Consumer spending hurting in the regions

Member for Barkly Gerry McCarthy said power and water price hikes and job insecurity is slowing consumer spending and hurting small business in the regions.

“The CLP government has created an atmosphere of panic and uncertainty and there is no doubt it is affecting spending habits in regional businesses,” Mr McCarthy said.

“I live and travel in the regions and see it first hand – people are not spending money as they are concerned about their upcoming power and water bill increases and the security of their jobs.

“Public servants don’t know if they have jobs and when you talk to local business owners they say this is impacting business.

“The CLP Government has told Territorians to start saving for power and water price hikes which is putting further pressure on families and small businesses.

“When people are feeling uncertain about their future, they don’t spend money, which impacts on local small business and the economy as a whole.

“The CLP government are slashing jobs and services and creating panic and fear.

“At a time when we should be supporting economic growth, people are tightening the purse strings and this is hurting local business.

“The CLP need to understand priorities and not disadvantage regional communities.”

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