

JUSTINE DAVIS MLA
INDEPENDENT MEMBER FOR JOHNSTON

integrity | action | community

Media Release: More weapons, more fear. Territorians deserve real solutions for community safety, not political stunts that put us all at risk.

Thursday, 19 June 2025

Justine Davis MLA:

"The CLP Government's announcement to arm Transit Safety Officers and Public Housing Safety Officers is not about safety—it's about control and fear. It's a dangerous move that is deeply out of step with what communities across the Northern Territory actually need.

Weapons don't create safety, they escalate fear and risk. Arming people with guns on buses, in public housing, and shopping centres won't make people safer; it will make every day public spaces more threatening, more volatile, and more prone to tragic outcomes.

This government proudly locks up more people than ever before. It changed the laws to allow 10-year-olds to be jailed. It expanded mandatory sentencing. It enforces the harshest bail laws in the country. And now it wants to put more weapons on our streets and in the hands of under-trained officers, and even civilians.

And yet it can't point to a single outcome that shows these extreme measures are making our communities safer.

That's because they are not making us safer. Punishment without prevention never works.

If these so-called 'tough on crime' measures worked, the Territory would be the safest place in Australia. Instead, we are seeing more harm, more fear, and more community breakdown.

Instead of investing in what we know works—safe housing, mental health care, youth support, community-led solutions, the CLP is flooding our streets with weapons and calling it policy.

In the wake of two deaths in custody in less than two weeks, this is not justice. This is not safety. This is failure.

The people of the Northern Territory deserve safety. They deserve better than a government that trades on fear and responds to harm with more harm. We can build real safety by tackling root causes with courage and commitment—not by handing out pepper spray, putting guns on buses, and hoping for the best. We know how this ends, we've seen it elsewhere in the world, and it's never with a safer community."

Justine Davis

Independent Member for Johnston

Media contact: Vivien Clarke 0461 421 112



www.justinedavis.com.au
[@justine4johnston](https://twitter.com/justine4johnston)



08 8999 6620
electorate.johnston@nt.gov.au



Millner Village Plaza, Cnr of Fitzgerald St
and Bagot Rd, Millner NT 0810