

Submission to Stronger Futures in the Northern Territory Bill 2011 and two related bills

Sir

I support continuing the income management part of the Intervention.

When this was first introduced five years ago, it, and all the rest of the Intervention, was abrupt and lacking in prior consultation.

However this was necessary at that time to prevent the whole exercise becoming bogged down in what would have become another endless talk-fest.

The situation was dire in the NT at that time. Many consider it to still be so.

In addition to the income management, I ask the Federal Government to continue funding the leasing of public space in the different communities to enable the new Shire system in the NT a chance to prove itself. If all the Shires' money goes to the Central Land Council or to the Northern Land Council for rent, nothing will be left for service delivery.

Further I ask you to carefully consider before cutting any program that has a chance to improve primary health and/or primary education. Please don't be swayed by articulate arguments from the cultural left. The "little people on the ground", to quote Alison Anderson MLA, need you to not throw the baby out with the bathwater.

Thank you

Hal Duell