MARTIN GOVERNMENT RUNS HIGH INFLATION ECONOMY

Darwin has become the inflation capital of Australia under the Martin Government, says the Territory Opposition.

ABS figures released today show Darwin has an annual inflation rate of 5% which is 1.7% above the national average of 3.3%.

“The Martin Government’s failure to reign in the rate of inflation is hurting all Territorians,” says Terry Mills, Opposition Treasury spokesperson.

“Putting food on the table, petrol in the car and paying the mortgage or rent are becoming harder by the day as prices continue to escalate in the Territory.

“Whilst the rate of inflation fell in virtually every other capital city in the country and the national average dipped substantially, Darwinians are now in the grip of a relentless rise in the price of living.

“I’ve consistently warned the Martin Government that its inappropriate spending priorities are increasing inflationary pressures in the Territory.

“The continual growth of the public sector at a rate above the growth of the Territory population has increased inflationary pressures.

“By ignoring those warnings Treasurer, Syd Stirling, now has the dubious distinction of being the inflation King of Australia.

“This inflation figure will exacerbate the recruitment and retention problems plaguing so many areas of the Darwin workforce.

“The impact of high inflation is particularly insidious for low and middle income earners and families.

“With less disposable income and fewer luxuries to forgo, increasing inflation often forces them to do without the basics.

“The Martin Government will need to significantly improve its game if it is to get the inflation genie back into the bottle.”

Further comment: Terry Mills 0418 833 594