New laws introduced today to the Northern Territory Parliament will make it even harder for criminals to launder money.

Minister for Justice Dr Peter Toyne said if the Criminal Code (Money Laundering) Amendment Bill is enacted it will make life tougher for criminals.

“The Bill will make it an offence to deal with the proceeds of a crime or deal with property used to carry out a crime,” Dr Toyne said.

“This will make sure crime doesn’t pay.”

“It means criminal assets can be confiscated, and ill-gotten gains can’t be used to fund further criminal activity, Dr Toyne said.

This Bill is part of a wide-ranging approach by the Government to crackdown on the proceeds of crime, following the introduction of the Criminal Proceeds Forfeiture Act.

In just 6 months the Act has already confiscated about $2 million, the new measures will build on that success.

The offences to be inserted in the Criminal Code by this Bill follow the recommendations of the Joint Working Group on National Investigation Powers which have the support of all the State and Territory Attorneys-General.

This is part of a national initiative to stem money laundering and organised crime networks.

[to the top]