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Labor Government Hiding Details of Fire and Rescue EBA – What’s the Cost to Territorians?

Country Liberal Party Leader Denis Burke has today demanded that Labor government release immediately the finalised details and costings of the Enterprise Bargaining Agreement (EBA) for the Northern Territory’s Fire and Rescue Service.

Mr Burke said that Territorians needed to know the details in the deal in the lead-up to the next Territory election so that they could see where money is being spent. With the announcement yesterday that the increase in the Labor government’s offer to teachers will cost an extra $12 million, details of this EBA agreement must be released.

“Yesterday, I presented to the public 50 reasons why the Labor government has to hold estimates before the next election: now it is 51 reasons. I am struggling to understand why this Labor government is so secretive about where it is spending tax-payers money. It just refuses to answer questions,” Mr Burke said.

“The Labor government finalised their Budget several weeks ago and we need to know if this agreement will be reflected in the Budget, will it be excluded and most importantly, what is the full cost to the public?

“The Country Liberal Party welcomes financially responsible EBA bargaining and pay increases but in the lead-up to an election, details must be made public for all Territorians.

“Territorians have a right to know exactly how much the new EBA has cost the taxpayer, particularly in light of a Budget in the next couple of weeks and the Chief Minister’s failure to guarantee Budget estimates scrutiny before the election.”