

## Kimberley shire welcomes new govt office

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A Kimberley shire has welcomed a Commonwealth plan to create a new office specifically to deal with northern Australia.

The Wyndham-East Kimberley Shire says it supports a plan to transfer the \$20 million Northern Land and Water Taskforce to a new Office of Northern Australia.

Shire President Michele Pucci says successive governments have failed to take the potential of the region seriously.

"Hopefully with the formation of an office specifically looking at northern Australia, we might see some commitment to the region," she said.

The government says it will explore a range of development opportunities across a broad range of sectors and will not just focus on the Kimberley's irrigation potential.

Ms Pucci hopes agricultural opportunities will be developed.

She says she does not want the work of the previous taskforce to be ignored.