



## Interim Barkly Governance Table Meeting Thursday 21 November 2019 Communiqué

1. The fifth meeting of the interim Barkly Governance Table was held on 21 November 2019. The Table welcomed new private sector representatives Greg Marlow and Jared Baldwin, and new youth representative Dylan Kerrin to their first meeting.
2. The Table also welcomed elected officials from the Commonwealth, the Hon Ken Wyatt MP, Minister for Indigenous Australians and the Hon Nola Marino MP, Minister for Regional Development and Territories, and from the Barkly Regional Council, Mayor Steve Edgington. Elected officials were keen to emphasise the importance of delivery, clear communication with the community, strong and legitimate representation from across the Barkly and ensuring local economic benefit in the delivery of the Deal.
3. The Table reviewed progress to date across the Deal's three themes and 28 initiatives. The Table noted a number of milestones and highlights, including:
  - a. the completion of the \$1 million upgrade to the Alpururulam Airstrip which has been achieved in less than six months and is the first completed initiative under the deal the selection of a site for the Youth Justice Facility through the working group process
  - b. the commencement of regional consultations on the governance model, starting with community consultations in Tara on 17 October.
  - c. improvements to the delivery of the Community Development Program under new providers
  - d. the advertisement of the Community Sports Officer positions to support the community sport initiative.

### Co- Chairs Reports

4. The co-chairs of the Youth Justice Facility and Service Model Working Group de-briefed the Table on the community consultations and process behind recommending the site for the facility, and noted that this depth of consultation and engagement represented a new way of working with governments.
5. The co-chairs of the Economic Growth and Support Working Group provided an update on the first meeting which was held on 14 November. A draft terms of reference will be tabled at the next meeting of the working group on 10 December 2019.
6. The co-chairs of the Tennant Creek Visitor Park Working Group provided a progress update. The work of standing up the Visitor Park Working Group has been progressing well. The information session for the working group is scheduled for Wednesday 27 November, with a presentation from the Northern Territory Government Department of Local Communities, Housing and Community Development on design options and service delivery models.

### Table Report

7. The Table discussed the pipeline of infrastructure projects coming online in the next few year and the appropriate sequencing of the Deal's key infrastructure initiative, including:
  - a. Acknowledged the importance of ensuring longer term investment and synergies with the local workforce strategy and fostering pathways to work which will be part of the lasting legacy of the deal.
  - b. The challenge of striking a balance between forging ahead with the building of new infrastructure and allowing appropriate time for consultation on suitable service models and ensuring that the projects delivered will meet the needs of end users, as well as sequencing and phasing builds to maximise the involvement of local business and trainees.



8. The Table resolved the following in order to maximise the local benefit of the initiatives under the Deal for the Barkly region:
  - a. That the Government Employee Housing (GEH) project commencement timeline would be moved from 2019-20 to 2020-21.
  - b. That the Student Boarding Facility commencement timeline would be moved from 2020-21 and 2021-22 to 2022-23 and 2023- 2024 in order to ensure longer term investment, synergies with the local workforce strategy and pathways to work.
9. The Table received a briefing from CDP providers in the region. The discussion provided an opportunity for providers and Table members to develop and build on existing relationships.
10. The Table considered the Central Land Council's proposal for the Chief Executives of both the Central Land Council and the Northern Land Council to join the Table as the remote and regional voice to the discussion. The Table noted the interim status of the membership and the work which is already underway through the Backbone team with the goal of delivering a remote and regional voice to the Governance Table. It was agreed to express their gratitude to the Land Councils for the proposal, as well as the offer to engage at CEO level, however agreed to follow the current process with a view to settling the ongoing membership of the Table in the new year.
11. The Table noted an updated draft Implementation Plan from the Commonwealth Department of Infrastructure. The document maps out proposed key milestones for each of the 28 initiatives under the Deal. The aim of this document is to provide public accountability and transparency and to ensure a structured approach to delivery and to oversight progress on the deal's implementation. The table endorsed the structure of this draft document and looked forward to this being completed and published in February 2020.
12. The next meeting of the Table is scheduled for 25 February 2020.



## Agreed Decisions

The Table agreed:

1. To extend the meeting in February to include a workshop which will focus on the transition from interim to ongoing membership as well as a session on the role and function of co-chairs in the working group.
2. That the Government Employee Housing (GEH) housing project commencement timeline would be moved from 2019-20 to 2020-21, and the Student Boarding Facility commencement timeline would be moved from 2020-21 to 2022-23 to ensure thorough community consultation, including outside Tennant Creek, optimise the infrastructure pipeline and ensure maximum local economic benefit from the build.
3. That the Backbone draft a response to the Land Councils thanking them for their offer of engagement and pointing to the current agreed consultation process on regional representation.
4. That the Backbone work on regular updates for the Tennant and District Times newspaper as well as material to be made publicly available on the Barkly Regional Council Website.
5. For the Backbone to review the Governance Table Handbook and provide an updated draft at the next meeting.
6. For the Commonwealth to finalise the one page project milestone document to support the development of an Implementation Plan for release in 2020.
7. For the Commonwealth to finalise the program logic for the Community Projects Fund and for government partners to work together to draft grant guidelines for endorsement at a future meeting.
8. For the Backbone to coordinate responses to the Community Sports priorities selection template circulated to members by early December.
9. The Table noted a new sector updates framework tabled by the Backbone team which has the goal of providing a clear framework for sectors to provide information to and from the Table relating specifically to the Deal. This framework was endorsed by the table for usage at future meetings.