advising them that their services are no longer required.

“The Children and Families Advisory Board provided strong and independent advice to the Territory Government,” Ms Fyles said.

“Disbanding the Advisory Board will be another blow to the critical area of Children and Families.

“The CLP clearly do not want any independent assessment or scrutiny of their plans for child protection. The last thing the CLP seem to want is experts getting to see what they are doing.

“The CLP Government has already scrapped the Child Protection External Monitoring and Reporting Committee that was established to oversee the implementation of the recommendations of the Board of Inquiry through the Growing then Strong, Together report.

“And downgrading the Office of Children and Families from being a department has also been a bad move by the CLP Government.

“The CLP Government and the new Families and Children Minister Robyn Lambley are not listening to the child protection experts.

“The CLP are again breaking their promise of being an accountable government by scrapping another independent advisory board.”

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