11 April 2007

BREAKING THE CYCLE : THE MARTIN GOVERNMENT MAKING THE TERRITORY A SAFER PLACE

The Minister for Justice, Syd Stirling, today announced a Territory-wide Action Plan to tackle the causes of crime, with a particular focus on alcohol and other drugs.

The Minister said the Plan was squarely aimed at Breaking the Cycle of Reoffending and Breaking the Crime Cycle.

“46% of offenders reoffend, and we are determined to put a dent in this high rate,” said Mr Stirling.

“To Break the Reoffending Cycle, we are hiring an extra 15 Community Corrections officers to monitor and manage offenders once released back into the community.

“These positions include :

- 5 extra staff for the probation and parole service;
- 6 extra staff for additional supervision and management of the more serious offenders;
- and 4 extra staff for remote area probation

“There will be better training and qualifications for all Community Corrections staff, as well as a clear and comprehensive plan for the management of high risk offenders.

“The Martin Government is committed to reducing the reoffending rate and this $1.5 million boost to Community Corrections will help.”

Minister Stirling said the Action Plan would also help to Break the Crime Cycle.

“This will be achieved by combining the efforts of the three Government programs that share the common goal of reducing crime and the alcohol abuse that drives it,” he said.

“By amalgamating the Community Harmony, Office of Crime Prevention and Office of Alcohol Policy and Coordination programs we will be able to coordinate our attack on crime across the Territory,” said the Minister.

“Regional Safety Plans will benefit from more targeted funding for crime prevention and community safety initiatives.

“One Breaking the Cycle of Crime and Reoffending, we will ensure that the Territory is in safe hands.”

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