Opposition Leader Jodeen Carney has again shown she would sack public servants in key service delivery areas if elected to Government, Minister for Public Employment Paul Henderson said today.

Speaking to figures released publicly by the Commissioner for Public Employment last week, Mr Henderson said the Government made no apologies for its recruitment in the critical areas of Police and Health.

"Jodeen Carney and the CLP Opposition have revealed their wish to sack public servants, criticising the Government for the increase in public servant numbers," Mr Henderson said.

"As the Territory’s population continues to grow, we need more service providers to meet the needs of our community.

"We make no apology for that – the majority of the extra 300 positions are in the key areas of Police and Health.

"The question the Opposition Leader must answer is, which of these public servants would she sack first?

"In attempting to push her case, Jodeen Carney has got her facts wrong again - the increase in Health staff is not in the ‘backroom’, but rather primarily due to Government’s move to employ nurses directly rather than through agencies.

"While the number of staff in key service areas has increased, in the non-frontline agencies such as the Departments of Corporate and Information Services, Planning and Infrastructure and Treasury, we have seen significant reductions over the last year."

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