



Interim Barkly Governance Table Meeting Thursday 19 September 2019 Communiqué

1. The fourth meeting of the interim Barkly Governance Table was held on 19 September 2019 at the Barkly Regional Council Chambers. The Table was advised of changes to the private sector representatives and looked forward to welcoming new private sector members to the next meeting.
2. The Table reviewed progress to date across the Deal's three themes and 28 initiatives, with consistent progress noted. A review against progress of the Backbone's implementation timeline showed that implementation is on track, with the exception of recruitment for Backbone positions which is being progressed.
3. In reviewing the initiative 'maximising Aboriginal employment', the Table acknowledged the importance of education and training pathways, business growth and creation and phasing investment to maximise opportunities for local businesses and Aboriginal people.
4. The co-chair of the Youth Justice Facility and Service Model Working Group provided an update on site selection process for the Youth Justice Facility. The co-chair advised that, following extensive community consultation, Patta Aboriginal Corporation and Territory Families are continuing to work closely to finalise the selection of a site, with key decision-making meetings to occur in the coming weeks.
5. The co-chair of the Economic Growth and Support Working Group advised that work to stand up the Working Group has been progressing well. The first public information session is scheduled to be held on 10 October and the first meeting of the Working Group on 14 November.
6. The Table discussed the pipeline of infrastructure projects coming into the Barkly, including planned road projects, public housing investments and additional projects under the Barkly Regional Deal. The Table discussed how best to sequence the delivery of projects to ensure important infrastructure is delivered in an efficient and timely way, while optimising local employment and also providing opportunities for the Barkly's local industry to develop and be ready to compete for contracts. The Table members agreed to discuss the advice with the wider community and return with views on the most appropriate sequencing of the Deal's projects at a future meeting.
7. Members of the Creative Barkly research group presented their work on the contribution of the arts and creative sector to social, economic and cultural wellbeing in the Barkly region. The Table discussed their recommendations and noted that some of them could be integrated into design and implementation of Barkly Regional Deal initiatives.
8. The Table agreed for the Commonwealth to lead the development of an Implementation Plan and provide a draft for the Table's consideration at the next meeting. The Implementation Plan will set out responsibility for implementing the Deal's initiatives and the timeline for delivery, which will be important in ensuring public accountability and transparency as implementation progresses.
9. The Table agreed to a proposal for two positions to be funded for two years through the Deal's community sports initiative, with the Barkly Regional Council responsible for taking forward the recruitment process. The positions will be focused on supporting the community to maximise recent and planned NT Government investments in regional sports facilities. One position will focus on Tennant Creek and the other on the broader Barkly region.
10. The Table discussed and agreed the importance of the government investment and service system reform initiative. Work is being progressed by the NT Government to map out the current investments. It was noted that the complexity of the reform work will require that government take the time to plan the project carefully, with the Table agreeing that the Commonwealth and NT Government representatives will return to the Table with a plan for this important work in early 2020.



11. The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday 21 November 2019 and will focus on the draft Implementation Plan and the proposed investment pipeline, an update on the Child and Family Centre, a briefing on the CDP providers in the Barkly and a report-back from the Economic Working Group.

Agreed Decisions

The Table agreed:

1. To the Commonwealth leading the development of an Implementation Plan which will be used to track progress, inform reporting to elected officials and feed into the Table's traffic light reporting, with a report back to the next meeting;
2. To the creation of two sports co-ordinator positions in the Barkly Regional Council, with the job descriptions agreed;
3. To establish the Economic Working Group, with a public information session in October 2019 and the first Working Group meeting in November 2019 and a report-back to the next Table meeting on progress;
4. Following the briefing from Creative Barkly on their 31 recommendations, to consider ways to integrate arts and creativity into Deal implementation and other activities in the Barkly, including the Tennant Creek street-scaping project;
5. For the Backbone Team to send a letter of thanks and invitation to elected officials;
6. In the context of reviewing progress on the 28 initiatives, the Governance Table agreed:
 - a. To seek further information from the Commonwealth on current and future opportunities for aged care places and child-care places;
 - b. NIAA to explore a briefing from CDP providers in the Barkly and how they can support the Barkly Regional Deal's objectives;
 - c. To consider options, out of session, for sequencing of infrastructure projects in the Barkly Regional Deal to ensure priority projects are prioritised and the local and Aboriginal economic opportunities are maximised;
 - d. That the consultants engaged to undertake the Elliott Art Centre feasibility study should meet with the Local Authority during their consultations;
7. In the context of considering the Working Group updates:
 - a. To acknowledge the productive work between NT Families and Patta Aboriginal Corporation in considering potential sites for the Youth Justice Facility;
 - b. For the Backbone Team to circulate an updated Working Group Terms of Reference ahead of the next Governance Table Meeting;
 - c. To invite representatives from the High School youth leaders program to the next meeting;
and
8. That recruitment and public communications on Deal initiatives should clearly communicate that the initiative is part of the Barkly Regional Deal.