GOVERNMENT SUPPORTS PUBLIC SERVANTS

Minister for Public Employment Paul Henderson said today he totally rejects the CLP’s demand to sack public servants.

“We will not meet the CLP’s call to “cut” a swathe through 500 plus public servants who happen to be on executive contracts,” Minister Henderson said.

“The CLP claims that there has been an “explosion” and “extraordinary growth” in the number of public servants on executive contracts is false. In the last year there has been no growth at all – in fact the number has gone down by 8.

“The Commissioner for Public Employment advises that the number of executive level public servants as at the end of June 2005 was 511 - at the end of September 2006 the number was 504 – a reduction of 8.

“It is totally unfair for the CLP to target people simply because they have been recruited into public service jobs since the end of the CLP.

“Public servants don’t deserve to be derided by the CLP and labelled as political simply because they have been recruited since 2001.

“It is absolutely the case that agencies have been directed by the Treasurer to live within their means.

“The modest surplus delivered in last years budget (2005/06) is proof positive that this is being adhered and the responsible fiscal management of this Government,” said Minister Henderson.

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