WHERE HAVE ALL THE HOUSES GONE?

There’s still no word from the Government as to exactly how many new houses will be built under the Strategic Indigenous Housing and Infrastructure Program.

Shadow Indigenous Policy Minister Adam Giles said it’s obvious the original commitment to build 750 new houses won’t be met.

“Clearly nowhere near this number will be built,” Mr Giles said.

“The Housing Minister Rob Knight should tell us how many new houses actually will be constructed – if he knows.

“Tennant Creek will receive no new houses from the $36.5million going into the town.

“This is despite Federal Indigenous Affairs Minister Jenny Macklin and local Federal Member Warren Snowdon announcing on October 28th that an additional $6.5million would be added to the $30million already committed to build new houses under SIHIP.

“And the disappointment doesn’t end there.

“Unbelievably, Alice Springs will receive no new houses from the $125million town camp redevelopment.

“And someone needs to explain why Jenny Macklin and Rob Knight announced on December 16th last year that 90 new houses would be built at Nguiu – and have now reduced that number to 25.
“How can the Territory Government justify 25 new houses plus repairs and refurbishments for a total spend of $54million?”

“The list goes on: Daly River, Palumpa, Pepperminarti and Utopia miss out; many of the proposed new Growth Towns either miss out altogether like Ali Curung and Elliott or have been downgraded.

“Despite this string of failures – and Paul Henderson claiming in February the program was taking longer than he would have liked – Rob Knight still claims he has met every SIHIP target.

“You either meet targets, have delays, or somebody’s not telling the truth.”

Further comment: Adam Giles 0421 588 118