



Senator the Hon Nigel Scullion

Shadow Minister for Indigenous Affairs
Deputy Leader of the Nationals
Country Liberals Senator for the Northern Territory

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NORTHERN TERRITORY GOVERNMENT MUST RESTORE ORDER IN ALICE SPRINGS

The Northern Territory Government must immediately send police reinforcements to Alice Springs to bring escalating lawlessness in the desert town under control, Country Liberals Senator Nigel Scullion said today.

“It doesn’t matter how many meetings, sub-groups of cabinet or high level discussions the NT Chief Minister convenes. Until he gives police the resources they need to enforce the law the people of Alice Springs will continue to suffer,” Senator Scullion said.

“Alice Springs residents and business owners are pleading with the Government to restore order and there are disturbing reports of young and old alike at risk of violence and sexual assault. It is time for action and an additional 20 police officers on the beat today would be an excellent start.

“Instead the Government is allowing criminals and thugs to wander the streets unchecked, jeopardising the town’s tourism industry and reputation by failing to take decisive action. Discussing the problem in a board room will achieve nothing.

“It is against the law to drink in public spaces in Alice Springs, yet problem drinkers are drunk on the streets every night.

“Residents of the town camps requested a no alcohol policy yet the camps are awash with rubbish left by drinkers while some residents and visitors continue to drink alcohol in plain view.

“Paul Henderson should be taking a stand to tackle crime and protect the safety of the people of Alice Springs, visitors and businesses, instead of sitting back while the situation escalates.”

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