



LIA FINOCCHIARO
DEPUTY OPPOSITION LEADER

31 May 2018

For immediate circulation

Police Auxiliary Liquor Inspectors

Despite today's announcement by the Minister for Police, it remains unclear to Territorians as to what powers and protective equipment, including guns, these new Police Auxiliary Liquor Inspectors (PALIs) will have.

Shadow Minister for Police, Lia Finocchiaro said that if these Auxiliaries are to be equipped with weapons for their serving Point of Sale Intervention (POSI, formerly known as Temporary Beat Locations) duties, they will need sufficient training to enable them to deal with dangerous situations in a safe and professional manner.

"The Opposition questions how this can be done in the 13 weeks (of training), when Police Constables are provided more than 30 weeks of training and additional probationary instruction before commencing their duties.

"The fact that these crucial details are still being worked out as the new Auxiliaries commence training is not good enough.

"This is a community safety issue. Insufficient training and resources for Auxiliaries will endanger both the Auxiliaries and the public. Territorians deserve better.

"Despite much meaningless rhetoric from the Minister for Police, he has failed to work with Police and the Police Association on the introduction of these new officers, and in doing so, continues to fail to keep Territorians safe.

"As the latest crime statistics reinforce, the Banned Drinker Register (BDR) continues to fail as a standalone tool and Labor's half-hearted handling of the introduction of these new officers shows that Labor isn't prioritising community safety in Central Australia, or across the Territory for that matter," said Ms Finocchiaro.

ENDS

Media contact: Georgina Murphy 0432 679 567