MEDIA RELEASE

Natasha Fyles
SHADOW MINISTER FOR GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY

27 November 2014

TERRITORIANS SUFFER UNDER WORST GOVERNMENT EVER

Shadow Minister for Government Accountability, Natasha Fyles, said 2014 showed a nasty and arrogant Giles Government failing to deliver for Territorians.

“Territorians have had to suffer a terrible year under the worst Government ever,” Ms Fyles said.

“Arrogant Adam Giles and the CLP Government have betrayed the trust of Territorians by selling off TIO without a mandate.

“They’re driving up the cost of living with huge hikes in power and water bills and another round of increases are slated for 1 January, 2015. The average family has already had to find an extra $2000 a year to pay these bills.

“TIO’s new owner Allianz says insurance premiums will increase for many policy holders by 200 percent or more.

“And, before the ink was dry on that dud deal, they’re moving on to their next target, Darwin Port. If the Port is privatised, every business knows the cost of all goods that move in or out of here goes up.

“This year Territorians have been left with no confidence that the CLP Government operates with any transparency or accountability. Serious questions on the allocation of water licences, land deals and Foundation 51 have been dodged and the Inquiry into political donations nombled before it could even begin.

“Three CLP members walked out of the CLP in disgust at their antics early in the year and two Ministers have been publically disgraced.

“The merry-go-round of CLP reshuffles continues with Territorians watching to see if Dave Tollner will be let out of the naughty corner.

“Education in the Territory has taken a major hit with schools forced to cut teachers, support staff and programs under the new global school budget policy which gives them even less to pay the bills.

“Palmerston residents are no closer to having access to their own hospital and are now told it’s going to be privatised.
“RDH is still suffering bed block, double bunking, pressure on the emergency department and bungled hospital car parking.

“The Territory’s Child Protection system is in crisis. A record high of 900 children are under the care of the Department of Children and Families. A backlog 1,160 case reviews are overdue.

“Vulnerable Territory kids are suffering because the CLP Government refuses to properly resource and support the child protection system in the Territory.

“On Saturday it will be one year since Rio Tinto announced the closure of the Alumina Refinery in Nhulunbuy and one year since Adam Giles and the CLP Government turned their backs on the residents of Nhulunbuy and the region.

“Bush electorates are still waiting to see the big CLP promises of infrastructure and jobs delivered.

“The Chief Minister has failed to get anything for the Territory from Canberra’s infrastructure fund.

“Two years in and they continue to cut the ribbons on Labor-legacy infrastructure projects. Small businesses are suffering due to CLP budget cuts and a lack of new projects in the pipeline.

Ms Fyles asked how much more Territorians can bear from this incompetent CLP Government.

“Self-interest has motivated the CLP Government this year while Territorians struggle.

“It is appalling that the CLP Government put more effort into plans to sell off Territory assets than to resourcing front line services, supporting local businesses, and ensuring Territorians aren’t forced to move interstate for cheaper living and more employment opportunities.”

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