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# Barkly Regional Deal

STRONG BARKLY  
COMMUNITIES  
AND FAMILIIES  
TOGETHER  
DETERMINING  
OUR FUTURE AND  
THRIVING IN  
BOTH WORLDS.

# Barkly Regional Deal

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APPLICATION INFORMATION PACK

CHAIR OF GOVERNANCE TABLE

Deborah Hartman

BARKLY BACKBONE TEAM | [DEBORAH.HARTMAN@BARKLYBACKBONE.COM.AU](mailto:DEBORAH.HARTMAN@BARKLYBACKBONE.COM.AU)

# Barkly Regional Deal

Applicant Information Pack – Chair of Governance Table

Release: December 2024

## Applicant Information Pack - Chair of Governance Table

This Applicant Information Pack (the Information Pack) provides you with the information you need to complete an Expression of Interest for the position as Chair of the Barkly Regional Deal Governance Table.

This Information Pack contains the following elements:

1. Background Information on the Barkly Regional Deal and the Governance Table (GT)
2. Position description, accountabilities and responsibilities, and selection criteria.
3. Selection process description including Expression of Interest lodgement instructions.

## The Barkly Regional Deal

The Barkly Regional Deal (the Deal) is an agreement between the Australian Government, Northern Territory Government and Barkly Regional Council. The three tiers of government have made a commitment to the community to work with them to ensure the Deal contributes to the community's vision:

*Strong Barkly communities and families, together determining our future and thriving in both worlds.*

The 10-year, \$100.5 million commitment from the three tiers of government is to improve the productivity and liveability of the Barkly region by stimulating economic growth, improving social outcomes and supporting Aboriginal leadership.

At the commencement of the Deal, representatives of the Aboriginal community made the following statement:

### **Aboriginal Community Statement**

*We, the Aboriginal people from the Barkly region, have a connection to our traditional lands and waters, passed on through our ancestors, which continues today through our unique languages, cultures and histories.*

*We acknowledge our Elders; those who have gone before us; those with us today; those who are emerging and will lay down the foundation for our future.*

*We acknowledge those who have settled on our land, introducing other languages, cultures and having their own histories; developing our lands to accommodate the demands of Australian society; providing the benefits that this development has to offer.*

*Past developments have been undertaken without our involvement and consultation or understanding of our needs.*

*We invite all levels of government, business, service-providers and the communities throughout the Barkly region to work with and involve us in the planning and delivery of social, cultural and economic activities to ensure the opportunities which arise are for the benefit of us all.*

*We commit to work collaboratively with all stakeholders to strengthen our relationships, identify opportunities and deliver sustainable outcomes through a process based on mutual respect, understanding and acceptance of our differences.*

## **Barkly Regional Deal Governance Table**

The Barkly Regional Deal Governance Table oversees the implementation of the Deal. It is a unique feature of the Deal and highlights the importance of local community engagement for the Deal's long-term success. The Deal is piloting this type of governance model to support the local community to lead, drive and champion economic growth and improve social outcomes, with coordinated support from the three tiers of government.

The Governance Table brings together representatives from the Australian Government, Northern Territory Government, Barkly Regional Council, Patta Native Title, Aboriginal Corporations Leadership Group, Aboriginal Alliance (including representatives from the 11 language groups across the region), Barkly Community Network, young people, and local business leaders.

The Governance Table meets every third month to review progress on the 28 initiatives.

The Governance Table is supported by the **Backbone Team**, which provides secretariat, advisory and support services.

## **Position Description**

The Barkly Regional Deal Governance Table Chair is appointed for a Term of two (2) years. Remuneration and expenses will be negotiated. The indicative remuneration package is within the range of \$20,000 - \$30,000, with additional negotiated travel expenses if required.

The Chair is required to lead the Table, a diverse representative decision-making body working in a complex environment, to deliver high value outcomes for the Barkly region.

The Chair will be a recognised regional leader who will drive progress and build on the initiatives. In the second half of the 10-year Deal, the focus is on completing outstanding initiatives and leveraging the investments to lead to further collaborative

opportunities, within the next 5 years, and lasting beyond the 10-year period. The goal is to enable a strong community voice and continuing improved community outcomes in the future.

The Chair draws the community together to build and drive positive economic and social change for the benefit of the community. The Chair will act with integrity, transparency, respect and accountability, and champion gender equality opportunities. The Chair will provide strategic direction and leadership to the Table and ensure corporate governance arrangements are effectively designed and implemented. They will demonstrate strong leadership and have a sound understanding of board or committee performance management, including people and organisational management processes.

### **Key Duties and Activities**

The GT Chair role has the following key duties and activities

1. Provide high quality, strategic leadership to the Table adopting a collaborative, collegiate and non-adversarial approach to coordination and facilitation of the Deal's objectives and project delivery.
2. Work closely with the Backbone Executive Officer (EO) to set strategic and operational priorities.
3. Ensure that a systems change perspective is maintained by the Table, with a focus on challenging the structures and underlying patterns that contribute to disadvantage.
4. Work collaboratively with the Backbone EO to settle meeting dates, arrangements and agendas for the GT.
5. Conduct meetings in a way that demonstrates excellent facilitation including:
  - fostering a positive environment for effective consideration of issues
  - supporting constructive dialogue between Table members
  - ensuring all members have an opportunity to express their views
  - problem-solving barriers in discussions including identifying and brokering solutions to ensure Deal objectives are met and initiatives progress.
6. Ensure Table discussions are accurately summarised, and clear actions are established, assigned and followed-up.
7. Appropriately manage actual and perceived conflicts of interest.
8. Assist members to understand the nature of confidential information including how this information may or may not be used.
9. In consultation with the Backbone, exercise the Chair's power to convene out-of-session meetings or exercise the Chair's prerogative, as required.

## Accountabilities and responsibilities

### The Chair will be accountable to:

- the Barkly Region communities, outstations and homelands for delivering outcomes that meet regional needs;
- funding providers for ensuring that agreed objectives are achieved and resources invested are expended as efficiently and effectively as possible.

### The Chair will have primary responsibility for ensuring that the GT delivers on the initiatives and intentions of the Deal

The Chair will:

- facilitate meaningful engagement across the three levels of government to ensure investments deliver better outcomes for regions, and
- through the Backbone Team, contribute relevant data and local intelligence to support the evidence base to inform regional development strategies, program design and policy responses
- use their local, cross-sector expertise and regional voice to:
  - collaborate with integrity, transparency, respect and accountability
  - engage with diverse communities, especially First Nations people
  - support the ambition of ‘no one held back and no one left behind’, and
  - support gender equality opportunities in the Barkly region.

## Essential Skills, Experience and Qualities

### The Chair will have the following:

1. Demonstrated executive leadership capability to shape strategic direction and ensure continued momentum towards achieving objectives and project delivery in the Northern Territory or a comparable setting.
2. Superior knowledge and understanding of good governance, including working with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander governance structures.
3. Excellent communications skills with a proven ability to relate, engage and negotiate with a diverse range of stakeholders from a wide range of backgrounds, including Aboriginal stakeholders, and lead and influence to work effectively and deliver significant initiatives and outcomes.
4. High degree of cultural sensitivity and an understanding of the cultural context of the Barkly, or ability to gain quickly.
5. Be of good character including reputation, integrity, creditability and accountability.

6. Proven ability to deal with highly complex, sensitive socially and economically significant issues and demonstrated knowledge of relevant government processes and policies for capital and grant-funded projects.
7. Representational skills – experience representing regional, business and/or industry interests, highly developed networks and networking skills, can collaborate with integrity, transparency, respect and accountability, and an ability to translate these into economic and social development opportunities.
8. Understanding of Systems Change, Collaborative Governance and Collective Impact, or ability to gain quickly.
9. A clear and strong commitment to the region, including an understanding of local/territory issues and how the Table can broker solutions to these issues. There is a strong preference for a person who is based in the Barkly Region, Northern Territory and who is available to travel if not located in Tennant Creek.

### Selection Process

Applying for the Chair position involves completing an Expression of Interest (EOI) and providing a copy of your CV, including the names and contact details of two referees who are available to be contacted in January.

Please address the essential criteria in the attached Position Description in your EOI.

EOI's addressing the essential criteria should be a maximum of two single sided A4 sized pages using a minimum of 11-point font.

Inquiries regarding the position can be directed to

[Deborah.hartman@barklybackbone.com.au](mailto:Deborah.hartman@barklybackbone.com.au)

Your EOI and CV must be sent by 5pm local time, 20 January 2025, via email to

[Deborah.hartman@barklybackbone.com.au](mailto:Deborah.hartman@barklybackbone.com.au)

The application process involves the following steps and indicative timeframes:

| Action  | Start Date                            |
|---|---------------------------------------|
| Applications Open   | Tuesday, 10 December 2024             |
| Applications Close  | 5pm (NT time) Monday, 20 January 2025 |
| Applicant packs and scoring sheets distributed to recruitment panel | Wednesday, 22 January 2025            |
| Recruitment panel convene to shortlist applicants                   | Friday, 24 January 2025               |
| Applicants notified of interview                                    | Tuesday, 28 January 2025              |

Applicant Information Pack – Chair of Governance Table

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|---|--------------------------------------|
| Schedule Interviews   | Thursday, 30 January 2025            |
| Schedule Interviews   | Friday, 31 January 2025              |
| Conduct reference and any other probity checks  | Monday 3 and Tuesday 4 February 2025 |
| Successful candidate notified by phone and email<br><br>Unsuccessful candidates notified by phone and email | Friday, 7 February 2025              |
| Orientation/induction/on-boarding held with Backbone EO and GT Administration Group                         | Week commencing 10 February 2025     |
| Plan 1 <sup>st</sup> GT meeting of 2025 with EO   | Week commencing 17 February 2025     |
| Attend and chair 1 <sup>st</sup> GT meeting for 2025  | Thursday, 6 March 2025               |