Clamping down on serial fine defaulters

12 October 2015

The Country Liberal Government is clamping down further on serial fine defaulters with wheel clamping to immobilise vehicles and names to be published on a name and shame website, which goes live today.

The passing of the Fines and Penalties (Recovery) Amendment Bill 2015 in September introduced new measures to target serial fine defaulters owing over $10,000 in unpaid fines.

In addition to facing imprisonment for non-payment, serial defaulters will now stand to ‘lose their ride’ through wheel clamping and face the embarrassment of being named and shamed on the Fines Recovery Unit website.

It is estimated that serial fine defaulters owe the Northern Territory Government and Civic authorities in excess of $63 million.

“This is a substantial amount of money and we are serious about recouping these losses,’’ Attorney-General John Elferink said.

This money will go a long way. We as a Government could use it to help fix roads, repair civil infrastructure, build schools or fit out hospitals.’’

The Country Liberals Government has had enough of the small number of Territorians who continually refuse to live up to their responsibilities to pay their fines in full or enter reasonable time to pay arrangements.

Serial fine defaulters can no longer evade their responsibilities anonymously – their vehicles will be immobilised and fellow Territorians will know who they are and how much they owe.

Mr Elferink encouraged those with fines to contact the Fines Recovery Unit on 1800 111 530 in order to avoid the inconvenience and embarrassment.

“To avoid wheel clamping and having your name entered on the Fines Recovery Unit Name and Shame website contact the Fines Recovery Unit,’’

“The Fines Recovery Unit will work with individuals on a payment plan should they not be able to pay the total amount.’’

Media Contact: Dimitra Grehl 0439 640 895