The Country Liberals Government’s ‘Open for Business’ mentality is creating a confident culture amongst Territory developers with an unprecedented amount of development activity.

Thirteen of the twenty-six developments underway in the Darwin CBD and surrounding suburbs were approved within the last twelve months; some approved sites had been sitting vacant for years.

Minister for Lands, Planning and the Environment, Peter Chandler, says developers are lining up to take part in the Territory’s prosperous economy.

“The fantastic staff at the Department of Lands, Planning and the Environment have been working very hard, processing 1,200 development applications in the last financial year, 200 more than predicted,” Mr Chandler said.

“We currently have $717 million of private development currently underway in the CBD and surrounding areas.

“Many developments are on sites that have either sat vacant or unused for years, even decades.

“We’re working with developers and investors to continually improve and streamline the development process and since being elected we have made some significant changes to streamline those processes.

“The independent NT Planning Commission, an election commitment of this Government, is ensuring there is a strategic direction for development in the Territory while also reviewing guidelines and assessment criteria for inclusion in the NT Planning Scheme.

“Correspondingly around the NT, dwelling building approvals have leapt from 1352 in the year September 2012 to July 2013 to 1960, an increase of 45 per cent.

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