December 3\textsuperscript{rd}, 2012

Chief Minister Terry Mills today said the Country Liberals Government was well on the way to securing a better future for the Northern Territory, after implementing almost all the measures in their 100 Day Plan.

Marking 100 days in office today, Mr Mills said his Government had checked off almost every item on the plan and undertaken several more actions to address significant issues facing the Territory as well.

“I promised Territorians that we would hit the ground running and we have,” Mr Mills said.

“I also promised Territorians that, unlike Labor, my Government would not be afraid to make tough decisions to secure a better future for the Territory, and this is what we’ve been doing for the past 100 days.

“We were elected to lead and that is what we have done. Some of our decisions have not been popular but they are necessary. We are planning for the long term security of the Territory not for our short term political survival.

“My colleagues and I have been working hard to clean up the mess left by Labor after 11 years in Government.

“Since we were elected we have ticked off 40 of the 43 actions in our 100 Day Plan, with the remaining 3 currently in progress.”

Some of the actions ticked off in the 100 Day Plan include:
- Removal of Labor’s failed Banned Drinker Register
- Started recruitment of 120 new police officers to go on the beat
- Re-released quarterly crime statistics
- Appointed an expert team to conduct an independent review of the Territory’s finances
- Moved key frontline workers in temporary positions to permanent contracts
- Opened Parap MVR on Saturdays
- Gazetted the closure of Chambers and Finke Bays to improve recreational fishing
- Increased sport and recreation grants by 50%
- Established Office of Asian Engagement
- Formed a Cabinet Sub Committee to investigate waste on Indigenous communities
- Commenced negotiations with the Commonwealth and West Australian Governments over Territory component of the Ord River Scheme
- Introduced tougher new laws to tackle crime such as One Punch Homicide, drug testing of suspects, mandatory sentencing for aggravated assault in workplace offences
Mr Mills said his Government had also notched up a number of other achievements not on the 100 Day Plan since forming Government on August 25th such as:

- Prepared Mini Budget
- Commenced fixing dire financial state of Power Water Corporation
- Lobbied Ichthys project for smaller packages for Territory businesses
- Commenced work with Pacific Aluminium and eni on opportunities to get gas to Gove
- Minister for Primary Industries travelled to Indonesia for live cattle talks
- Trade talks with China and Japan Ambassadors to Australia
- Granted Ord River scheme major project status and signed M.O.U with Commonwealth and Western Australia for stage 3 into the NT
- Approved abattoir, $200 million for economy
- Met with NRL in Sydney and secured NRL game for premiership points in 2013
- Met with Melbourne Football club to discuss future partnership
- Re-setting of Arafura Games in order to bring it back bigger and better and achieve objective of Asian engagement
- Announced new HomeBuild Access scheme
- Amalgamated Department of Education and Children and Families to produce better outcomes for Territory children
- Announced Health Department restructure to bring health services closer to people

“My Government is responsible and we are working hard every day to do the right thing for Territorians,” Mr Mills said.

Mr Mills said that while the independent Renewal Management Board’s progress report had revealed the disastrous state of the Territory’s finances, in particular in relation to Power and Water Corporation, his Government was getting on with the task of securing a better future for the Territory.

“The Renewal Management Board’s Progress Report found that thanks to Labor our mountain of debt is expected to blow out to $6 billion by 2016 and we are already paying more than $750,000 in interest repayments every single day,” Mr Mills said.

“I don’t want to see that interest bill reach $1 million a day. That would mean millions of dollars down the drain that could be spent fixing our hospitals, improving our schools, putting more police on the street and lowering the cost of living for Territorians.

“This is why my Government is cutting the waste Labor left behind and making the tough decisions they refused to do.

“We will strengthen our economy and build a 3-Hub economy that will secure a better future for all Territorians no matter where they live.”

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