**Media Release Thursday, 30 January 2020**

**Drought relief grant funding pours into Barkly Region**

Barkly Regional Council will benefit from a $1 million grant under the Commonwealth Government’s Drought Communities Programme Extension.

Mayor Steve Edgington expressed his thanks to Senator for the Northern Territory, Dr Sam McMahon for her ongoing support for the Barkly region and to Coordinator General, Shane Stone from the National Drought and Northern Queensland Flood Response and Recovery Agency who visited our region in December 2019 to see firsthand the effects of the drought.

While there are numerous projects the funding could be spent on, our Council is eager to consult with the people in our region, local business and pastoralists which have been hardest hit by the drought conditions of the past few years.

Mayor Edgington went on to say “Our Council is extremely happy that the Commonwealth Government has listened and responded to a number of calls for assistance in the Barkly over many months and provided the much needed funding.

The $1 million in funding will be of great benefit to the Barkly and Council will meet tomorrow to discuss options to maximise the use of every dollar to support our residents, boost tourism improve community wellbeing and stimulate the local economy.

For further information contact our Media Officer, Kym Lenoble, Public Relations Officer, Barkly Regional Council **(08) 89620015** or **0448 030 123.** kym.lenoble@barkly.nt.gov.au