The Martin Labor Government is facing another pool fiasco, with the law abiding travelling public the loser, as it stumbles its way towards the introduction of 50kph speed limits on Territory suburban roads, CLP Shadow Minister for Transport Denis Burke said today.

Mr Burke said Government has already had to put back the introduction from March to July because it is having trouble coming to grips with how and where to implement the new speed restrictions.

“The Government should abandon its proposed introduction of a 50KPH speed limit from 1 July until a considered review is conducted of our urban roads, including all existing speed limits and black spot areas,” Mr Burke said.

“Councils have made it clear they believe Government should not rush these changes through. They are not ready to implement these changes and decide which roads will be exempt or not exempt and its clear the Government also isn't ready. Government hasn't even agreed with councils who will pay for signage changes and how much.

“Road Safety is too important an issue to be left to knee jerk, ad hoc policy imported from down south, without taking into consideration our situation and prioritising our safety effort.

“The majority of the public are law abiding and safety conscious yet our overall safety record is appalling. Our urban road networks have become a hotch potch of various speed zones that lead to frustration and seemingly is of most benefit to government through speed cameras and the increased revenue they generate.

“I would like to see the evidence to show that the existing 60KPH limit is responsible for a high rate of road trauma in the Territory.

“My concern is that a reduction of 10KPH per hour will do nothing more than create a false sense of belief among the public, particularly parents and elderly pedestrians that their suburban streets are safer, when in fact they won't be.”

“Hot Spots such as school zones are already protected with reduced speed limits during school hours.

This Government has had to do more backflips than a champion gymnast and I can see speed restrictions leading to another one.”