

Don't Let Gas Heaters Become the next BER

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Shadow Minister for Education Adrian Piccoli today said the Keneally Labor Government had to ensure their already-bungled attempt at replacing dangerous gas heaters in the State's schools did not become 'another BER' resulting in the waste of millions of taxpayers' dollars.

Last week the State Labor Government committed to replacing 2,738 of the State's 50,000 gas heaters – at a cost of around \$5,500 per unit.

However, last year the Western Australian Government replaced 200 unflued gas heaters – at a cost of around \$3,000 per unit.

Mr Piccoli said Kristina Keneally had to make sure the gas heater replacement program achieved value for taxpayer's money.

"The Keneally Labor Government has a terrible record when it comes to waste and infrastructure delivery," Mr Piccoli said.

"Whether it's failed transport project announcements like the Inner City Rozelle Metro, or the BER school halls rip-off, Kristina Keneally has proved to be incompetent when it comes to handling infrastructure.

"It's this type of waste that means the State Labor Government doesn't have money to provide essential services and infrastructure to communities across NSW.

"The replacement of these heaters is critical, and we can't afford another BER.

"Given the bungled announcement of the gas heaters replacement program, it's little wonder people are concerned there may be problems with its delivery.

"Kristina Keneally and her Education Minister Verity Firth have bungled this policy from the start, and unless they lift their game, it's only going to get worse."

<http://www.adrianpiccoli.com.au/media/media-releases/don-t-let-gas-heaters-become-the-next-ber.html>