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AUSTRALIA’S MOST SECRETIVE - GAGGED ESTIMATES PROCESS A FARCE

Shadow Minister for Government Accountability Michael Gunner said the CLP’s new estimates process is designed to gag public servants to prevent the truth being revealed about the CLP Government’s decisions.

“The CLP are gagging public servants to prevent them from revealing the truth to Territorians. At their first opportunity, the CLP have decided that public servants cannot answer questions and that details of questions must be provided before estimates.

“They are asking for a copy of the exam paper before the exam. They want as much time as possible to plan their cover ups and deceit,” Mr Gunner said

“The CLP are the worst Government ever and they are trying to make sure public servants can’t reveal just how bad they are with the most secretive Estimates process in Australia.

“Gagging public servants from speaking means the CLP are:

- Preventing Treasury officials from revealing the Power price rises aren’t necessary.
- Preventing Senior Police, justice and child protection officials from revealing the effects of scrapping the Banned Drinker Register
- Preventing Education experts from revealing how schools are struggling to cope with the 10% Education cuts
- Preventing Health officials from explain how many nursing positions are gone and how many health services have been scrapped
- Preventing all Department heads from revealing how many front line positions the CLP have forced them to sack,” Mr Gunner said

Providing questions in advance is clearly an admission from the CLP that their Ministers aren’t up to it.

In a final insult the CLP’s old mates earning a million dollars on the Renewal Management Board won’t account for the decisions they have forced on Territorians. “They might be paid $7000 per week but are apparently they don’t have to account for their work,” Mr Gunner said.

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