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## **Extreme Liberal agenda revealed: jobs slashed, services cut**

Hundreds of jobs will be lost and government services will be slashed if the Liberals win this weekend's ACT election, according to ACT Treasury costings released today.

Chief Minister Jon Stanhope said jobs would be slashed across the public service:

- Nursing positions will go.
- Funding to the University of Canberra will be cut.
- Almost 60 government programs have been targeted.
- Savage cuts will be made across every area of service delivery, including justice, road maintenance and housing affordability.
- Climate change programs have been virtually shut down.

"New street lights won't be installed, potholes won't be filled, playgrounds won't be upgraded or cleaned, and bus lanes won't be built if this extreme Liberal slash-and-burn agenda is implemented," Mr Stanhope said today.

"Cuts have been made to programs that fund charities including Legacy, the Red Cross, the Salvation Army and the Down Syndrome Association.

"The Liberals have also pledged to cut resources to Christmas, Canberra Day, New Year's Eve and Australia Day public events. Preparations for the centenary have been essentially abandoned.

"The Liberals have today confirmed what ACT Labor has said all along – they cannot be trusted. They have had a secret agenda and they have left it until three days before Canberrans go to the polls to come clean, evidently hoping it will all pass below the radar.

"This is a genuinely extreme agenda to slash, privatise, de-fund, outsource and sack, and they have left it until the last possible moment to tell Canberrans the truth." Mr Stanhope said

The Liberals' secret plan to slash jobs and services was revealed today when the ACT Treasury posted a tally of Liberal and Labor election commitments.

"When I first met the Opposition Leader head-to-head at the Press Club in the opening days of this campaign, I challenged him to come clean on what cuts he proposed to make to pay for his reckless promises," Mr Stanhope said

"Well now I know, and Canberrans know too.

## Media release

“The only question is, which 200 ACT public servants will get the sack between now and Christmas, if the Liberals form government after this weekend?”

“The shame is that these savage cuts are absolutely unnecessary. The Budget is in great shape. The ACT economy is strong. The public service is lean and efficient and delivering the services that Canberrans want and need.”

Statement Ends

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