AUDITING THE HONEY POT

The Territory Opposition has written to the Auditor General, Frank McGuiness, requesting a complete audit of the troubled Strategic Indigenous Housing and Infrastructure Program.

“With the stench of scandal hanging over the SIHIP program we need a comprehensive, independent audit assessing exactly where and why it is bleeding taxpayer’s money,” says Terry Mills, Leader of the Opposition.

“It now seems certain that SIHIP is a bottomless pit; taxpayer’s money goes in and nothing comes out.

“We need to know much money has been spent so far, who the money has gone to and for what results.

“The fact former Labor Minister Elliott McAdam has added his voice to those questioning where the money is going confirms the need for a complete independent audit.

“As Elliott McAdam has pointed out, Tennant Creek has lost its 20 promised houses whilst the amount of money being spent there has increased from $30 million to $36 million.

“That was just one of the places the Opposition discovered a substantial downgrading in the number of houses to be built.

“Elliott McAdam has also destroyed the Chief Minister’s claims that the discrepancy in Government media releases can be explained as relating to different stages of the SIHIP project.

“Tennant Creek will not be getting any new houses for $36 million. The Tiwi Islands will be getting 29 houses for $53.8 million whereas when the program on the islands was first announced 90 new houses were going to be built for $52.8 million.

“Territorians have a right to know where the missing houses have gone and why.”

Further comment: Terry Mills 0418 833 594