REPORTING DOMESTIC VIOLENCE WOULD BE MANDATORY UNDER THE CLP

The CLP supports the Government's new Domestic Violence Act that was passed by Parliament today.

The legislation obtained widespread support from people who work in the area of domestic violence.

“The legislation is not perfect but is a significant improvement on the previous Act,” says Jodeen Carney, Leader of the Opposition.

“I would have liked to see mandatory reporting of domestic violence extend to those who work in health and allied health areas.

“In June last year, I told the Parliament that if I were the Chief Minister, I would take this step, but so far, the Government has refused to do so.

“The Attorney-General said, when he introduced the Bill in October, that it would ‘ensure that children enjoy the same protections from family violence as are available to adults’.

“We have mandatory reporting of child abuse in the Territory. Given the extent of domestic violence in the Territory, it makes sense to have mandatory reporting for adults in domestic violence.

“Earlier this year, the Coroner recommended that mandatory reporting should be considered by Government, and it’s disappointing that the Government has not included this in the new Bill.”

Further comment : Greg Charter 04000 14 059