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Katherine Personal Crime Statistics –  
Disturbing No Matter Which Way you Look at it Minister

No matter which way you look at personal crime statistics in Katherine, they tell a disturbing story.

“As the Local Member for Katherine it is my job to make sure the government is addressing important issues such as law and order,” CLP Deputy Leader and Member for Katherine, Fay Miller said.

“I was deeply disturbed by the figures I saw released last week in respect to personal crimes. The Minister is running and hiding from the fact that his policies are simply not working in respect to the addressing crime in the area.

This morning on the ABC, he said that the recent quarterly figures were ‘spikes’ and suggested while ‘they do bounce’, he implied they are in fact going down in Katherine.

“The Police Minister is misleading the people of Katherine and running for cover as his policies are not working.

The CLP went to the last election with a Zero Tolerance policy on Law and Order and it is only with a firm decisive hand will we address these abhorrent crimes against people.

“The fact is that if you do what the Minister suggests and look at the annual figures the story is no better.

Offences against a person (excluding homicide) have increased by nearly 20% over the last year, with assaults up 25%, personal robbery up 100% and other offences up over 100%.

To look at the trends, if we look at the rates of these offences in the year ended September 2002 and the current figures year ended September 2005 the story is worse. Assaults have increased by nearly 60%, sexual assaults are up over 30%, other offences up a staggering 200% and overall crimes against a person are up over 58%.

“I am sick and tired of the Martin Labor Government’s Ministry of Spin glossing over these very real problems.

“The Martin Labor Government has more money than any government has ever had, and yet they are failing to address very basic things like keeping our streets safe.

“The people of Katherine, are sick of the rhetoric, sick of the spin, sick of the diversions - they want answers and solutions now. Is this really too much to ask?” concluded Mrs Miller.

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