RDH CRISIS NEEDS URGENT ATTENTION

Shadow Health Minister, Nicole Manison, has called on the Giles Government to fast-track the availability of the 100 bed medi-hostel to offset the critical shortage of beds at the Royal Darwin Hospital.

“Adam Giles needs to face up to the reality that the Royal Darwin Hospital is bursting at the seams and has plunged into crisis,” Ms Manison said.

“Health Department staff, doctors and nurses are doing a great job under enormous pressure but the CLP need to understand just how dire the health situation has become.”

She said long waits and double bunking in the Emergency Department were now commonplace and with no beds available for new patients the pressure is constantly on wards to discharge patients.

“The CLP needs to put together a team to urgently relocate alcoholics from the medi-hostel to rehabilitation institutions and open the medi-hostel by the end of August to alleviate the RDH crisis,” Ms Manison said.

“It’s a facility which was designed and built to take the pressure off the RDH and allow patients who are in need of beds to be cared for in an appropriate setting.”

Ms Manison also raised concerns that the Palmerston Hospital market sounding process was yet another delay.

“The CLP need to get on with putting the Palmerston Hospital to tender and getting it built.”

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