



General Media Enquires

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Barnett fails to understand the real picture

Premier Colin Barnett has been spruiking about big picture projects but fails to understand the real picture when it comes to public service cuts according to the Community and Public Sector Union/Civil Service Association.

Branch Secretary Toni Walkington made the comment this afternoon after the Premier has refused to rule out more public service job cuts to deal with a “volatile” environment.

“Our public sector is already bleeding with massive cutbacks and the delivery of core services has already been massively compromised,” Ms Walkington said.

“It is arrogant for the Premier to treat the public with such disrespect and further reduce the vital services the public expects the government of the day to deliver.

“The public is being taken for a ride because of the Barnett Government’s wrong priorities and bad decisions.”

Ms Walkington said the community would prefer to get timely access to essential services rather than watch the government push on with its pet building projects.

She said so many government agencies were already struggling to maintain their services with less staff and resources.

“And on top of that Treasurer Troy Buswell is demanding his ministerial colleagues itemise what programs and activities they can cut from their portfolio.

“There has been a significant cutback in prevention and diversion officers who try and keep young offenders out of the youth justice system by working with them and their families to reduce anti-social behaviour.

“These are the sort of programs that are being cut yet the public would prefer a reduction in crime.”

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FOR COMMENT:

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