MEDI A RELEASE

Delia Lawrie
LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION

3 April 2014

CLP HURT TERRITORY BUSINESSES

Leader of the Opposition and Shadow Minister for Business, Delia Lawrie, said today’s Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) Retail Trade figures show that the Territory’s industries are lagging behind the rest of Australia.

“The ABS data show the Territory experienced a poor February compared to past years,” Ms Lawrie said.

“After the seasonal lull period of December and January, retail trade usually picks up in February – which has not happened this year.”

Ms Lawrie said that the CLP Government has been too embroiled in distractions of their own making to effectively govern the Territory and provide the stimulus and policy initiatives industry needs.

“Adam Giles and his Government are so consumed with their own infighting and instability that they are failing to govern the Territory effectively,” Ms Lawrie said.

“Businesses in the Territory are suffering.

“The increases in the cost of power and water being felt by Territory families, is also being felt by Territory businesses.

“In many cases businesses have no choice but to pass on these cost increases to their customers.

“The Territory economy is suffering with Territorians struggling to pay the exorbitant cost of living in the Territory leaving very little left over to spend at local businesses – and without Territorians buying their products these businesses have had to shut their doors.

“This was confirmed this week with the latest ABS figures on the number of businesses surviving in the Territory; almost 1,000 businesses that were operating in the Territory in June 2012 had closed their doors by June 2013, a fall of 7.1 per cent.”

Ms Lawrie said the residents of Blain have the opportunity to send a message to the CLP Government on April 12 that the cost of living is too high in the Territory.

“The CLP Government has shown utter contempt for Territorians struggling to make ends meet,” Ms Lawrie said.
“The CLP Government promised to reduce the cost of living in the Territory and they have broken this promise.

“Residents of Blain deserve to be represented by someone who cares that they are struggling – a great reason to support Geoff Bahnert.”

Media contact: Cathryn Tilmouth 0427 500 667