

Barkly Regional Deal

Aboriginal Leadership Strengthened in the Barkly

The Barkly Aboriginal Alliance will be supported with \$1 million over four years, as recently announced by the Minister for Indigenous Australians, the Hon Ken Wyatt AM MP.

The Alliance is a new governance structure formally established in September 2021 and representing the 11 Aboriginal language groups across the Barkly. They play a key role in bringing remote Aboriginal representation to the Governance Table of the Barkly Regional Deal.

Minister for Indigenous Australians, the Hon Ken Wyatt AM MP, said the funding will support governance, employing an Indigenous coordinator to work with Alliance members and their communities to ensure Indigenous voices remain at the table.



The Governance Table was established in early 2019 and has since been laying the groundwork for the Deal's 28 initiatives and determining how they will be delivered.

The Table already benefits from strong local leadership from Patta and the Tennant Creek Aboriginal Corporation Leadership Group. While COVID travel restrictions made it difficult to bring remote representatives onboard initially, the Table now welcomes the Alliance members and the regional input to the delivery of the Deal.

It is early days for the Aboriginal Alliance as they build their vision and increase membership. The Alliance is looking for leaders of all ages and welcomes interested people from Alpururulam, Ampilatwatja, Utopia, Wutunugurra, Ali Curung, Elliott, and homelands to get in contact.

The Alliance has a strong interest in the Community Planning process currently being delivered across the region by the Barkly Backbone Team as part of the Deal. The Alliance sees this as an important opportunity for regional communities in the Barkly to speak to Government and service providers about their priorities.

Eleanor Dixon, from Marlinja community, joined the Backbone team as the Coordinator for the Aboriginal Alliance. "This is an amazing opportunity for the Alliance to be a voice which will determine the future for regional and remote communities in the Barkly".

Alliance member Frank Curtis said, "It's great to talk about ideas with the Alliance and Governance Table that people from Community care about and to have a say for those across the Barkly."

If you are interested in the Alliance, please visit Eleanor Dixon at the Barkly Backbone Office in Tennant Creek or email info@barklybackbone.com.au.