URGENT AUDIT NEEDED TO TACKLE CHILD PROTECTION CRISIS

Shadow Minister for Child Protection, Lynne Walker, today called for an urgent audit of the Department of Child Protection by the Children's Commissioner Dr Howard Bath.

"Child protection in the Territory is in crisis and it is our children who bear the consequences," Ms Walker said.

"Revelations that the very people that are in charge of dealing with children in crisis are succumbing to despair under the burden must prompt action not excuses.

"No society should fail their children and every effort needs to be made to protect them.

"An urgent audit needs to take place to ensure these vital frontline child protection staff have the resources and support to protect the Territory’s most vulnerable children.

"Distressingly it is clear the $8million cut to child protection resources by the CLP is taking its toll on too many families."

Ms Walker said the CLP must open the agency to thorough scrutiny by the Children's Commissioner Dr Howard Bath to implement recommendations.

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