



GARY HIGGINS
OPPOSITION LEADER

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For immediate circulation

Estimates week two

Estimates Hearings commence again tomorrow, Monday 18 June.

Leader of the Opposition, Gary Higgins said that there was a series of revelations in the first week of Estimates that proved Labor's inaction, costing jobs opportunities for Territorians and work for businesses when they need it most.

"Last week's revelation of a huge infrastructure underspend and significant revote of \$1.3 billion was further proof that Labor has not delivered on the 14,000 jobs per year that it promised.

"Further reinforcing a near two years of action, when we asked as to the spending of the \$69 million housing repairs and maintenance stimulus, we were advised by government it would 'have about \$35m to \$40m (of the promised \$69 million) actually paid out by 1 July.'

"It remains to be seen how the government plans to deliver the budget to surplus, let alone address the economy which is declining at a rapid rate.

"This is reinforced by the release of the national accounts, which means two consecutive periods of negative growth in domestic demand.

"This week we will continue to scrutinise portfolios, including education and Territory Families in regards to access to facilities, government services and opportunities for all Territorians, alongside highlighting waste, delays and inaction.

"Tourism and the primary industry and resources sectors are critical to a strong Territory economy which all Territorians can benefit from, as we done previously.

"We need action now on so many fronts and Territorians deserve outcomes from this Labor Government not more words and spin," said Mr Higgins.

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