



Interim Barkly Governance Table Meeting 25-26 February 2020 Communiqué

1. The sixth meeting of the Barkly Interim Governance Table (the Table) was held on 25 February 2020. The Table welcomed new Backbone team members Senior Project Officer Amy Blair, and intern Paulina Lee.
2. 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. Employment of the Community Sports Initiative officers;
 - b. Signing of a Project Agreement between the Commonwealth and NT Government which covers funding for seven projects under the Deal;
 - c. Development of a draft Implementation Plan for the Deal; and
 - d. Ongoing support for local residents and medical patients through the \$250,000 affordability trial underway at the Aboriginal Hostels Limited (AHL) Wangkana Kari facility in Tennant Creek.

Co-chair Reports

3. The co-chairs of the Youth Justice Facility and Service Model Working Group briefed the Table on the working group meeting held on 12 February 2020 including updates from David McGuire from the Diagrama Foundation on the service model, and Brent Warren from Territory Families on site negotiations.
4. The Backbone Team briefed the Table on the Economic Growth and Support Working Group on the working group meeting held on 29 January 2020 including finalising the Terms of Reference and membership of the working group.
5. The co-chairs of the Tennant Creek Visitor Park Working Group discussed the working group briefing paper and provided an overview of the Visitor Park, using examples from other Visitor Parks that have been built.

Governance Table Report

6. The Table received draft Youth Centre Plans included under the youth infrastructure initiative for feedback to Barkly Regional Council.
7. The Table received an update on the Beetaloo Aboriginal Economic Development Strategy. The Strategy will provide strategic guidance and supporting activities to ensure economic benefits are realised by Indigenous people from future energy and resource sector activity in the Beetaloo corridor.
8. The draft Barkly Regional Deal Implementation Plan was discussed. The Plan will outline the delivery milestones for each of the Deal's 28 projects. Once finalised, the Implementation Plan will be publicly released to promote accountability and transparency in the Deal's delivery and to provide a benchmark to track progress against the Deal's milestones during implementation.
9. The Table received an update on the Barkly Local Community Projects Fund, which aims to improve liveability, strengthen local leadership and implement local solutions for communities outside Tennant Creek in line with community plans. The Table agreed a proposed approach for timely allocation of funds available under this initiative in 2019-20.
10. The Table received an update on the 'government investment and service system reform' initiative and discussed the draft Social Investment Service System Reform Project plan developed by NT Government Department of the Chief Minister and Territory Families. This work is a high priority for governments and the community and will be developed further across governments and brought back to the Table for further consideration.



11. The following documents were tabled for discussion for a dedicated workshop (held on 26 February 2020 – see further updates below at ‘Governance Table workshop’) on the future structure and membership of the Table:
 - a. Coordination of service across the Barkly region;
 - b. sector transition proposal;
 - c. future options for the Barkly Backbone Team;
 - d. Barkly Regional Deal Community Planning Strategy; and
 - e. Barkly Regional Deal Community Plan Template.
12. The Backbone Team Facebook Page Summary of Purpose and Statement of Intent was discussed including plans to hold a competition to name the Backbone Team and a logo design.
13. The next meeting of the Table is scheduled for 28 April 2020.

Agreed Decisions

The Table agreed:

1. That members ensure information is going back to their sectors to support two way communication.
2. To further refine the Governance Table Handbook at the next meeting.
3. That the Backbone Team will launch a dedicated Facebook page.
4. That each sector’s representatives meet with the Backbone Team prior to the next meeting to provide feedback on proposed regional governance models.
5. To move forward with a proposed approach to the Community Projects Fund, including
 - a. Moving forward with distributing grant funding committed over the current 2019-2020 financial year to projects that will be identified and endorsed by local decision making mechanisms and meet the eligibility guidelines;
 - b. Making a decision on panel members for the grant process at the next meeting;
 - c. Developing and publishing grant guidelines for further funding applications; and
 - d. Agreeing for government partners to progress the proposal to provide assistance in the rollout of subsequent rounds of grant funding.

Governance Table workshop

1. The Table held a workshop on 26 February 2020 which was focused on consideration of the ongoing governance model for the Table.
2. A range of governance model options were put forward for the Table’s consideration and the suitability of these options was discussed by the Table.
3. Of particular importance in determining the best ongoing model for the Table is ensuring that the Barkly’s remote communities and homelands outside of Tennant Creek have their voices heard at the Table. The Table will continue to consider these models and agreed to return to a future Table meeting to agree on a model for endorsement.
4. The Table considered possible next steps for the Backbone Team to continue refining these models, including that the Backbone Team facilitate meetings with each sector ahead of the next meeting.