Call for Concessions to Community Organisations

Leader of the Opposition Delia Lawrie today called on Terry Mills and the CLP Government to backflip over massive PowerWater price hikes, and failing that; immediately provide power price concessions to Territory sport and recreation groups, community and charitable organisations.

Ms Lawrie said that these community groups face their toughest year yet after Terry Mills broke his promise to reduce the cost of living, and introduced 30 and 40 per cent increases to power and water and 25 per cent to sewerage.

“Sporting groups are grappling with increased operational costs and potentially reduced membership as the cost of living goes up, and the five per cent funding cut to all charities was a decision indicative of a Government that is out of touch with the crippling impact of these hikes,” Ms Lawrie said.

“Many sporting venues are doing their best to absorb the CLP’s price hikes, but the reality is most are faced with no option but to pass increased costs on to the players and spectators.”

Ms Lawrie added that concessions for charitable organisations should be a priority since they are being inundated to assist Territorians make ends meet due to cost of living pressures.

“Charities such as the Salvation Army and Anglicare provide assistance to Territorians in purchasing essentials like food, clothing, and making bill payments - but with increased demand and a cut to their funding by the CLP Government, they’ve been effectively hamstrung,” Ms Lawrie said.

“The CLP backflipped over the $20 over the counter fee at the Motor Vehicle Registry and axing the Humpty Doo firefighters and removing the Palmerston rescue vehicle and jaws of life – time to admit it that they have got it disastrously wrong on the massive PowerWater slug and do another backflip.

“Terry Mills needs to stop inflicting pain on Territorians to pay for his unfunded election commitments in the bush. These crippling price hikes are hitting Territorians at every turn. At the very least, sporting, community and charitable organisations need to immediately be given the same concession as pensioners and schools who pay half of the increased tariffs.”

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