GILES REFUSES TO DEAL WITH ALICE GROG VIOLENCE

Opposition Leader, Delia Lawrie, has supported calls by the Alice Springs Town Council for the introduction of special alcohol restrictions for the upcoming NRL game.

Ms Lawrie said Alice Springs town councillors were concerned about the impact of alcohol-related crime and antisocial behaviour and had asked the NT Government to implement measures for the NRL match similar to those being introduced for the AFL NAB Cup match.

“Councillors last night expressed concern about the current level of alcohol related crime in Alice Springs and the potential for this to worsen if special measures aren’t brought in for the NRL match,” Ms Lawrie said.

“The CLP government is supporting extra alcohol restrictions for the AFL match in February so why not for the NRL game?"

“Chief Minister, Adam Giles, and Minister for Tourism, Matt Conlan, are touting this game as a boost for tourism in Alice Springs.

“But they refuse to deal with high levels of alcohol driven violence and crime, which damage tourism and the local community.

“Alcohol related crime is increasing in Alice Springs and the Chief Minister just keeps turning a blind eye to the issues in his own backyard.

“Instead of listening to what residents are telling him he just keeps saying everything’s rosy.

“Already this week there has been a death, a stabbing, and large groups of drinkers in the town. His own crime stats show alcohol related crime is up by more than 11 per cent in Alice Springs.

“I’m hearing from police that they are stretched with dealing with the growing incidences of alcohol related violence.

“Territory Labor led the way with bringing world class sporting events and facilities to Alice Springs. But they were always supported by special measures such as tighter alcohol controls, support for night patrols to come to town to assist police and a focus on Return to Country services.

“Adam Giles should explain why he’s not willing to do any of this and refuses to support his own hometown.”

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