New ICT Advisory Council to grow local industry

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The Territory Government is establishing a new Information, Communications and Technology Advisory Council to give expert advice on ways to develop the local industry.

“We want to grow our local ICT industry and explore new, innovative ways of doing business in this sector,” Chief Minister Adam Giles said.

“This new Advisory Council is designed to give feedback to government on barriers to local industry development and ways the Government can be more strategic in its dealings with this industry, building capacity.

“It will also look at possible ideas for increasing local content in ICT contracts and ways emerging technologies might be used to improve efficiency in Government.

“Members of the Council will give technical advice on appropriate industry service standards and performance measures to ensure we get the best value for money from our contracted services.

“We want to do this work in partnership with the industry and have invited a high profile group of industry representative to sit on the Council.”

This approach is in sharp contrast to Labor’s bungling of IT during their 11 years in Government which has cost taxpayers dearly.

“Labor proved their incompetence in managing this sector through the $70 million Asset Management System debacle,” Mr Giles said.

“In March we were forced to scrap this failed IT system despite the millions of taxpayer dollars spent on it.

“I am pleased to report that the first stages of our replacement Asset Systems Network or ASNET will soon go live, stabilising systems for the management of assets.”

ASNET will manage the Territory’s infrastructure assets valued at around $11 billion covering everything from houses through to highways.
This transition will begin at the end of the week and contingencies are in place to help agencies and contractors manage the switch-over.

“I am pleased to report that local ICT expertise has been used to implement this first phase of ASNET. This has seen a significant reduction in the fly-in fly-out contractors which were a regular feature of Labor’s failed Asset Management System,” Mr Giles said.

“AMS is yet another Labor embarrassment. I am pleased we are doing things differently and smarter, asking industry for their advice and promoting our local ICT sector.”

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