



THE TERRITORY'S ECONOMIC RECONSTRUCTION

PROGRESS REPORT 3



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FROM THE CHIEF MINISTER



Natasha

Natasha Fyles
Chief Minister of the
Northern Territory

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A \$40 billion economy by 2030 is not the end game. That target is merely a starting point on a long play for our exciting – and strong future.

Led by our Territory Investment, Major Projects, and Infrastructure commissioners, we're telling – and selling – our story to the world.

We are heading in new directions, to places we haven't been before, in the maritime industry, in critical minerals, space, advanced manufacturing, data, solar, hydrogen and carbon capture, use and storage.

We are building on the reputation we earned through our handling of the COVID-19 pandemic to bring new investment to the Territory, and we are on track in the second year of our journey to \$40 billion by 2030.

The economy we are building is diverse and will be home to a new and growing population with permanent and high-paying jobs in businesses that weren't even thought about just a few years ago – such as Sun Cable, hydrogen, data storage, and the role critical minerals now play in storing energy.

Building on our existing strengths of tourism and agriculture, we offer a place to do business differently.

This is how we think in the Territory. A huge place, where all of its parts and people have something to offer.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Team Territory for their commitment, contribution and support to the Territory's economic reconstruction throughout 2021, the year of implementation. Their time and effort during this unprecedented time has been imperative to the rebound of the Territory.

Team Territory have been there for us from the start of the pandemic, offering their knowledge, expertise and hard work.

We all know where we are heading. Our task remains the same – that is, to make sure everyone knows we are Australia's best investment.



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Territory Economic Reconstruction Commission (TERC) Final Report was accepted by the Territory Government in December 2020. The Territory is now in the second year of its 10-year journey to achieve a sustainable and diverse \$40 billion economy by 2030. The Territory Government's third Progress Report showcases its recent activities, policies and investments to implement recommendations and deliver key outcomes to meet the two-year milestone targets that were set to focus efforts as outlined in the Final Report.

The Territory Government continues to set the right foundations to enable the Territory to target and win new investment, create new jobs and new opportunities, and is on track for achieving targets in line with these two-year milestones. Some of the achievements in the last six-months, include:

- Continued strong support, focus and progress in the Territory's Mining sector with:
 - the completion of mineral processing feasibility assessment work;
 - an escalating boom in mineral exploration with total mineral expenditure in 2021 now 38% higher than 2020, in part facilitated by the Territory Governments support through its Resourcing the Territory initiative;
 - over 20 mineral based projects working towards Final Investment Decision, with a combined value of over \$6 billion; and
 - the Mineral Development Taskforce working closely with government and industry to advise on options to accelerate private investment and improve the Territory's competitiveness.
- The first co-investment grant to a Territory-based manufacturer under the Territory's Advanced Manufacturing Ecosystem Fund (AMEF). Corrosion Instruments (CI) will receive \$110,000 in co-investment from the fund which will be matched by CI and its partners dollar-for-dollar, for a total project commitment of \$220,000;
- A new NT Logistics Advisory Council, comprising industry experts, is now actively supporting the Territory Government's work to ensure enabling infrastructure, land use-planning, supply chain efficiencies, regulation and safety is efficient, effective and supporting Territory Government and industry outcomes;
- The inaugural report card was released for the NT Aboriginal Tourism Strategy 2020-2030.



- Assessing market demand and infrastructure needs for a safer, more reliable and sustainable water supply in Darwin, is a step closer after the completion of the Adelaide River Off-stream Water Storage (AROWS) Business Case; and
- The tropical rock oyster grow out site at South Goulburn Island is growing well, and a new oyster grow out site has been established at Groote Eylandt.

This progress report is complemented by a suite of economic and investment related Territory Government publications:

- NT Infrastructure Strategy and Plan 2022-2030 – sets the vision for the Territory's infrastructure investment, which is crucial for securing private sector investment, while balancing the social needs of a growing population;
- Investment Territory's progress and perspectives 2021-2022 report – details the first 12-months of the work being driven by the Territory's Investment Commissioner and Major Projects Commissioner; and
- The Economy Book – part of the Territory's 2022-23 Budget Papers.

If you would like to know more about a specific recommendation and its related actions, please email us at NTR rebound@nt.gov.au

Aboriginal Economic Leadership continues to underpin our approach

The TERC Final Report outlined that Traditional Owners and Aboriginal Territorians want to drive economic growth in the Territory and to capture the benefits for their people. To do this they need effective and respectful engagement and relationships with investors and governments, and to have the opportunity to invest themselves.

Over the last 18 months, the Territory Government has been working to enhance engagement and enable Aboriginal Economic Leadership. To assist in achieving this commitment, the Aboriginal Economic Leadership Sub-Committee of Team Territory was established in 2021 to discuss and facilitate Land Council driven and supported projects. The Sub-Committee comprised of seven members, including the four Chief Executive Officers or Chairs of the Land Councils. Team Territory, who were established in mid-2020 to support work on delivering economic recovery post COVID-19, concluded at the end of 2021 in line with its Terms of Reference. The Territory Government has considered there is significant benefit in continuing the work of the Sub-Committee, particularly in light of the positive outcomes it has already achieved.

Therefore, the Aboriginal Economic Leadership Group has been established. The Group has been tasked with continuing to provide the Territory Government with advice regarding the development and effective implementation of government policies and initiatives aimed at promoting and assisting Aboriginal and regional economic development, and advancing key land council economic development projects.

Further highlights of the strong collaborative progress to support Aboriginal Economic Leadership include:

- Engagement regarding possible sites for Sustainable Development Precincts;
- The new Treaty Commissioner completing further consultations, with the Treaty Commissioner's Final Report on track for delivery mid-2022;
- The Aboriginal Economic Participation Framework and Aboriginal Procurement Policy are nearing completion, with implementation anticipated in the third quarter 2022; and
- NAIF extensions and mandate reforms, enabling the Territory's Local Jobs Fund (as the first NAIF regional on-lending partner) to directly fund small-scale proponents and Territory businesses seeking loans which will create greater opportunities for Aboriginal and non-aboriginal led businesses in the Territory.

Regional coordination has been strengthened to ensure our joint success

Achieving a sustainable and diverse \$40 billion economy by 2030 will only be possible with strong growth across our regions. The regions are the Territory's growth hubs that will generate jobs, grow our population, boost economic prosperity and protect and enrich our lifestyle and our culture. It's across our regions where opportunities are and will germinate at a community level, incubate at a regional level before emerging on the Territory and then potentially the national and international stage.

Over the last 18 months, strong progress has been made. Our Regional Reconstruction Committees, who were an integral part of the TERC process, have now transitioned to Regional Economic Growth Committees to focus on progress against the key targets at regional level and are working collaboratively to realise every available opportunity.

The draft Regional Development Framework is being progressed and final engagement with key stakeholders in each region is planned throughout the second quarter of 2022. The online Territory Regional Data Portal which will assist regional decision makers, investors and governments to make better evidence-based decisions, is due for launch in mid- 2022. Regional Economic Growth Plans, which are being collaboratively developed with Regional Economic Growth Committees for each region, and are expected to be completed by the second quarter of 2022.

With all of our regions being host to significant and major projects that are currently working towards Final Investment Decisions over the next few years, along with committed projects moving through to construction and operation phases, our ongoing strong engagement through the Regional Economic Growth Committees to understand opportunities and priorities at a regional and local level has never been more important.





On the way to
\$40 billion by 2030

ECONOMIC DATA



The Territory is 18 months into the **10 year journey to achieve a sustainable and diverse \$40 billion economy by 2030**

ECONOMIC GROWTH

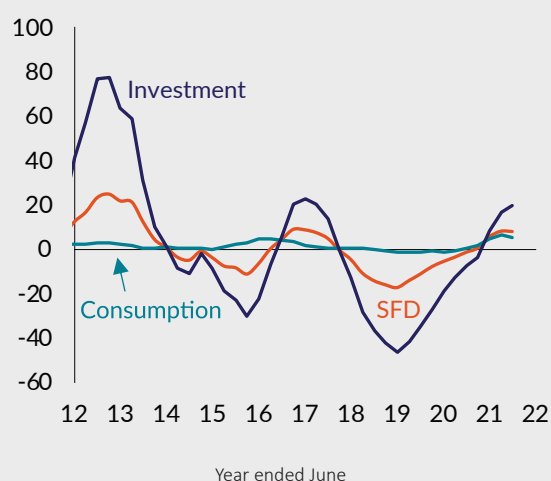


The latest economic growth data for 2020-21 shows headline gross state product (GSP) decreased by 0.6%, mainly driven by a fall in net exports. However, at the same time the domestic economy remained strong for 2020-21 with state final demand (SFD) (investment plus consumption, excluding net trade activity) increasing by \$1.4 billion or around 6.1%.

SFD continued to remain strong, with the Territory recording the second best SFD result of the jurisdictions in 2021, increasing by 8.2% to \$25.8 billion. In 2021, private investment increased by 25.4% to \$4.3 billion and non-dwelling investment grew strongly (up by 44.2%).

Current economic forecasts in Budget 2022-23 do not take into account planned and proposed projects totalling about \$40 billion, which are projects being actively facilitated by the Territory Government and are working towards final investment decision. It is expected some of these projects will reach final investment decision, and contribute to an even stronger economic growth rate than is currently indicated.

Territory state final demand
(year-on-year change, inflation adjusted)



Source: Department of Treasury and Finance; ABS Cat. No. 5206.0



Which is creating opportunities for **more jobs for Territorians**

JOBS AND EMPLOYMENT

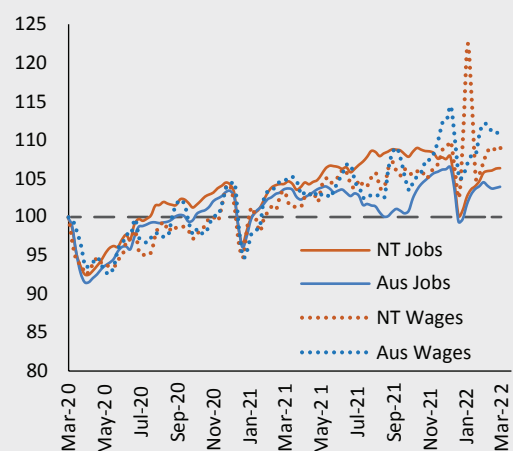


Jobs and employment across Australia were hit hard through the COVID-19 pandemic, including in the Territory.

Employment, as measured in the Australian Bureau of Statistics labour force survey, has been difficult to relate to 'on the ground' conditions over the last two years, and is at odds with other economic data, notably the ABS single touch payroll data. From March 2020 to March 2022, the labour force survey reports a 3.3% decline in employment in original terms whereas single touch payroll data reports a 6.4% increase in payroll jobs (to 12 March 2022).

Single touch payroll data shows the Territory performing favorably compared to the rest of Australia, including a rebound across many key industries when comparing March 2020 to March 2022.

ATO jobs index (single touch payroll) (weekly, index 14 March 2020 = 100)





As a result, **economic confidence** is building across the Territory

ECONOMIC CONFIDENCE

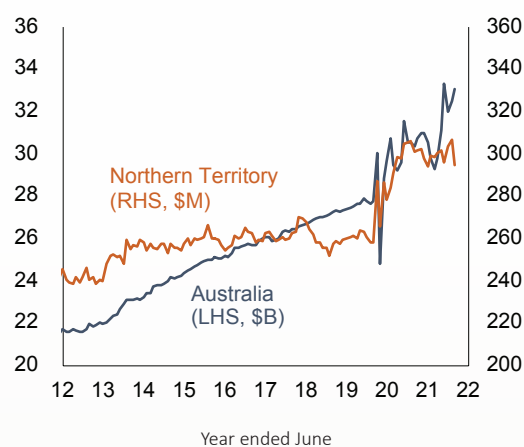
Projects that have already started construction like the Finniss Lithium project, US Fuel Storage Facility, Alice Springs Hospital Accommodation and Arnhem Space Centre show that private sector investment activity is increasing, and many other major projects are progressing towards final investment decision, expected over the next few years.

The Territory is seeing new investment, new jobs and new opportunities as we move from managing COVID-19 to living with it. In many cases, the early signs indicate a solid economic recovery in the regions. With interstate and international border restrictions eased there is expected to be a gradual resumption to tourism visitation over the outlook period.

Leading indicators such as retail spending and mineral exploration are showing improvement, as industry and households regain their confidence following the uncertain impact of COVID-19 on the global and Territory economies.

Retail turnover

(monthly, current prices, seasonally adjusted)



The Territory's seasonally adjusted retail trade turnover decreased by 3.8% to \$295 million in February 2022, compared with a 1.8% increase nationally, but remains well above pre-COVID-19 levels.



18 month progress update on the **62 TERC recommendations**



Recommendations	Progress Update
<p>Urgently implement an integrated investment delivery system focused on winning investment for the Territory (B1)</p>	<p>As co-leads of Investment Territory, the Territory Investment Commissioner and Major Projects Commissioner are the stewards of the integrated investment delivery system. The Commissioners continue to focus on driving growth, increasing local content in supply chains, capturing more benefit along the value chain, identifying opportunities to transition to a low carbon economy and planning for future growth needs. They also continue to work collaboratively to actively pursue and attract local, national and international investment to grow and diversify the Territory's economy.</p> <p>They are working closely with the Infrastructure Commissioner on the NT Infrastructure Strategy, Plan and Pipeline which includes key investment opportunities and major project information. Commissioners are also working closely with the Commonwealth Government to align and implement joint funding commitments recently announced in both the Commonwealth and Territory 2022-23 Budgets to drive infrastructure delivery, crowd in private investment and support growth and projects of local, regional and national significance.</p> <p>Through this collaboration Commissioners are also working closely to identify and address systemic challenges and to ensure environmental, social and cultural values are protected and considered in the design and delivery of the Territory's economic future.</p> <p>Also due for release in May 2022, is the Investment Territory progress report marking the first 12 months since the establishment of the Territory Investment and Major Projects Commissioners.</p>
Recommendations	Progress Update
<p>Facilitate active financial support for projects by working with government and industry financing mechanisms to shape or expand their offering (B2)</p>	<p>A program of ongoing engagement with relevant Commonwealth Government bodies continues to facilitate active financial support. This includes a focus on Commonwealth Government investment support and decision makers by the Major Project Commissioner, which has resulted in the Territory Government receiving financial support from North Australia Infrastructure Facility (NAIF) in the form of an on-lending partnership with the Territory's Local Jobs Fund and financial support from the Export Finance Australia for the Territory's major project: Arafura Resources Central Australia based Nolans Projects.</p> <p>The Territory Government is working to enhance its suite of service offerings to further support and crowd-in private finance and ensure project delivery.</p> <p>The Investment Advisory Group (IAG) was announced in late 2021. The IAG is extending the Territory's network of relationships that can 'open doors' to investors, influencers and intermediaries.</p>



Energy Transition and Decarbonisation

Recommendation	Progress Update
Actively engage with the renewable energy sector to accelerate new renewable energy investment (E1)	<p>The Territory Government is actively engaging with the renewable energy sector to accelerate new investment by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Developing an implementation plan to deliver the Territory's first Darwin-Katherine Electricity System Plan to affordably, safely and securely transition the electricity system to 50% renewables by 2030; • Progressing a 35 megawatt battery energy storage system for the Darwin Katherine electricity system for construction in 2022 and operation in 2023; • Continuing to administer a grant program for small scale home and business battery-solar installations; and • Advancing planning and preparatory work for the Remote Power System Strategy. <p>The Territory Government is also actively facilitating a number of solar projects including Sun Cable's flagship project, the AUD \$30 billion+ Australia-Asia PowerLink. Investment Territory is working closing with Sun Cable to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Develop Territory, national and international relationships to progress project development and commercial arrangements; ◦ progress the development of its Territory Benefits Plan, including local workforce engagement and development; and ◦ progress various regulatory environmental approvals. <p>The Territory Government also introduced the Solar Project (Australia-Asia Power Link) (Special Provision) Bill 2022 in March 2022 to provide certainty that key commitments in the existing development agreement would be met.</p>
Recommendation	Progress Update
Position the Territory for the emerging hydrogen industry (E2)	<p>The Territory Government is accelerating the development of renewable hydrogen industry in the Territory, with the release of the Renewable Hydrogen Master Plan in October 2021. The Masterplan outlines the vision to become a leader in the development of a world scale renewable hydrogen export industry.</p> <p>The Territory Government is working closely with proponents to facilitate and refine opportunities for Hydrogen production in the Territory. For example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Aqua Aerem's Desert Bloom Hydrogen (DBH) project was awarded Major Project Status in December 2021. DBH is a staged commercial-scale green hydrogen operation with potential to grow to a \$15 billion project and deliver around 410,000 tonnes of hydrogen per annum for international export and domestic use. ◦ Global Energy Ventures (GEV) have announced the Tiwi Hydrogen Project, a green hydrogen export project on the Tiwi Islands. Project proposals indicate the project will start at 0.5 gigawatts of solar generation and 15,000 tonnes of green hydrogen production with the potential to scale up as the market grows and supply chain efficiencies improve. GEV is currently preparing environmental referral submissions to be assessed by the Territory Government with final investment decision targeted by late 2023. <p>The Territory Government is continuing to assess the feasibility and design of hybrid solar-hydrogen with key partners to deliver remote power generation under the Remote Power System Strategy, which is targeting 70% renewables in the communities serviced by Indigenous Essential Services.</p> <p>The Commonwealth Government has also identified Darwin as a priority area to facilitate the production of clean hydrogen for domestic and export markets. The Commonwealth's 2022-23 Budget allocated \$300 million to support low emissions LNG and clean hydrogen production at Darwin, together with associated carbon capture and storage (CCS) infrastructure. The Territory and Commonwealth governments are working together on implementation of this funding and to develop an effective national regulatory framework for hydrogen projects.</p>

Energy Transition and Decarbonisation

Recommendation	Progress Update
Advance development of transitional gas supplies (E3)	<p>The Territory Government's progress to advance transitional gas supplies in the Territory includes progressing implementation of recommendations from the Scientific Inquiry into Hydraulic Fracturing (HF Inquiry) which is scheduled for completion by the end of 2022. The next HF Inquiry implementation six monthly progress update which details progress of all 135 recommendations is due to be published later in the second quarter of 2022.</p> <p>Expected on-ground activity in the Beetaloo Sub-Basin this year includes the drilling and fracturing of up to four new wells, seismic surveys and the fracturing of an existing well. The completion of Hydraulic Fracturing Inquiry Recommendations by end of 2022 is expected to allow Government to consider production approvals.</p> <p>The Commonwealth Government's Cooperative Drilling Grants program has awarded \$19.4 million in February 2022 to Imperial Oil and Gas (Empire Energy); and a grant of up to \$7.5 million in March 2022 to Sweetpea Petroleum (a subsidiary of Tamboran Resources). These grants will assist companies to accelerate exploration activity in the Beetaloo Sub-Basin.</p> <p>There is also \$367 million of road upgrade funding from the Commonwealth and Territory Governments, which will support the Beetaloo Sub-Basin development. A design and construct tender to upgrade 140km of the Carpentaria Highway closed on 23 March 2022. The other road upgrades are in planning and design.</p>
Recommendation	Progress Update
Develop and implement a pragmatic and credible decarbonisation plan with interim targets, that delivers the Territory's growth and net zero targets (E4)	<p>Work continues to understand and address climate change impacts and ensure the Territory captures the economic benefits of the global transition to net zero by 2050. Recent progress has included ongoing work to understand the Territory's greenhouse gas emissions profile and potential trajectories to 2050 and to undertake the audit of Territory Government emissions, both of which aim to support identification of options to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in the Territory. Final reports are expected in the second quarter of 2022.</p> <p>This work is informing the parallel continued development of an Emissions Reduction Strategy including interim targets and the integration of emission reduction actions and focus across our industry development strategies.</p> <p>The Territory Government has also been working to design a Land Based Abatement Program, informed by the recently completed analysis of Territory based carbon offset industry, targeted discussions with key stakeholders and the Commonwealth Government.</p> <p>The Territory Government has continued its targeted advocacy with the Clean Energy Regulator to influence the prioritization of research and review of emission reduction methodologies under the Emissions Reduction Fund to ensure increased methodologies that can be delivered through projects in the Territory context.</p> <p>The Territory and Commonwealth governments finalised in March 2022 an Energy and Emissions Reduction Agreement, which is a ten-year agreement to support and secure investments in key emissions reduction projects and ensure secure, reliable and low emissions energy for Territorians.</p>

Recommendation	Progress Update
Position the Territory as a key research and development location for low emissions technologies (E5)	<p>The Territory government is supporting the development of low emissions technologies by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introducing the Electricity Reform Amendment Bill in 2021 to establish a time limited power for the Minister to amend electricity industry codes; • Continuing a broad review of electricity market arrangements and governance; • Fast-tracking the development of carbon, capture use and storage in the Territory by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ establishing a partnership with CSIRO, INPEX, Santos, Eni, Woodside, Origin Energy and Xodus Group, to develop a joint business case to assess the viability of a large-scale, multi-user carbon capture and utilisation hub at Middle Arm, targeting completion by 2024; ◦ providing facilitation support to the Santos and INPEX led carbon capture and storage projects targeting commencement from 2025 and 2026, respectively; and ◦ working with the Commonwealth Government to support implementation of its commitment in the 2022 Federal Budget to accelerate carbon capture and storage infrastructure in Darwin which is critical to establishing low emissions manufacturing, LNG and clean hydrogen production within Middle Arm Sustainable Development Precinct. • Progressing the Alice Springs Future Grid assessments and analysis through the Intyalheme Centre for Future Energy; and • Committing \$500,000 towards a four-year collaboration on battery research and manufacturing through the Future Battery Industries Cooperative Research Centre. <p>The finalised an Energy and Emissions Reduction Agreement (refer recommendation E4), also includes a focus on collaboratively progressing low emissions technology and policies to support industry to avoid, mitigate or offset emissions produced in Australia.</p> <p>The Land Based Abatement program (refer recommendation E4) will also provide support to position the Territory as a key research and development location for low emission technologies.</p>
Recommendation	Progress Update
Facilitate carbon offset industry growth (E6)	<p>Significant progress towards the development of a Greenhouse Gas Emissions Offsets Policy is being made following targeted consultation on a revised draft offsets policy.</p> <p>Research into potential carbon offset opportunities in the Territory has identified very few Territory Government controlled regulatory barriers to carbon market entry and participation.</p> <p>The Land Based Abatement program (refer recommendation E4) will also facilitate greater engagement in carbon markets by supporting research into the identification, development and testing of potential carbon abatement practices in the Territory context.</p>

Recommendation	Progress Update
<p>Complete the rapid master planning for low emissions petrochemicals manufacturing (M1)</p>	<p>The Territory Government has established a Gas Industry Reference Group (the Group) to support the master planning for low emissions petrochemicals manufacturing in the Territory and provide strategic advice to ensure it will meet industry expectations. The Group is meeting quarterly and membership includes Chemistry Australia, Australian Petroleum Production and Exploration Association, Australian Pipelines and Gas Association, Manufacturing Australia, Chamber of Commerce NT and Industry Capability Network NT (ICNNT).</p> <p>As well as the establishment of the Gas Industry Reference Group, the process to continue developing the master plan to establish petrochemicals manufacturing at the Middle Arm Sustainable Development Precinct is continuing, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • industry planning including land (e.g., pipeline corridors) and marine infrastructure development (e.g., wharf design); • ongoing environmental studies, including referral to the NT EPA to commence a strategic environmental assessment of the Precinct; • continued engagement with community, industry and business reference groups • actively engaging with target investors, including project facilitation to fast-track private investment; • commencement of a Middle Arm Sustainable Development Precinct market analysis study to deliver a detailed market analysis of the Precinct as a location for low emissions energy and advanced manufacturing industries; and • commencement of designing and drafting of the Middle Arm Sustainable Development Precinct Marketable Prospectus, targeting completion and release in the third quarter of 2022.
Recommendation	Progress Update
<p>Complete the rapid master planning for emerging renewables-based hydrogen manufacturing (M2)</p>	<p>The Territory Government is working to accelerate the development of a renewable hydrogen industry in the Territory. While the ultimate realisation of benefits for a renewable hydrogen industry spans 2030 and beyond, as set out in the Territory's Hydrogen Master Plan, action is underway to ensure critical enablers are established and in place for projects proposing export by 2026-27.</p> <p>The immediate focus has been the review of the Territory's regulatory frameworks to implement fit-for purpose standards and regulations for the production, transportation, storage and use of hydrogen. The Territory Government has contributed to a nationally coordinated approach to identify changes needed to the National Gas Law and Rules for hydrogen and renewable gases be blended in national pipeline networks. Draft recommendations were published by the Australian Energy Market Commission in March 2022.</p> <p>As mentioned in update for recommendation E2 above, the Territory Government is working closely with proponents to facilitate and refine opportunities for Hydrogen production in the Territory.</p> <p>The Territory and Commonwealth governments are also working collaboratively to develop Darwin as a priority area to facilitate the production of clean hydrogen for domestic and export markets through their joint commitments in the Energy and Emissions Agreement (refer E4) and to ensure aligned implementation of the Commonwealth Government 2022-23 Budget allocation of \$300 million to support low emissions LNG and clean hydrogen production at Darwin, together with associated carbon capture and storage infrastructure.</p>

Recommendation	Progress Update
<p>Develop manufacturing opportunities in key sectors to establish the capability in the Territory (M3)</p>	<p>Developing manufacturing opportunities across key sectors in the Territory to grow manufacturing capability and create jobs is now core business of the Territory Government. Manufacturing opportunities are being actively pursued in the aerospace, defence, critical minerals (refer recommendation RS4), petrochemical, health and agri-tech sectors. Partnerships are being fostered through formal partnership agreements and work to secure Sustainable Development Precinct approaches.</p> <p>Since the 2021-22 Budget, two key funded partnerships have been established:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. \$8.75 million Advanced Manufacturing Growth Centre (AMGC), 5 year partnership 2. \$500,000 Future Battery Industries Cooperative Research Centre (CRC) partnership <p>The first grant recipient from the Advanced Manufacturing Ecosystem Fund, locally based company Corrosion Instruments, was recently announced, with a growing number of grants being considered. Advanced Manufacturing Growth Centre's Territory manufacturing member network has grown by 500% (from 11 to 55 and growing), with ongoing industry consultations, tailored events and training and growing interest from interstate companies seeking opportunities to partner with locally based business here in the Territory.</p> <p>The Territory Government's participation in the Future Industry Battery CRC is continuing to provide an opportunity to engage with expertise and potential investors to further understand and attract interest in development of the battery value chain in a Territory context. The Territory Government is currently finalising project selection for the distribution of its overall \$500,000 investment.</p> <p>In 2020, the Territory Government and the NT Seafood industry identified that an assessment was needed on, if and how the Territory could retain more value from seafood products harvested from within the Territory. In late, The Territory Government conducted collaboratively with key stakeholders a scoping study for a seafood processing facility in Darwin. The study identified the need and assessed the potential value-add of processing seafood in the Territory. The identification and assessment of this potential Facilitated Investment Project has provided the opportunity, and created the momentum, to develop an implementation pathway for a future private sector led seafood processing facility. The next steps will be detailed site selection and solidified private sector and government direction.</p>



Resources

Recommendation	Progress Update
Urgently stand up a Territory Mineral Development Taskforce to accelerate mining development (RS1)	<p>The industry-led Mineral Development Taskforce was announced in November 2021, to accelerate mining development in the Territory. The Territory is seeing an escalating boom in mineral exploration with expenditure in the December 2021 quarter up 38% to \$45.1 million. This makes a total mineral exploration expenditure for 2021 of \$153.4 million, up 38% increase on 2020 exploration expenditure. This is the highest annual figure since 2011 and the third highest on record according to recent Australian Bureau of Statistics publication. Additionally:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are already over 20 mining projects working towards a Final Investment Decision in the Territory with a combined value of over \$6 billion; • The Mineral Development Taskforce is working with the Territory Government to advise on innovative approaches and options to accelerate private investment. • The Mineral Development Taskforce is also assessing the competitiveness of the Territory's overarching investment environment for mining and downstream value add and manufacturing projects to identify areas where the Territory's regulatory regime can be made more efficient, transparent and proportionate.
Recommendation	Progress Update
Increase and target exploration activity (RS2)	<p>The Territory Government is continuing to drive more mining development across the Territory. Recent activities, include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Up to \$3 million in Resourcing the Territory co-funded grants will be awarded in 2022-23, which is by far the largest pool of funding ever made available for exploration in the Territory; • Round 15 of the Geophysics and Drilling Collaborations program opened on 4 March 2022 and closed 29 April 2022. This is the first round based on expanded criteria that allow a wider range of eligible activities; • To support mineral explorers and to ensure they understand their obligations, a new Guide for Mineral Exploration has been developed to make exploration simpler and more attractive to investors. The Guide was released on 4 April 2022 to assist with the process of applying for an exploration licence and with operational requirements after a licence has been granted; • The Annual Geoscience Exploration Seminar (AGES) was held in Alice Springs, 4-6 April 2022. It was highly successful with around 280 registered delegates; one of the highest numbers on record. The program included: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ updates on successful exploration programs and new discoveries from across the Territory for gold, base metals, battery commodities, industrial sand and shale gas; ◦ new insights into the subsurface geological framework and undercover exploration in the Barkly region including the East Tennant region and Rover field; and ◦ new data releases and exploration concepts from major Geoscience Australia – NT Geological Survey collaborative geoscience programs. • Work is also continuing on the collaborative geoscience programs with Geoscience Australia. Recent results were presented at AGES 2022; and • Further exploration drilling and geochemistry data captured for the Barkly and Gulf region has been released. Another batch will be released in the second quarter of 2022. Data capture for the Pine Creek region is commencing.
Recommendation	Progress Update
Work with the mining industry to be future ready (RS3)	<p>The Territory Government continues to work in partnership with peak industry groups to support the Territory's mining industry to be future ready.</p> <p>Development of a strategy for data modernisation continues with key strategies and actions now identified.</p>
Recommendation	Progress Update
Assess and then develop low emissions minerals processing opportunities (RS4)	<p>The Territory has completed its initial analysis of the mine to market value chain of key minerals to identify and prioritise immediate mineral-based processing opportunities in the Territory. An engagement strategy has been developed based on the findings of the CRU Group consultancy and is being implemented, led by the Major Project Commissioner engaging with key identified stakeholders. The Mineral Development Taskforce has also been briefed on this work and it has accelerated the Taskforce's consideration of mineral processing under their work program.</p>

Recommendation	Progress Update
Rapidly identify and develop key Sustainable Development Precincts (A1)	<p>An Agriculture Precinct development team is working across government on a range of Sustainable Development Precinct opportunities. Key activities, include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Territory Government and the Chair of the NT Land Corporation through a Service Level Agreement are progressing activities to support the NT Land Corporation in releasing three agricultural precincts: Keep Plains, Larrimah and Wildman River; • The NT Land Corporation selected AAM Investment Group as the proponent to develop the Keep Plains Agricultural Development. The NT Land Corporation has commenced negotiations the terms of the Project Delivery Agreement; • The NT Land Corporation are currently considering proposals for the Wildman Agricultural Precinct and the Larrimah Agricultural Precinct; • Planning and approval processes for the Gunn Point Emerging Agribusiness Precinct have commenced; and • A project agreement is now in place with the Cooperative Research Centre for Developing Northern Australia (CRCNA) to identify opportunities to de-risk investment opportunities for agricultural land – an important next stage of the De-risking Agriculture Project.
Recommendation	Progress Update
Develop and implement an Agribusiness Strategy, focusing on new integrated commercialisation opportunities across the supply chain (A2)	<p>The Territory Government is collaborating with industry to develop a high-level Agribusiness Strategy, with community and industry stakeholder consultation complete. Work is now underway to consolidate feedback from key industry sessions as well as a community have your say process.</p> <p>The Strategy is due for release later this year.</p> <p>Protecting the agribusiness and aquaculture industry is also on the agenda with the detection of Japanese Encephalitis and Mango Shoot Looper in the Territory, as well as Lumpy Skin Disease in neighbouring countries. A boost to support biosecurity to help lessen the impact on industry is being pursued by government.</p>
Recommendation	Progress Update
Support development of Aboriginal-led industry opportunities (A3)	<p>The Territory Government continues delivery of its programs, initiatives and partnerships with Aboriginal communities, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The South Goulburn Island farm received record numbers of oyster spat produced at the Darwin Aquaculture Centre. Farm stock is growing well and reaching marketable size; • A new oyster farm site has also been established on Groote Eylandt with stocking of spat for grow out trials expected later in the second quarter of 2022; • The Aboriginal Fishing Mentor program has been reinstated to remote communities following changes to COVID-19 travel restrictions; • Cert II and III in fisheries compliance training materials have been finalised and will be delivered to Rangers this calendar year; and • A Fisheries 101 workshop has also been developed which aims to improve stakeholder knowledge and participation in fisheries management, this will be trialled with East Arnhem remote communities in the second quarter of 2022.



Recommendation	Progress Update
Facilitate sustainable development of the pastoral land estate and Aboriginal land (A4)	<p>The Territory Government has a range of actions planned or underway to facilitate sustainable development of the pastoral land estate and Aboriginal land, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collaboration with strong links to the Drought and Innovation Hub that include ongoing engagement with Industry Peak Bodies on a range of opportunities; • Work is continuing to support Tiwi Plantation to develop second rotation options. Despite COVID-19 restrictions, the project is still meeting milestone deliverables. Highlights include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Sawing and Veneer Peeling Trials; ◦ collection of leaf material for DNA extraction; ◦ literature review to integrate Tiwi trial data; ◦ preparation and establishment of trial sites; ◦ assessment of wood properties; ◦ characterisation of resource quality, and other traits of interest; and ◦ genotyping and genetic selection models. • Around 300 juvenile mango trees will soon be provided to the Ali Curung horticulture training farm, for a trial of three new varieties for the region. Partners in this trial include the Alekareng Horticulture Pty Ltd, the Aboriginal Land Economic Development Alliance (ALEDA), and Centre Farm, with the view to expanding mango production to the region with significant opportunities for local jobs and business opportunities; and • Scoping the potential for increasing small scale forestry enterprises on Aboriginal land by the second quarter of 2022, with work well underway to establish a small scale native forest enterprise on Groote Eylandt.



Tourism

Recommendation	Progress Update
Prepare business cases for key Aboriginal cultural tourism icons and take projects to the market (T1)	<p>The Territory Government continues to advance a number of key Aboriginal cultural tourism icons, including the National Aboriginal Art Gallery (NAAG), walking trail in Watarrka National Park, Stage 2 of works at the Hermannsburg Heritage Precinct, World Heritage Visitor Centre in Jabiru and Red Centre Adventure Ride. Recent activities include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New members were appointed to the NT Aboriginal Tourism Committee to guide the implementation of the NT Aboriginal Tourism Strategy 2020-2030 and contribute to developing a sustainable and prosperous Aboriginal tourism sector. The new Chair, Mr Paul Ah Chee is also a Tourism NT Board Commissioner. The Committee have met three times and participated in a developing an Aboriginal cultural tourism framework workshop; • In December 2021, Round 3 of the Aboriginal Tourism Grant Program provided 12 Aboriginal businesses, \$201 265 (excluding GST) to support tourism development initiatives; • The inaugural report card was released for the NT Aboriginal Tourism Strategy 2020-2030, fulfilling one of the Strategy's commitments; • Book Now Grants for Aboriginal tourism businesses were released in March 2022 and applications will close 18 May 2022; • An Aboriginal tourism business survey has commenced to assist Territory business growth targets by continuing to build and understand baseline data. The survey will also assist in ensuring continued support to strengthen the sector; • Partnering with Regional Tourism Organisations, work is underway to rollout an Aboriginal tourism sector promotion initiative at caravan and camping shows in the coming months; and • Work is also underway with Regional Tourism Organisations to deliver an Aboriginal tourism businesses grant funding access initiative to help Aboriginal owned tourism businesses to access opportunities and unlock potential grant funding.
Recommendation	Progress Update
Work with Traditional Owners and the Commonwealth Government to develop the Territory's World Heritage Icons (T2)	<p>The Territory Government is working with Parks Australia and Traditional Owners to progress development in Kakadu National Park in Jabiru, through the Future of Jabiru and Kakadu project, to transform Jabiru in to a vibrant and sustainable tourism hub and services center, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The recognition and granting of Jabiru Township back to the Mirrar people; • The delivery of the Jabiru Hybrid Power Station project which is now supplying renewable power to Jabiru; • Tender released for the construction of the new \$12 million Jabiru Medical Centre; and • Work is advancing toward the delivery of a Bininj Resource Centre, a Government Business Centre and revitalised Education Packages in Jabiru. All projects significant in underpinning the success of Tourism to the region and delivery and ongoing success of the Federally Government funded World Heritage Visitor.
Recommendation	Progress Update
Develop commercial opportunities in the Territory's National Parks (T3)	<p>The Territory Government has released the 30 Year Master Plan for the Territory's National Parks.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Master Plan establishes priorities, commercial opportunities and future directions from 2022-2052 with a ten year commercial activation plan; • To develop sustainable tourism growth across the Territory, five regional Destination Management Plans have been released. Inaugural score cards for Barkly, Big Rivers, Lasseter, and Alice Springs and MacDonnell regions have been released to date; and • Parks related product development priorities identified in the Destination Management Plans are also integrated within the Master Plan.
Recommendation	Progress Update
Accelerate Drive Tourism (T4)	<p>The Territory Government launched the NT Tourism Drive Strategy in September 2021, the Strategy identifies key product and marketing opportunities to develop the Territory offering as a drive destination for the holiday market. Implementation of the Strategy will increase coordination between regions and stakeholders for both infrastructure and marketing activities to improve length and quality of visitor stay.</p> <p>Round 1 and 2 of the Roadhouse to Recovery Program provided 74 regional and remote wayside inn, caravan park, and roadhouse operators with \$8.9 million in grant funding to carry out infrastructure projects and upgrades to improve customer experience.</p>

Recommendation	Progress Update
<p>Actively partner with the Commonwealth Government and industry to deliver strategic infrastructure (N1)</p>	<p>The Territory Government continues to advance delivery of strategic defence infrastructure through strategic planning and engagement with the Commonwealth Government across a number of fronts and activities. The Territory Government's recent activities and progress, includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continued discussions regarding the future use and development of existing and new training ranges and facilities in the Territory, as the Commonwealth Government, allies and partners assess announcements made during the 2021 AUSMIN Consultations, and other regional agreements; • Progressing the Territory's digital twin project and engaged consultancy Secora, the digital twin will provide a secure and cost-effective platform to facilitate master planning of Darwin harbour. The master planning process will consider current and future harbour uses and incorporate existing infrastructure and greenfield sites; • Establishment of a Defence Industry and Aerospace Industry 4.0 Testlab at Charles Darwin University (CDU) has been secured with the partnership agreement between CDU and the Commonwealth Government and the Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology (RMIT) nearing completion. This project will have the scope to expand to other technologies over time; • Drafting international engagement plans to promote defence-related investment opportunities internationally. In the interim, international advocacy efforts continue using national and international think-tanks, existing networks and relationships, and high-level defence conferences. Planned face-to-face international engagement efforts are expected to ramp up as travel restrictions are lifted; and • The Territory's National Security Advisory Group (NSAG) have finalised the Territory Defence and National Security Strategic Guidance, which identifies how the Territory can best capitalise on planned defence and national security programs, and emerging strategic opportunities from national and international Indo-Pacific strategic and defence posture adjustments, for publication.
Recommendation	Progress Update
<p>Partner with Territory businesses and industry associations to continue to improve capability and capacity to win national security and defence work (N2)</p>	<p>The Territory Government continues to partner with Territory businesses and industry associations to improve capability and capacity to win national security and defence work contracts. For example, Territory businesses have been invited and will form part of DefenceNT's exhibit at the 2022 Indo Pacific Expo in May. Other progress, includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The process to transition the Territory to the Australian Industry and Defence Network (AIDN) national model from AIDN-NT is nearing completion. When the transition is complete, AIDN will continue to have a Territory based representative and local committee; • In March 2022, an inaugural Defence Week Territory Program was held in conjunction with the Northern Australia Defence Summit which included an industry roadshow event in Katherine. The week provided opportunities for defence primes, officials, industry and other delegates to network with Territory industry. Other events included a Maritime Industry Showcase, and an industry focused networking event; • Work continues with Office of Defence Industry Support (ODIS) to ensure the Territory industry is benefitting from ODIS programs, services and other initiatives; • Identifying future support requirements for amphibious capabilities in the Territory has also been a focus for the Territory Government, including leveraging off the digital twin project to identify potential amphibious sustainment and training opportunities; and • Supporting Master Builders Association NT to complete an independent report on the Territory construction industry, including demand and supply trends. The Territory Government is working closely with the Australian Department of Defence to ensure the required data on projects and expenditure is captured in this work.



National Security and Defence

Recommendation	Progress Update
Expand engagement with industry, policy leaders and national and defence agencies to position the Territory to support activities in the north and the region (N3)	<p>A Strategic Guidance document has been developed to help best position the Territory to support, enable and maximise planned defence and national security programs. An implementation plan is currently being developed to maximise its influence and use.</p> <p>Other progress to expand engagement with industry, policy leaders, and defence agencies to position the Territory to support activities in the north and the region, include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Decisions and policy announcements from the Commonwealth Government continue to be monitored with a report to be developed outlining future defence force opportunities and potential infrastructure. The report will inform future infrastructure planning including engagement and promotion activities; • Continuing to work closely with Defence on the establishment of Regional Maintenance Centre North and identify maritime sustainment opportunities for Territory businesses; and • Actively working to identify and take advantage of opportunities to maintain regular engagements with Capability Acquisition and Sustainment Group and other areas of Defence.

Maritime Industry

Recommendation	Progress Update
Develop and implement a Maritime Industry Development Plan (MIDP) to grow the maritime industry, including to activate the Darwin Ship Lift facility (MR1)	<p>Work is underway on the development of the Maritime Industry Development Plan, with consultation having been completed last year. The Territory Government, has a number of activities underway including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • progressing work on the economic valuation of the maritime industry, expected to be completed by the end of the second quarter of 2022; • Identification of key issues and consideration of opportunities relating to maritime infrastructure undertaken within the context of a new Territory-wide infrastructure planning approach; • Producing a business capability gap analysis for the maritime industry and develop a strategy to grow and attract business and investment by the fourth quarter of 2022; and • Developing a comprehensive workforce strategy for the Territory's maritime industry by the fourth quarter of 2022.

Digital Industry

Recommendation	Progress Update
Undertake master planning of digital precincts (D1)	<p>The Territory Government has substantially advanced its feasibility assessment for a Territory digital precinct, including input from across government, key digital industry stakeholders and CDU. A report is being finalised that will outline the feasibility and options for considering a future digital precinct.</p>
Recommendation	Progress Update
Pursue strategic partnerships to grow the industry in the Territory (D2)	<p>The Territory Government continues to explore strategic industry and government collaboration to identify digital opportunities and investment projects through the Territory Investment Commissioner. Recent digital investment includes the announcement of multiple commercial data centres planned to be constructed in Darwin.</p> <p>Other activities include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A capability assessment of the local digital industry has been undertaken with findings being discussed with industry; • Four international submarine fibre cable projects are in progress that will connect Darwin directly with southeast Asia and other Australian cities; and • Work continues with industry proponents, local and international, and CDU to pursue digital opportunities.

Space Industry

Recommendation	Progress Update
Capitalise on Top End's competitive advantages for equatorial launch services (SP1)	The Territory Government continues to make progress capitalising on the Top End's competitive advantages for equatorial launch services. This includes attending and exhibiting at the Australian Space Forum to promote the Territory's space industry capabilities and competitive advantages in March 2022 and continuing to support Equatorial Launch Australia with the set-up of the Arnhem Space Centre site and logistics ahead of NASA's sounding rocket campaign in June/July 2022.
Recommendation	Progress Update
Capitalise on Central Australia's competitive advantages for stratospheric ballooning/high altitude pseudo-satellite (HAPS) launch and recovery (SP2)	<p>The Territory Government continues to target key high altitude pseudo-satellite (HAPS) companies to promote the Territory's favourable conditions for both launch and recovery. Key milestones include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Speaking at the HAPS Member Meeting 13-14 April 2022 is part of the progress; • Evidence gathered to support promotion and project facilitation action; and • Continuing to progress potential partnerships with Trusted Autonomous System and SmartSats CRC to establish a HAPS headquarters in Alice Springs.
Recommendation	Progress Update
Support development of ground station precincts (SP3)	<p>A master plan for the Centre for Appropriate Technology (CfAT) space precinct is complete, and discussions are ongoing with prospective ground station companies to promote the Territory as a location.</p> <p>Located in Darwin, Telstra and OneWeb's first new teleports are scheduled to begin installation with go-live planned in the second quarter of 2022. The facility will provide turnkey ground station support for OneWeb's growing fleet of low-earth orbit (LEO) satellites.</p> <p>The Territory Government also provided support and input into a consultation paper: "Establishing Australia as a Global Leader in Delivering Quality Assured Satellite Earth Observation Data: Provision of an enduring high-quality national assurance capability for instrument calibration and satellite image and product validation".</p>
Recommendation	Progress Update
Leverage space technology for Territory industries (SP4)	<p>The Territory Government is finalising an agreement with a partner as part of a program to demonstrate earth observation-driven solutions for businesses in the Territory's traditional industries (such as agribusiness). The program will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • provide Territory-specific case studies to promote productivity and efficiency outcomes that can be achieved from space-derived technology and data; and • leverage funding from the Commonwealth Government.

Recommendation	Progress Update
Collaborate to build opportunities for Aboriginal-led economic development, including access to project finance (AE1)	<p>The Territory Government continues to promote and provide opportunities for Aboriginal businesses, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NAIF extension to 2026 and mandate reforms to help improve access to NAIF finance for smaller loan sizes (i.e. between \$1 and \$10 million) across sectors crucial to the northern Australia economy have been widely promoted by the Territory Investment Commissioner and government. This promotion will help NAIF develop partnerships, including with regional financiers who will provide NAIF funding directly to small-scale proponents seeking investments. The first regional financier is the Territory Government's Local Job Fund which provides smaller loans to Territory businesses. Promotion of NAIF options for Aboriginal businesses is an ongoing activity for government; • Support for the <i>Fisheries Act 1988 (NT)</i> reforms to recognise Aboriginal rights and better enable Aboriginal economic development in the commercial fishery; • Completion of the work required to progress Action 8 of the Aboriginal Land and Sea Action Plan supporting economic development on Aboriginal Land; • Ongoing commitments to Ranger training and development, increased enforcement powers, and to training and capacity building for Aboriginal people seeking involvement in the local or commercial fishing industry; • Discussions on Sea Country Management have been held with external stakeholders, including CDU and Northern Land Council as part of investigating the potential of new capacity building proposals and opportunities; and • A new Local Decision Making (LDM) agreement for Werenbun Homeland signed already in 2022, with seven more agreements anticipated to be signed throughout this year.

Recommendation	Progress Update
Support Land Councils to facilitate and streamline land administration (AE2)	<p>The Territory Government has partnered with the four Land Councils and the co-Chairs of the former Team Territory to support and facilitate land councils projects. The Territory Government continues to engage with land councils and the National Indigenous Australians Agency (NIAA) regarding reforms to the administration of the Aboriginals Benefit Account (ABA) in the <i>Aboriginal Land Rights (Northern Territory) Amendment (Economic Empowerment) Act 2021 (ALRA)</i>.</p> <p>As part of developing the whole-of-government Native Title Policy Framework, the Territory Government has introduced the Native Title Towns Policy, and has developed Native Title Compensation Principles consistent with national approaches.</p> <p>Land Councils have been engaged regarding possible sites for Sustainable Development Precincts and a new template has been developed and in use to increase the efficiency of the Native Title Claim assessment process.</p>

Recommendation	Progress Update
Continue to support the Treaty process and self-determination (AE3)	<p>The Territory Government is continuing support a comprehensive community consultation program currently underway by the Treaty Commission. The new Treaty Commissioner has recently completed a number of introductions and further consultation to help inform the delivery of the Treaty Commission's final report. The report is on track for delivery mid-2022.</p> <p>Once the report is finalised, a whole-of-government response will be developed and implemented.</p>



Recommendation	Progress Update
Implement the Aboriginal Contracting Framework for Territory Government procurement (AE4)	<p>The Aboriginal Contracting Framework has been approved by government as the new Aboriginal Economic Procurement (AEP) Framework. The Territory Government is committed to maximizing the opportunities for participation of Aboriginal Territorians right across our economy, development of the AEP Framework will assist in achieving this commitment. The AEP Framework will be supported by two new policies, the Aboriginal Procurement Policy and Aboriginal Grants Policy.</p> <p>The Aboriginal Procurement Policy will support Aboriginal employment, business opportunities and grow the local economy, increasing business and regional development and building the local Territory workforce.</p> <p>The Aboriginal Grants Policy will seek to increase the proportion of grant funding the Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisations (ACCO) receive through preferencing in grants, to build a strong and sustainable ACCO sector to ensure they can deliver high quality services to meet the needs of Aboriginal people.</p> <p>The AEP Framework and the Aboriginal Procurement Policy are nearing completion, with implementation anticipated by the third quarter of 2022. Work is currently underway on the Aboriginal Grants Policy.</p> <p>Additional activities and policies the Territory Government is progressing to activate its procurement opportunities for Aboriginal participation, include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Value for Territory Assessment framework is currently being implemented to help strengthen the Buy Local Plan and provide more consistent delivery of Value for Territory outcomes; • The definition of an Aboriginal business, as a prerequisite to determining business/organisation eligibility for procurement preferencing, was adopted in September 2021, and aligns with the Territory Government's commitments in Closing the Gap Implementation Action Plan; and • Working with Aboriginal Peak Organisations NT (APONT) and NT Indigenous Business Network (NTIBN) regarding appropriate methods for proof of Aboriginality in procurement, to protect the intent of the Aboriginal Procurement Policy.

Regional Prioritisation

Recommendation	Progress Update
Strengthen the regional economic growth function of government to better drive economic development across regions (R1)	<p>The Territory Government continues to make important progress to help drive economic development across regions, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The draft Regional Development Framework is being progressed and final engagement with key stakeholders in each region is planned throughout the second quarter of 2022. The Regional Development Framework is expected to be finalised and released by the end of 2022; • Development of an online Territory regional data portal, which is anticipated for launch by mid 2022, will assist regional decision-makers, investors and governments to improve evidence based decision making, prioritisation and performance reporting. Discussions continue with Territory and Commonwealth agencies and other stakeholders to source and use data for the portal; • Continuing research partnerships with CDU and Industry Capability Network NT (ICNNT) to deliver new regional data and insight to inform regional economic growth plans and contribute to the ongoing content in the Regional Data Portal; • The Territory Government's Regional Prioritisation Steering Group was formed and includes relevant participants from across the Territory and Commonwealth governments, Local Government Association of the NT, and Infrastructure NT; • Ongoing partnerships with the Commonwealth Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications, Regional Development Australia NT (RDANT), and regional stakeholders to prepare businesses for upcoming Building Better Regions Fund and Northern Australia Development Fund grant rounds; • The Territory Government established a secondment to the Regional Delivery Unit within the Commonwealth Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications. This role will coordinate between governments and progress delivery of Commonwealth Government investments in the Territory's regions; • NAIF publicly launched their partnership with the Territory Government's Local Jobs Fund in February 2022. The Territory Government and NAIF will commence promotional information presentations on the opportunity to access the funding to each Regional Reconstruction Committee and other relevant regional stakeholders throughout the second quarter of 2022; • The partnership with RDANT continues to deliver for the Territory, with the first of three Seed Funding Grant rounds being awarded and cooperative activities to promote Building Better Regions Fund and Northern Australia Development Fund grant rounds in progress; • Work continues to develop Regional Economic Growth Plans (refer recommendation R2), including government policy and programs that can be leveraged, such as the skilled migration campaigns and programs; and • Remote Service Standards Project has commenced and is anticipated to provide proposed reforms by the end of 2022.
Recommendation	Progress Update
Develop or update regional economic growth plans as a pre-cursor to negotiating regional deals (R2)	<p>The Territory Government continues to work with the Regional Reconstruction Committees, newly renamed to Regional Economic Growth Committees (REGC), to develop and update Regional Economic Growth Plans, including continued promotion of regional opportunities to leverage Commonwealth grants with a focus on the Building Better Regions Fund, the North Australia Development Grants and new announcements from the 2022 Commonwealth Budget.</p> <p>Preliminary Regional Economic Growth Plans were delivered by the REGC for review in February 2022. Final plans will be completed by each RRC for each region by the end of the second quarter of 2022.</p>

Recommendation	Progress Update
Urgently deliver a significant program of infrastructure that enables industry growth (I1)	<p>The Territory Government is progressing ongoing work to action initiatives to ensure a significant program of infrastructure enabling industry growth continues. This includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continued delivery of the Territory Government's Infrastructure Program, including road upgrades, housing and infrastructure projects; Commitments from the Commonwealth Budget will see additional economy building projects moving forward including \$2 billion for Middle Arm Sustainable Development Precinct, \$300 million for Darwin Regional Water Supply, \$440 million for regional intermodal logistics hubs in regional centres, and significant additional road funding which will see the completion of the upgrades to the Tanami Road and outer Mereenie Loop; Infrastructure Australia's board approved the Darwin Regional Water Supply detailed business case and the project is now listed as "investment ready"; and Marine projects continue to move forward. The Final Design and Construct offers for Darwin Ship Lift were submitted, with construction due to commence late 2022. Frances Bay Mooring Basin design and construction tender closed on 5 April and tender assessment is underway. Mandorah Marine Facilities design and construct tender is due to close in May 2022.
Recommendation	Progress Update
Rapidly establish a strategic infrastructure planning and development function that plans for, coordinates and aligns infrastructure needs with industry and population growth (I2)	<p>Aligning infrastructure needs and population growth with infrastructure plans is ongoing, some of the Territory Government's recent activities, include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Infrastructure Commissioner Louise McCormick was formally appointed to the role in January 2022; The NT Infrastructure Framework Position Paper was released in February 2022 for public consultation. The position paper provided the blueprint for realigning strategic infrastructure needs with industry and population growth; Feedback is being collated, and it is anticipated the new NT Infrastructure Strategy Plan will be released in line with the Territory's 2022-23 Budget; and Infrastructure Commissioner has been working with the Territory Investment and Major Projects commissioners, and the Territory and Commonwealth governments to provide advice on enabling infrastructure investments to support the Territory's growth.

Recommendation	Progress Update
Clarify and provide guidance on land access negotiation pathways, focusing on Sustainable Development Precincts (L1)	<p>The Territory Government continues to progress its regulatory efficiency program to streamline and accelerate environmental and natural resource approvals with a focus on Sustainable Development Precincts.</p> <p>The first of three priority precincts have been identified and the passage of regulatory omnibus legislation through parliament will help government cut red tape without cutting corners.</p> <p>A Director of Development Coordination in the environmental department has been established to support clients and proponents navigate various regulatory and policy requirements and is responsible to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide a central point of contact (i.e. single door to government) for project proponents and other departments; • Provide proponents and relevant government agencies with regular updates on progress of applications; • Map the environmental-related regulatory approval processes for different categories of projects (e.g. mines, large-scale horticultural projects etc.) and prepare flowcharts and guidance material outlining timeframes and stages to assist proponents and government to be fully apprised of, and to be able to navigate, environmental and natural resource approval processes; • Find synergies across regulatory approvals and recommend and enable potential efficiencies and reforms; and • Engage with key industry associations (e.g. NT Farmers, NT Cattlemen's Association, Minerals Council, APPEA, etc.) to consult on the approvals process and provide high level information and advice to support economic development in the Territory.
Recommendation	Progress Update
Collaborate with stakeholders to introduce statutory timeframes for negotiation on land access, where possible (L2)	<p>The Territory Government continues to work towards improved outcomes with uplift mapping highlighting the importance of investigating whether the existing tenure framework meets the needs of the Territory to support tenure uplift proponents.</p> <p>A new form of tenure (e.g. conservation), legislative reform and clear policy to aid tenure uplift, are mechanisms to facilitate proposals being shovel-ready sooner with the appropriate regulatory oversight. Key findings so far include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leases in the Gulf and Central Australia are largely unable to support viable stand-alone pastoral enterprises, so there is the potential to explore alternative, more productive land uses; • Certain uses can be interchanged without the need to obtain consent by a fresh permit or a variation to an existing permit; criteria for interchangeable uses are guided by no change to land use intensification and inputs (e.g. changes to water requirements). Government is currently working with the Pastoral Land Board to complete this body of work. As part of an omnibus suite, revised Non-Pastoral Use (NPU) Policy requirements were released in March 2022; and • Preliminary uplift mapping discussions have commenced with Land Councils. Further discussions will occur during 2022 in the context of working with Land Councils on their priority economic development projects. These discussions need to be informed by the proposed ALRA amendments, which will see the establishment of an Aboriginal Economic Development Corporation that will receive \$500 million in seed funding from the Aboriginals Benefit Account.
Recommendation	Progress Update
Invest in land capability assessment as part of ensuring access to good precompetitive data (L3)	<p>General fieldwork has been completed and the CSIRO, with assistance from the Territory Government, will now prepare reports and associated broad scale mapping fact sheets with a target release date by 2023.</p>



Access to Water

Recommendation	Progress Update
Accelerate work to deliver infrastructure solutions for future water demand (W1)	<p>A Detailed Business Case to deliver infrastructure solutions for water demand in the Territory has been publicly released: Darwin region future water supply.</p> <p>The Business Case delivered a positive cost benefit ratio for the preferred infrastructure solution including the Adelaide River Off-stream Water Storage (AROWS) and Manton Dam Return to Service and has been independently verified as an “investment ready proposal” on the Infrastructure Australia Priority List 2022.</p> <p>\$300.6 million in Commonwealth funding for the Darwin Region Water Infrastructure Program has been secured including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$189.09 million in capital funding to deliver the Manton Dam Return to Service project • \$93.5 million to deliver a pipeline from a new Strauss Water Treatment Plant to the Middle Arm Sustainable Development Precinct • \$18 million for project development activities for AROWS <p>Other associated projects are in various states of progression and will be captured in the NT Strategic Water Plan by end of 2022 with tangible commitments to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop and implement demand management initiatives • Prioritise infrastructure solutions • Clarify and implement institutional arrangements • Finalise policy settings to maximise efficient water use. <p>The alternative treatment technologies is looking promising with early trials successful in Ali Curung. Next steps are to compare this to existing treatment technology to confirm feasibility with further trials planned for places such as Wilora or Willowra in the region.</p>
Recommendation	Progress Update
Undertake continued water exploration and targeted water resource investigation (W2)	<p>The Territory Government is continuing natural resource investigations to identify the development potential based on bio-physical resources for Mapping the Future projects for Larrimah, Katherine, Western Davenport and Deepwell.</p>
Recommendation	Progress Update
Continue to modernise legislative, policy and institutional settings (W3)	<p>The Territory Government continues to develop the NT Strategic Water Plan (the Plan) by late 2022 – the Territory's first long term comprehensive approach to sustainably manage the Territory's water resources that sets the agenda to 2050. A Directions Paper to inform a public consultation process on the priorities, proposals and ideas for the development of the Plan, closed in February 2022. A Consultation Summary Report will be published in the second quarter of 2022 that details the engagement on the development of the Plan and highlights the feedback received on the proposals in the Directions Paper.</p> <p>The draft Surface Water Take – Wet Season Flows policy will be out for public consultation by the end of quarter two 2022. The draft policy establishes how an application for surface water from river basins in the Top End during the wet season (October to April) will be assessed and the management actions that will apply. The principles and technical rules that underpin the Policy were developed last year, in partnership with all stakeholders through a steering group with members across government, farmers, research, environmental groups and Aboriginal organisations.</p>

Recommendation	Progress Update
Accelerate the steps to ensure the Territory's energy systems are agile and support economic growth (AP1)	<p>The Territory Government is working to ensure the Territory's energy systems are agile and support economic growth through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Northern Territory Electricity Market (NTEM) Priority Reform Program, with policy positions and consultation on draft rules currently being finalised; and • Developing the large-scale Renewable Energy Procurement Framework is linked to the NTEM Priority Reform Program outlined above.
Recommendation	Progress Update
Transition remote power systems for the 72 remote communities serviced by the Indigenous Essential Services program, to renewables-based systems by 2030 (AP2)	<p>The Territory Government continues to advance of power systems in remote communities across the Territory, and is working to transition remote power systems to renewables. This includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The immediate rollout of additional solar PV and a battery energy storage system at Wurrumiyanga to achieve high penetration renewable energy generation. A tender has been released and attracted significant attraction – it is expected to be awarded in the second quarter of 2022; and • Developing an open and contestable framework to facilitate approximately \$400 million of external investment to target 70% renewables in the communities serviced by Indigenous Essential Services. Preliminary works such as collating community profiles and developing a Stakeholder Engagement Strategy have been completed. The next steps in the process include obtaining relevant technical and economic advice and preparing commercially viable packages.
Recommendation	Progress Update
Accelerate energy intensive industry development (AP3)	<p>The Territory Government is working to accelerate the development of energy intensive industry, i.e. hydrogen, and is currently actively facilitating a number of energy intensive and renewable generation project proponents, including hydrogen, to support their project definition and feasibility development.</p> <p>The Territory Government also has a number of market-based analysis and studies underway both specific to the Middle Arm Sustainable Development Precinct which includes Hydrogen targeting, and Hydrogen analysis which will inform the development of a more targeted investment attraction approach.</p>



Access to Digital Connections

Recommendation	Progress Update
Accelerate the expansion of telecommunication services (mobile and internet) to increase the digital connectivity in regional and remote areas of the Territory (DC1)	<p>The Territory Government continues to focus on increasing availability and capacity of reliable broadband and mobile services to the Territory's regional and remote communities through engagement with service providers, advocacy with the Commonwealth Government, and commitment to co-investment opportunities.</p> <p>The Groote Eylandt fibre upgrade project is complete with increased capacity now being provided to alleviate network congestion for residents.</p> <p>Yuendumu transmission upgrade completed as part of the Remote Telecommunications Co-investment Program.</p> <p>Key programs underway, include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jabiru – upgrade township to NBN fibre to the premise technology; • Yirrkala – upgrade township to NBN fibre-to-the-premise technology; • Arnhem fibre upgrade project – underway and due to complete in 2023; • Remote Telecommunications Co-investment Program – installations for nine remote communities are either under construction or in the design stage, including Wutungurra, Nyirripi, Willowra, Yuelamu, Laramba, Canteen Creek, Larrimah, Top Springs and Cahills Crossing. <p>Further telecommunications co-investment programs suitable for small remote communities and homelands to provide mobile connectivity are in the planning stages, include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Localised connectivity solution in collaboration with Field Solutions Group approved within the Federal Regional Connectivity Program, will pilot a new solution in four communities; and • Satellite small cell program installations in partnership with Telstra.

Logistics and Supply Chains

Recommendation	Progress Update
Build a coalition between industry, business and government to collaborate to improve market connections (LS1)	<p>The NT Logistics Advisory Council (the Council) is to be formally established by the end of the second quarter of 2022. The Council will comprise industry experts to act as an advisory body to government on logistics issues, through collaboration between industry, business and government.</p> <p>The Council will focus on infrastructure, land use planning, supply chain efficiencies, regulation and safety. Key initial priorities will be an analysis of the Territory's logistics infrastructure capability including the development of a supply chain database to support freight and land use investment.</p>



Recommendation	Progress Update
Quickly streamline regulatory processes to make it easy to do business in the Territory (RG1)	<p>Following completion of regulatory mapping and streamlining of the hospitality and retail sectors as part of Can-Do Territory, the Territory Government is now focused on the Mining and construction industries</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Progress is well underway to map the mining sector regulatory processes, including targeted consultation with key stakeholders and peak industry groups; • The mapping of the regulatory process for the construction sector has commenced; • Mapping for the agriculture sector will commence shortly; and • The review of the Regulation Making Framework is well progressed and will be finalised in the third quarter of 2022.
Recommendation	Progress Update
Invest in modern digital architecture which is easy to use (RG2)	<p>The Can-Do Territory portal is being further enhanced to deliver a digital version of the 'white card' that can be stored in digital wallets on a smart phone. This is planned for release by mid-2022.</p> <p>A series of manual permits and approvals related to Parks are currently being digitised to streamline application, payment and approval processes.</p> <p>The Territory Government is working with Services Australia to refine the conceptual design that will enable the Can-Do Territory portal to become the first step to a 'digital front door' for delivery of government services to Territorians and businesses.</p>



Recommendation	Progress Update
Embed workforce planning for the future, now (SK1)	<p>The Territory Government is working with CDU and Batchelor Institute to develop six monthly training delivery plans for each region.</p> <p>Work is also continuing with CDU to develop regional workforce profiles that identify regional competitive advantages, opportunities and challenges from a skills and workforce perspective.</p> <p>Negotiations around the new skills agreement have been extended until June 2022, to ensure high quality, relevant and accessible skills and training systems. This extension has been agreed by each jurisdiction and national cabinet.</p> <p>The Barkly Workforce Plan is complete and implementation actions have commenced.</p> <p>The roll out of the Job Profile Survey has been deferred until late 2022 so as not to compete with the Census activity, which was underway at the same time.</p> <p>The Territory Government is partnering with Industry Skills Advisory Council NT (ISACNT) and GTNT Group – Australian Apprenticeship Network to deliver two Industry Training Program Forums in 2022 to be held in Darwin and Alice Springs. Further Forums for Katherine and Tennant Creek are being planned with assistance from ISACNT.</p>
Recommendation	Progress Update
Collaborate with CDU to build its competitive advantage and its relevancy to the Territory and Australia by determinedly pursuing new models of engagement and delivery (SK2)	<p>CDU partnered with the Territory Government to contract the Australian Council of Learned Academies, to deliver an independent report on opportunities for how science can contribute to achieving a \$40 billion economy by 2030, due for completion in the third quarter of 2022. This work is supported by the Australian Academy of Science.</p>

Recommendation	Progress Update
Establish a Territory Careers Pathway (PE1)	<p>The Territory Government together with the Commonwealth Government continues to progress work to establish a Territory Careers Pathway.</p> <p>In collaboration with the ISACNT and GTNT Group the Territory Government is arranging Industry Training Program Forums in Darwin and Alice Springs (as referred to in recommendation SK1) and are aimed at bringing local businesses and major industry together so students can access information, start career conversations and network, to help make more informed decisions about their future.</p> <p>The Aboriginal Student Aspiration Program – rebranded by student election to Leaders of Tomorrow, commenced in term 4, 2021, with 18 participants from nine schools across Darwin, Palmerston, Alice Spring and Nhulunbuy. The program supports high attending and high achieving Aboriginal students, providing exposure to opportunities and experiences which inspire them to broaden their dreams for the future. The first of three student voice forums with Rural Youth Ambassadors is scheduled for May 2022 and the INPEX experience postponed in December 2021 will take place in June 2022 if students are able to travel. A health expo, planned in collaboration with the Department of Health, CDU and Flinders University is also scheduled for term 2, 2022.</p>
Recommendation	Progress Update
Expand key programs that improve remote Aboriginal education (PE2)	<p>The Territory Government continues to engage with families and communities to increase children's participation in the Families as First Teachers (FaFT) programs. There were 2,815 children participating in the FaFT programs at the 55 FaFT sites across the Territory (as at 27 April 2022).</p> <p>The Territory Government continues to support families with young children to complete the Ages and Stages Questionnaire – Talking About Raising Aboriginal Kids (ASQ-TRAK) developmental screening tool in remote and very remote FaFT programs. There were 33 out of 37 remote and very remote FaFT sites implementing ASQ-TRAK.</p> <p>The Territory Government remains supportive of expansion of the Learning on Country Program. Partnership agreements are already established between Land Councils and government. Discussions have commenced at officer level with National Indigenous Australians Agency to determine an appetite for expansion.</p> <p>Vocational education and training (VET) continues to be delivered to students involved with the Learning on Country program across 10 schools in 2022. The VET courses offered to students provide pathways to employment, such as Land and Sea Rangers, as well as contributing towards the NT Certificate of Education and Training.</p> <p>A feasibility study identifying requirements to improve connectivity for schools across the Territory is underway and expected to be complete by the second quarter of 2022.</p>
Recommendation	Progress Update
Review and target national and international migration programs and settings post-COVID-19 (PE3)	<p>The Territory Government has made significant progress to the Territory's national and international worker attraction and migration programs. Key activities include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Territory's Global Worker Attraction Campaign went live in March 2022 featuring Territorians that have moved to the Territory for work and stayed for the lifestyle. The Campaign is targeted at skilled and semi-skilled workers, the campaign is running in Australia (NSW, VIC, SA, WA, ACT, QLD, TAS) and internationally (New Zealand, London, Singapore, Japan, South Korea, Switzerland, Italy, Vietnam, South Africa, Taiwan, Indonesia, Colombia, Brazil and Ireland). The campaign is partnered with Seek, CareerOne and Indeed to encourage job seekers to search job listings in the Territory; • The Commonwealth and Territory governments signed a variation to the NT Designated Area Migration Agreement II (NT DAMA) in March 2022. The updated NT DAMA provides Territory employers with more occupations including some newly created semi-skilled occupations in demand such as Skilled Horticultural Worker and High Access Maintenance and Cleaning Technicians; increased annual places to 625; more flexible skills and work experience requirements; lower English language threshold for trade occupations; higher age limit for majority of occupations; flexible permanent resident pathway, and streamlined application framework. The Territory Government delivered a series of information sessions held in Darwin, Katherine, Tennant Creek and Alice Springs during March 2022 with a session planned for Nhulunbuy. Due to overwhelming response a second session for Darwin is planned for late April/early May; and • Since January 2022, 138 workers have arrived in the Territory from Timor-Leste, Fiji and Vanuatu under the Pacific Australia Labour Mobility (PALM) scheme. The workers have been supporting the agriculture, aquaculture, hospitality industries in roles such as housekeeping, food & beverage attendants, melon picking, mango tree pruning, aquaculture attendants and farm hands. In 2021, 669 workers arrived from Vanuatu and Samoa to support agriculture, aged & disability care, hospitality and tourism.

Recommendation	Progress Update
Plan for future population demands (PL1)	<p>The Territory Government continues prioritisation of key regional growth areas which, coupled with the Territory Government's Infrastructure Program, enables industry growth and plans for future population demands. Most notably, the Territory Government released the Bringing Land to Market, an independent review of the Land Development Processes, Land Under Development and Titled Land report in February 2022. The report identifies areas for improvement including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the release of land • the production of lots • the authority approvals, and • bonding and other initiatives to bring forward titles. <p>An Advisory Committee is being established to provide advice as to the implementation of the report recommendations. Some recommendations have already been progressed, while some recommendations are longer-term and will require further work.</p> <p>The NT Planning Commission has completed two stages of consultation on the Holtze to Elizabeth River Subregional Land Use Plan. The Territory Government is now considering amendments to the NT Planning Scheme 2020 following this consultation. Public consultation on the amendments to the planning scheme closed in mid-April 2022.</p>

Recommendation	Progress Update
Establish a sustainable community housing industry in the Territory to deliver affordable and available housing (PL2)	<p>The Territory Government is delivering on its commitment to expand the community housing sector. To deliver this, the Territory Government has:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commenced the commissioning process for two small scale development opportunities in 2021-22, targeted to local Community Housing Providers for the construction of two small scale unit complexes in Alice Springs and Greater Darwin; • Completed community consultation and a market sounding exercise for feedback on redevelopment options at Shiers Street (a large scale, major redevelopment) to inform the structure of future procurement in relation to the project; • Nine large scale redevelopment opportunities currently being reviewed and documented for consideration for potential implementation across the NT Community Housing Growth Strategy. This provides further opportunities and methods to increase stock transfers to Community Housing Partners; • Modelling undertaken by the Paxon Group to assess the economic viability of large scale development sites. The modelling assessed the financial viability of Community Housing Provider led development projects of different sites in both Darwin and regional centres. Analysis will inform which sites may be considered for release to the sector and what mixed-tenure model they could support; • The construction of 10 dwellings in Tennant Creek is on track to be completed in the fourth quarter of 2022. There is an opportunity to tender the long term maintenance of the dwellings to the community housing sector to boost the sector's asset base in Tennant Creek; • Work continuing with the Anindilyakwa Housing Aboriginal Corporation (AHAC) for a staged transfer of housing management to AHAC commencing 2022-23. A consultant will be engaged to work with a wide range of affected stakeholders to scope and design a transfer model in 2022; • Developed a draft report on the modelling for the Strategic Asset Management Plan. When finalised, the 10 year plan will outline how the current asset base will be transformed to a portfolio of assets that suit the growth and changing demographics of clients; • The Territory Government has invested \$4 million over five years to strengthen the capacity of the Territory's first Aboriginal housing peak body- Aboriginal Housing NT (AHNT). AHNT will play a central role in providing capacity building for Aboriginal housing organisations in areas such as governance and board membership, in order to continue work towards developing sustainable remote Aboriginal community housing models; • Established a remote community housing trial model, with governance and service delivery arrangements consistent with the National Regulatory System for Community Housing and incorporating Healthy Living Principles is in its final stages with PIC Consulting; and • Received feedback from key stakeholders on the draft NT Community Housing Growth Strategy and the draft report from Paxon Group in February 2022. The Strategy was updated to incorporate feedback from the draft documents and is due for release in the second quarter of 2022.

Recommendation	Progress Update
Maintain a focus on improving liveability for existing and new Territory residents (PL3)	<p>The Territory Government continues work to deliver improved liveability for new and existing residents of the Territory. This work includes, but not limited to the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The NT Planning Commission has considered nine (of 12) background papers for the development of a NT Strategic Directions Planning Policy. Internal consultation is underway, along with two further background papers; and • Work is ongoing to finalise government spatial plans for Alice Springs, Palmerston and Darwin CBD's and environs. <p>Recent project deliveries, include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Civic and State Square Redevelopment: A design tender was awarded in April 2022 for Liberty Square to Clouston. A \$145 million tender is expected to be released in April 2022 for the remaining elements of the precinct revitalisation, including the construction of the State Square Art Gallery, Central Heart, Tropical Tree Walk and expansive event lawns. • Alice Springs CBD Revitalisation: Delivery of the \$20 million CBD revitalisation continues, with the delivery of the River Activation Space in March 2022. Cooling Initiative shade structures and landscaping works are ongoing and are due for completion in quarter three 2022. Lighting upgrades and additional CCTV works also continue, due for completion in quarter three 2022. • National Aboriginal Art Gallery (NAAG): The Territory Government has acquired the preferred site, paving the way for the construction of the NAAG at the Anzac Hill Precinct. On 25 March 2022 the design tender was awarded to BVN Architecture (in partnership with Territory architect Susan Dugdale and Associates). • A Reference Group has been established to provide advice and recommendations to the Territory Government on the development and establishment of the NAAG, including the overall concept, and approaches to fundraising and governance. 10 of the 12 appointees are Aboriginal, who bring a wealth of high-level expertise in contemporary and traditional Aboriginal art across all mediums including digital, museum and gallery leadership, senior curatorial experience, and experience in developing fundraising strategies.