Shadow Minister for Health Kon Vatskalis today slammed the CLP for deliberately hiding hospital admissions data that demonstrates the failure of their alcohol policy.

“The CLP know that they are clogging up our emergency departments with drunks, but they are hiding the proof” Mr Vatskalis said.

“Now whistleblowers have exposed the truth. Alcohol related hospital admissions have doubled since the CLP scrapped the Banned Drinkers Register.”

Detailed alcohol related Hospital admissions data has always been made public by the Health Department. In fact several of the Government’s own websites include reports with detailed breakdowns of alcohol related Hospital admissions. It was clearly not the Health Department that wanted to cover this up – it was the CLP Minister’s who know they have failed.

Remarkably the CLP’s own Mandatory Treatment policy released earlier this month even says “Alcohol-related hospitalisations are double the national average.” *NTG Alcohol Mandatory Treatment. Frequently Asked Questions

“How can they make this claim if apparently the data is not valid? When it suits them the data is available. When it doesn’t they hide it,” Mr Vatskalis said.

“The CLP ignored police, doctors, nurses, judges and alcohol rehab experts when they scrapped the BDR. They now know the result of ignoring the advice but are trying to cover it up”

“The CLP scrapped the BDR because they said it would save $2 million. They are now building a $100 million golden revolving door that police and doctors say won’t work.”

“The CLP continue to have their head in the sand, trying to tell people that public drunkeness is down. They are wrong and Territorians know it”

CONTACT: Adele Young 0418 891 933