Adam Giles
Chief Minister of the Northern Territory

**Labor business plan endorses Country Liberals policy**

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The Territory Opposition Leader’s plan for Territory business is a ringing endorsement of what the Country Liberals Government is already doing.

Chief Minister Adam Giles said he welcomes the Labor Party’s endorsement of the Country Liberals Government but says it reinforces how bereft of ideas the Labor Leader is.

The central plank of the Labor Business plan is the Country Liberal Government’s “minimum weighting of 25% must be applied to the tender process.”

“The Country Liberals Government has the highest weighting allocated to local content of any State or Territory Government in Australia. This is specifically to give local Territory businesses a greater chance of securing Government work,” Mr Giles said.

“It is flattering that the Labor Opposition Leader endorses what we are doing for business but it also reflects just how lazy and short of ideas he is when it comes to new policy.

“Other Country Liberals Government ‘Buy Local’ measures which will increase the emphasis on how local content is recognised, evaluated and realised include:

- Introducing mandatory local involvement in all requests for quotes worth up to $100,000. To support this measure, a new term 'Territory Enterprise' will be introduced to identify local businesses as 'An enterprise operating in the Northern Territory, with a significant permanent presence in the NT and employing NT residents.'

- Ensuring local content and benefit commitments included in tender responses are carried through into the contract terms and are monitored throughout.

- Establishing an independent panel of Territorians, the Local Benefit Advisory Panel (LBAP) to review and advise on Buy Local aspects of Tender responses and contracts estimated to be worth more than $5 million.

“The Labor Opposition Leader has endorsed all of these Government planks for business in his business plan. Frankly he should be embarrassed to have failed to come forward with any new ideas and it sends out alarm bells about his inability to be a future leader of the Territory.”

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