2 April 2014

CLP HOUSING FAILURE DATA

Shadow Minister for Public and Affordable Housing, Lynne Walker, said the Building Approvals data released by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) today shows that the Territory is lagging behind for the sixth consecutive month, highlighting yet another deficiency of the failing CLP Government.

“The number of dwelling approvals in the Territory has dropped for the sixth month in a row,” Ms Walker said.

“The Territory decreased in trend terms, down by 20.8 per cent compared to the 0.7 per cent rise experienced nationally in February 2014.

“The cost of housing in the Territory is so high due to the inability for supply to meet the increasing demand.

“RP Data-Rismark numbers yesterday confirmed that Darwin housing costs have increased – with Darwin posting the highest rental yields.

“The ABS data shows that this strain will continue with the decreasing number of dwelling buildings being approved.

“The CLP Government has done nothing in their 19 months of Government to ease the housing burden in the Territory other than re-announced land being released by the former Labor Government.

“The CLP scrapped home finance schemes like My New Home and Homestart Extra which helped Territorians into home ownership and gave a stimulus to housing construction.”

Ms Walker said it was clear that given the chaotic and dysfunctional CLP Government had taken their eye off the ball and were failing to deliver affordable housing.

“The CLP Government is a shambles,” Ms Walker said.

“They lack direction and construction, a vital industry to the growth of the Territory is suffering.

“Territorians are feeling the cost of living pain of the CLP’s housing failure."

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