25 June 2007

Estimates Committee to Scrutinise Budget

The Territory Government’s $3.3 billion Budget 2007 will be scrutinised over four days this week as the Estimates Committee hearing gets underway tomorrow.

“Budget 2007 delivers for the future with record spending in Police, Health and Education,” Mr Henderson said.

“The Martin Government introduced the Estimates Committee process to provide Opposition and Independent members with an important opportunity to scrutinise the Budget.

“The hearings will run for 46 hours over four days and Ministers, Chief Executive Officers and senior Department staff will appear before the Committee in the order in which they are listed in the Budget papers.

“To enable the Opposition and Independent MLAs the opportunity to focus on Budget areas they believe should receive the most attention, over a month ago they were invited to make proposals to reorder the output groups to be scrutinised at the hearings to reflect their priority areas.

“I am advised one proposal to do with the Port Authority was advanced.”

Media and members of the public are welcome to attend the hearings, which will be conducted in the Litchfield Room on the third floor of Parliament House.

The full Legislative Assembly will resume at the end of Estimates Committee hearings at 4:30pm on Friday for the final debate of Budget 2007.

The Estimates Committee schedule is available through Committee Secretary Mr Terry Hanley on 8946 1438.

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Moving the Territory Ahead