



Interim Barkly Governance Table Meeting Thursday 22 August 2019 Communiqué

1. The third meeting of the interim Barkly Governance Table was held on Thursday 22 August 2019 at the Barkly Regional Council Chambers. The purpose of the meeting was to oversee progress on implementation, and refine working arrangements to ensure genuine community engagement and continued momentum into the implementation phase of the Barkly Regional Deal. The Table welcomed Tim Candler in his role as Executive Officer of the Backbone team.
2. The Table reviewed progress to date across the three themes and 28 initiatives (key progress points at [Attachment A](#)), and affirmed the importance of respectful and inclusive community engagement to ensure effective design and roll-out of initiatives.
3. The co-chairs of the Youth Justice Facility and Service Model Working Group reported back on the narrowing of site options for building the Youth Justice Facility and Service Model. The co-chairs were grateful for the level of community engagement and the respectful manner in which the community presented its views. The Table is to consider the Working Group's recommendation for a preferred site for the Facility at its next meeting.
4. The Table discussed how best to ensure a genuine voice and respectful engagement for people in the Barkly region outside Tennant Creek, and will progress discussions with these communities to ensure their voices are heard. The Table also discussed the need to ensure coordination across government initiatives and will take this on as a matter of importance at its next meeting, as well as through the service system reform initiative.
5. The Table also affirmed the need for transparency to ensure the community is aware of the progress being made under the Regional Deal. The Table agreed that the Communiqué should include an update on progress of initiatives.
6. The Table asked the Backbone team to hold an open process for the nomination of new youth representatives for the Table, and to prioritise support for establishing the remaining agreed working groups to drive implementation.
7. The next meeting is expected to be held on Thursday 19 September 2019.

Agreed Decisions

The Table agreed:

1. That, based on community consultations, the Youth Justice Facility not be located on the gazetted Barkly work camp or in close proximity to the Barkly work camp;
2. That the Construction and Service of Alternative to Detention Facilities Working Group be renamed to the Barkly Youth Justice Facility and Service Model Working Group;
3. That the Barkly Youth Justice Facility and Service Model Working Group, Patta Aboriginal Corporation and Territory Families will progress community consultation to finalise preferred sites for the Youth Justice Facility for consideration by the Table;
4. To trial an operational steering committee, to allow the Backbone Team to progress time critical decisions, such as recruitment or procurement decisions, between meetings;
5. To include updates on key progress points on implementation in the Communiqué; and
6. To prioritise consultations across the Barkly to develop options for a regional governance model to ensure that all Barkly voices are heard.



Attachment A - Key Progress Points

Economic Initiatives

- Regional workforce strategy (\$1 million) – Work underway and a Manager Economic Development, Barkly position to be filled shortly.
- Weather radar (\$17.9 million) – the Bureau of Meteorology provided an update on installation of the weather radar project and extended an offer to brief the Barkly community on the project plan.
- Alpururulam Airstrip upgrade – The funding agreement between the Commonwealth and the Northern Territory Government to upgrade and reseal the airstrip was signed on Friday 5 July 2019.
- Youth infrastructure (\$7.62 million) – A project agreement between the Commonwealth and the Barkly Regional Council to construct youth facilities in Tennant Creek, Ali Curung, and Alpururulam, and cycling and walking infrastructure in Tennant Creek was signed on Thursday 27 June 2019. The projects are expected to support 40 full-time employees during the construction period.
- Youth Justice Facility (\$5.55 million) – Community consultations have narrowed options for the facility. The Table will consider recommendations from the Barkly Youth Justice Facility and Service Model Working Group at its next meeting.

Social Development

- Aboriginal Hostels Limited (AHL) affordability trial (\$0.25 million) – The affordability trial commenced in May 2019. The trial has been supporting subsidies for up to 12 renal patient beds and contributing to increased occupancy of AHL hostel.
- Visitor Park (\$9.5 million) – This has been identified as a priority project. The Working Group co-chairs will visit Alice Springs Visitor Park in September and report back at the next meeting.
- Community Sports Initiative (\$0.8 million) – Position descriptions have been developed for two sports officers, one Tennant Creek, one whole of Barkly, to help reactivate community sports across the Barkly.
- Aged care (tbc) – Barkly Regional Council was successful in their application for Commonwealth Government aged care support for remote and regional home-based care. Negotiations are underway with Department of Health.

Culture and place-making

- Elliott Art Centre – feasibility study tender closed, with a high number of applications received. Assessment are underway.
- Update Council website – Aboriginal Councillors will consider a community consultation plan at the next Barkly Regional Council Meeting.
- Promotion and marketing of the Barkly – Barkly Regional Council has 'Welcome to Barkly' signs erected on all major highway entries to the Barkly.