John Elferink
Shadow Minister for Police, Fire & Emergency Services, Local Government, Indigenous Affairs, Community Development, and Regional Development

Govt must move quickly to restore Local Govt to Jabiru

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Restoring proper and effective local government to Jabiru should be treated with urgency, CLP Shadow Minister for Local Government John Elferink said today.

Mr Elferink said the Martin Labor Government's investigations into the future of the Jabiru Town Council should be brought to a head quickly.

"If the Government wants to dismantle the Jabiru Council and investigate any short comings it should do it quickly so that the people of Jabiru have democratic representation restored without a lengthy delay," Mr Elferink said.

"My understanding is that Local Government Minister John Ah Kit is looking at not less than six months for Jabiru to have local government restored.

"Given the Government's increasing habit of interfering in local government organisations it is important that the people of Jabiru are not kept waiting for local government to be restored - either by a Minister who can't get himself organised or because of this Government's desire to reduce councils to little more than an extension of the Office of Local Government.

"If new elections are going to be needed it should be sooner rather than later.

"Making the people of Jabiru wait for as long as six months is not only unnecessary, but it is also undemocratic."

Ends