Experts tag CLP policy an expensive fail

Shadow Health Minister Kon Vatskalis today called on the Government to listen to the Australian Medical Association (AMA) who labeled CLP alcohol policy an expensive waste of money.

“Stop gagging experts and start listening to them,” Mr Vatskalis said.

“The AMA joined a chorus of experts who say the plans will be an expensive failure. Police, doctors, lawyers and rehabilitation providers say the CLP alcohol policies are doomed to fail.

"By the CLP’s own figures it will cost $90,000 per treatment that experts say won’t work."

CLP Health Minister Robyn Lambley admitted they expect a one-in-ten success rate, meaning it’ll cost almost $900,000 per rehabilitated drunk.

“The CLP should get their head out of the sand, stop gagging experts like police and start listening,” Mr Vatskalis said.

“Doctors who see and deal with the carnage of alcohol abuse and violence every day do want a solution - but they know the CLP’s policy will fail.

“Violent crime is up 17% and Domestic Violence is up 24% since the CLP came to power.

“The CLP promised to immediately remove drunks from the streets. Instead they have removed more teachers from schools than drunks from the streets.”

Kon Vatskalis renewed Opposition calls to allow the proposed laws to be examined by a bipartisan committee which would hear from the experts.

“The CLP are spending $45 million to implement their discredited plans in just one year, while the scrapped Palmerston Hospital only required $30M from the Territory Government – they could have built it instead,” Mr Vatskalis said.

“The CLP’s priorities are wrong and their promises are broken. Experts from police, doctors and even their own members are saying their plans will fail.”

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