LABOR DELIVERING ON ELECTION COMMITMENTS

Chief Minister Michael Gunner and Treasurer Nicole Manison today met with the Chamber of Commerce and the Manufacturers Council to reaffirm Labor’s commitment to buying local and announce changes that would see more support flow through to locals.

“Prior to the election I worked with business - particularly steel manufacturers - to push our strong buy local message.” Mr Gunner said.

“Today, in my first week in the job, I am meeting with both Chambers to reinforce my determination to grow jobs in the steel industry and in the Territory generally and announced:

- From today all capital grants issued will have a Buy Local condition attached to them, as promised during the election.
- An extension to the 30% local content rule across all industry sectors not just construction.
- That the 30% must be driven through the whole of the tender and project, not just at the top layer. This represents a major growth in support from government to local businesses.

Michael Gunner said he and Treasurer Nicole Mansion also discussed changes to oversight and a procurement review that will provide external people the opportunity to audit the government’s compliance with its procurement policies.

“There’s more work to be done here but we are determined to grow local jobs across the Territory.” Mr Gunner said.

“I’ve been clear about Labor’s plan to give certainty to local industry and ensure local businesses are given a fair go.

“To grow the Territory, to grow jobs and to keep Territorians in the Territory, a thriving local business sector is essential.

“Under Labor, government procurement will have a local focus, giving local business a leg up on southern competition. We will also make sure that contractors are using their nominated local sub-contractors.

“We will be implementing an independent board of oversight to ensure that these goals are met, so business and Territorians are provided with certainty.

Territory Labor’s Buy Local Campaign is an essential part of these plans. Labor will work with industry, local government, government agencies and the media to create a campaign, which will assist Territory consumers and industry to make local choices and encourage investment in local businesses.

Each year the Government will publish a list of the products and services they have purchased from interstate. This list will be published as a ‘future opportunities for Territory business' report.

MEDIA CONTACT: Cameron Angus 0404 021 192