



**LIA FINOCCHIARO**  
**DEPUTY OPPOSITION LEADER**

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*For immediate circulation*

## **Holtze prisoner escape #17**

The most recent prisoner escape from Darwin Correctional Centre at Holtze is the 17<sup>th</sup> escape or attempted escape of an adult prisoner under the current Labor government.

Deputy Leader of the Opposition, Lia Finocchiaro said the escape of a prisoner overnight was an extremely serious yet inevitable consequence of millions of dollars in budget cuts to Corrections.

“This government has sliced the budget and failed to negotiate in good faith an operational plan which would assist hard working Corrections Officers to do their job.

“The Territory Labor government has cut \$4.5 million from the Corrections 2018-19 Budget and ordered up to \$20 million in additional cost savings on to the wider Attorney-General’s Department.

“Corrections Officers are currently without an Enterprise Bargaining Agreement, have no operational plan and are facing budget cuts which directly affect their day to day operations.

“Incidents such as this escape reinforce the importance of adequately resourcing frontline Officers and Corrections facilities.

“This is yet another in a series of ongoing critical incidents which fails to keep Territorians safe,” said Ms Finocchiaro.

**ENDS**

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