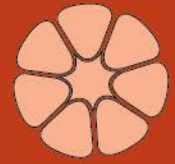




MEDIA RELEASE

Delia Lawrie
LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION



21 October 2013

FOCUS ON CENTRAL AUSTRALIA

Leader of the Opposition, Delia Lawrie said today that the Shadow Cabinet is visiting Alice Springs to engage with Centralians.

"Labor Shadow Ministers are in Alice Springs to meet with stakeholders across portfolios," Ms Lawrie said.

"I will be joining colleagues at the Indigenous Economic Development Forum open business forum today and look forward to hearing of any new initiatives.

"Shadow Cabinet is committed to meeting across remote and regional parts of the Territory each quarter.

"Our previous visit to Groote Eylandt enabled us to hear local perspectives on regional economic development, housing, education and health.

"I'll be listening to Centralian views on the impact of education cuts and we have heard Centralian Senior College is losing 10 teachers.

"Also disgracefully the special needs school Acacia Hill School has lost two teachers.

"There are real concerns with the CLP's vague plans to handover remote schools to 'community' organisations and people want to know what does this mean.

"What we do know is that remote schools have already lost teachers and there are further cuts next year which would hurt children across these communities."

Last week Education Minister Peter Chandler conceded that they were making up Education policy on the run when he announced a Middle School review to add to the Indigenous Education Review before a public rally of Territorians.

"Minister Chandler announced a freeze on teacher cuts from 2015 pending the reviews so how does he justify proceeding with cuts now?" Ms Lawrie asked.

Media Contact: David Halliday 0409 324 127