

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY

WRITTEN QUESTION

Mr Higgins for the Chief Minister:

Local Decision Making

1. How much does it cost to develop local decision making agreements with communities? How many communities have now signed up with the government?
 2. What have they so far achieved for those communities?
 3. What penalties exist for government agencies who don't comply with local decision making agreements?
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ANSWERS:

1. There are currently 8 Local Decision Making agreements that have been signed across the Territory. This includes:
 - A Local Decision Making Commitment Agreement with Tangentyere Council Aboriginal Corporation, which includes 11 town camps and 5 Aboriginal organisations in Alice Springs.
 - A Groote Archipelago Local Decision Making Agreement for the has been signed with the Anindilyakwa Land Council.
 - A Yolngu Regional Local Decision Making Agreement has been signed with Arnhem Land Progress Aboriginal Corporation, Laynhapuy Homelands Aboriginal Corporation, the Aboriginal Resource Development Services Corporation and Miwatj Health Aboriginal Corporation.
 - A Local Decision Making Multi Agency Partnership Guiding Principles Agreement has been signed with Yugul Mangi Development Aboriginal Corporation.
 - A Local Decision Making Multi Agency Partnership Guiding Principles has been signed with Gurindji Aboriginal Corporation.
 - A Local Decision Making Multi Agency Partnership Guiding Principles has been signed with Jawoyn Association Aboriginal Association.
 - A Local Decision Making Statement of Commitment has been progressed with Djalkliripuyngu.
 - A Local Decision Making Statement of Commitment has been signed for the Thamarurr region with Wadeye, Nganmarriyanga, Peppimenarti, Emu Point and Wudikupildiya communities.

Local Decision Making discussions are underway with the following communities and organisations:

- Green River Aboriginal Corporation
- Alawa Aboriginal Corporation

- Western Desert Nganampa Walytja Palyantjaku Tjutaku Aboriginal Corporation (Purple House).
- Warlpiri Youth Development Aboriginal Corporation (WYDAC).
- Ngurratjuta/Pmara Ntjarra Aboriginal Corporation.
- Mutitjulu

The Northern Territory Government is working with the following communities on specific projects that follow Local Decision Making principles:

- Barkly Regional Deal.
- Mirrar representatives and Gundjeihmi Aboriginal Corporation to develop a masterplan for Jabiru.
- The Larrakia Nation Development Corporation in the establishment of the Darwin City Deal.

Any cost for the development of Local Decision Making Agreements are funded within existing approved budget and will vary depending on the extent of the priorities listed by community, as well as, the existing governance, leadership and negotiation capacity with each site.

2. Local Decision Making is a 10 year plan that will provide a pathway so that communities can have more control over their own affairs, including service delivery based on a community's aspirations and needs.

Each plan is unique and has undergone a process of consultation with each community to support their aspirations for self determination. Northern Territory Government agencies will partner with Aboriginal communities to assist the transition of government services and programs to community control, such as economic development, housing and health.

The Northern Territory Government recognises that building, supporting and investing in strong Aboriginal governance is necessary to ensure local people drive local solutions, and that Aboriginal organisations are supported in managing local decision making.

For information on what has been achieved please refer to <https://ldm.nt.gov.au/home>.

3. A Local Decision Making Agreement and Implementation Plan is signed within a legal framework that clarifies the responsibilities of government and community as part of the agreement.