Tenants from hell should be kicked out

Tenants from hell should be kicked out of their Government homes in the same way as the British Government is planning to do, according to Shadow Minister for Housing Dr Richard Lim.

Dr Lim said the Chief Minister should take a leaf out of the British Prime Minister Tony Blair’s book when dealing with tenants who fail to stop anti-social behaviour.

Mr Blair announced yesterday that in an effort to restore respect in society, the Labor Government would establish a network of 50 units like a “sin bin” for the most disruptive families. Furthermore, parents who refused help to improve their parenting will face eviction and/or the loss of their housing benefit, or a fine if they lived in private homes.

“The Martin Labor Government has made the lives of many Territorians hell by not dealing with Territory Housing tenants, whose unruly and anti-social behaviour have made them ‘neighbours from hell’,” Dr Lim said.

“For too long, anti-social tenants in Territory Housing properties have created mayhem in their homes and the neighbourhood.

“There have been inter-family feuds which not only affect the immediate household, but threaten the safety of neighbours.

“Some of these anti-social tenants have been drug dealing from their residences. Others create incessant noise which impacts on neighbours.

“They have disruptive visitors all through the day and night creating an unacceptable and intolerable situation in the neighbourhood.

“In Tony Blair, we see a British Labor Prime Minister who is prepared to make the hard decisions, bringing in legislation which allow those who refuse to do the right thing to be evicted.

“The Country Liberal Party government had a successful ‘urban living skills program’ which disappeared under the Martin Labor Government.

“It is time such a program is brought back to provide appropriate training for people moving into the suburbs.”

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