Terry Mills  
Leader of the Opposition  
Media Release  
22nd July 2009  

INFLATION EATS INTO THE HIP POCKET

Today’s Consumer Price Index from the Australian Bureau of Statistics confirms poor planning from the Henderson Government has landed another blow on the struggling families of Darwin, says the Territory Opposition.

“The fact the CPI for Darwin is twice the national average confirms that the residents of Darwin are being squeezed ever tighter by rising prices,” says Terry Mills, Leader of the Opposition.

“Once again a sharp increase in the price of rent in Darwin has fed into the country’s highest price rises.

“The 2.2% increase in rent for the quarter means the Henderson Government’s disastrous land release policies will see Darwin retain the unwanted title of Australia’s most expensive capital in which to rent.

“The Henderson Government’s calculated decision to reduce the amount of land available for residential development is paid for every week by people renting a home in Darwin.

“Nor is there likely to be any relief in the near future with Darwin needing 1000 new dwellings a year.

“The housing crisis in Darwin has been years in the making and won’t be cured overnight.

“The next CPI figure for Darwin will include the impact of the 18% jump in the price electricity and the 20% increase the price of water.

“The cost increases in those essential services will impact directly on prices in the Territory.

“Again a failure by the Henderson Government to plan properly will be paid for by Territory consumers.”

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