30 June 2005

GENERAL BUSINESS DAY BROUGHT FORWARD

Leader of Government Business Paul Henderson says the Opposition and Independents will set the Parliamentary agenda on a special General Business Day in the first week of the August Sittings.

“We believe it is important for the Opposition and Independents to take it up to the Government and to outline alternative solutions to the issues facing the Territory,” Mr Henderson said.

“While the next General Business Day did not have to occur until 13 October, we have brought it forward to Thursday 18 August to give the Independents and Opposition the chance to outline their agenda as soon as possible.

“On 18 August motions and Bills brought to the Parliament by the Opposition and Independents will have priority over Government business.

“Following the final consideration of Budget 2005 by the Assembly on 7 July, the existing Parliamentary timetable will remain in place.

“Whilst this will mean a shorter than normal break between this sittings and the August sitting – four weeks instead of six - the Government believes it is important the Assembly continues with same number of Sittings days for the year.”

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