



Interim Barkly Governance Table Meeting Tuesday 28 April 2020 Communiqué

1. The seventh meeting of the Interim Barkly Governance Table (The Table) was held on Tuesday 28th April 2020 via digital platform. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic response on the progress of the initiatives under the Barkly Regional Deal (the Deal).
2. The Table acknowledged a number of apologies from members who were unable to attend.
3. The Table received updates from the sectors present on the impact of COVID-19, noting the vital work completed by each sector to respond to COVID-19, and discussed future capacity to focus on the initiatives of the Deal. The Government sector advised that a number of resources have been redeployed to COVID-19 response work and highlighted that the Deal provides an important and effective mechanism to continuing supporting the Barkly community during this time.
4. The Backbone Executive Officer updated the Table on COVID-19's impact on Working Group meetings, which were unable to occur throughout March due to travel restrictions. Working Group meetings have since recommenced in April through a virtual platform. It is anticipated that the Working Groups will continue to be facilitated fortnightly for the foreseeable future via a virtual platform in order to maintain community engagement and participation while some restrictions are still in place.
5. The Table received verbal updates on each of the 28 initiatives, identifying progress that has been made and initiatives that have been impacted by COVID-19. The Table noted the importance of community consultation and involvement in the Deal and the current barriers presented due to the COVID-19 response. The Table noted that alternative opportunities to engage with the community should be explored and adopted where possible and appropriate.
6. The Table recognised that 13 April 2020 was the first anniversary of the Deal's signing.
7. The Table discussed the Deal's Progress Update, which will highlight the key achievements of the Deal to date. Recognising the impact of travel restrictions on project delivery and community consultation, it was agreed that the Progress Update be published in the near future to commemorate the Deal's first anniversary and to celebrate the achievements made to date. An update outlining project milestones will be published once the impact of COVID-19 on delivery is better understood.
8. The Table identified Economic Growth Strategy, Barkly Business Hub and the Tennant Creek Sport and Recreation Centre as initiatives that could be accelerated to support economic recovery.
9. The Table discussed the possibility of holding a meeting sooner should restrictions ease. The next scheduled meeting is Tuesday 30th June 2020.

Agreed Decision

The Table Agreed:

1. To stand up an Administrative Group, made up of 6 members of the Interim Governance Table to support the Backbone Executive Officer with time critical administrative tasks such as recruitment and large expenditures.