Justice demands DPP prosecute Foundation 51

The decision by the Director of Public Prosecutions (DPP) and the Police Special Unit not to prosecute the CLP’s Foundation 51 for breaches of the Electoral Act despite saying there is a "prima facie case and reasonable prospect of conviction" is a savage blow to the foundations of an open, transparent and fair system of democracy and justice in the Northern Territory.

"The DPP and the Police must immediately explain why fundamental breaches of the law will not be prosecuted. They must explain in whose interest they think it is not to prosecute," said Michael Gunner.

"Territorians expect that when an organisation breaks the law, whether it is big or small, like the government, the CLP or anyone, a prosecution will follow.

"In fact, it is in the interest of the public to ensure that these sorts of prosecutions do take place, not the reverse.

Mr Gunner said that the proper functioning of political parties under the Electoral Act is critical to the proper functioning of democracy in the Territory.

"It is evident that the CLP’s Foundation 51 has not abided by this process and Territorians will want them appropriately punished for that,” said Michael Gunner.

"A failure to prosecute these breaches sends an appalling signal to the community. To publically state it is not in the interests of Territorians must be explained and explained now.”

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