



LIA FINOCCHIARO
DEPUTY OPPOSITION LEADER

5 October 2018

For immediate release

Corrections Officers should be resourced not outsourced

The pending industrial action by the Territory's Corrections Officers has been forced by the disdain the Labor government is showing frontline workers and the government's complete disregard for the safety of Territorians.

Deputy Leader of the Opposition, Lia Finocchiaro said Corrections Officers have been forced to pursue industrial action, set to start within the week, following the Labor government's stalled negotiations on a wage deal and an operational agreement.

"First and foremost, we currently have an escapee (from Holtze) on the run and a Labor government that continues to deny its \$4.5 million Budget 2018-19 cut to the Corrections portfolio.

"A cut-priced approach to Corrections, including outsourcing, is unsafe and irresponsible, especially given the Territory is currently at record high levels of crime and incarceration.

"The Opposition does not support the outsourcing of Corrections Officer roles.

"Working in our correctional system, like other frontline roles, requires specialised training and knowledge. It is imperative staff are resourced adequately.

"I continue my calls for the responsible Minister to reinstate the sliced budget to Corrections and respect the work of our Corrections Officers in delivering a fair wage deal and operational plan," said Ms Finocchiaro.

ENDS

Media contact: Georgina Murphy 0432 679 567