GOVERNMENT OUT IN COLD ON PROBLEMS IN ALICE

Moves by the Alice Springs Town Council to debate the need for the Federal Police to be called in to control growing lawlessness in Alice have dramatically highlighted the depth of feeling on the issue, says the Territory Opposition.

"The Martin Government can't afford to ignore this unprecedented call for help," says Jodeen Carney, Leader of the Opposition.

"Even the Mayor of Alice Springs, a former Labor candidate, has acknowledged we need additional Police in Alice.

"This is a quantum shift from her previous, repeated comments that there was no need for additional Police resources in Alice.

"Indeed, last week the Mayor admitted Alice Springs was in crisis; further confirmation that things are getting worse.

"We need at least 20 more Police officers stationed in Alice immediately. This needs to be over and above establishment.

"Even local coppers have told me they are under-resourced.

"If Government can't deliver now, they must guarantee that they will provide them within the next few months.

"If our own Government can't ensure the safety of our citizens, then help will have to be enlisted from elsewhere, such as the AFP."

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