

consultative way, and adequate advance notice is provided to traditional owners to enable them to make arrangements to attend meetings.

The meetings themselves are conducted in a way which permits the traditional owners and others with a traditional interest in the land, to access necessary information and to participate as much as they want to.

There have been media reports about disputation, but as far as the CLC is aware, the disputes which received media attention were not disputes with respect to land.

CORPORATE GOVERNANCE OF THE CENTRAL LAND COUNCIL

Objectives

- maintain and develop appropriate accounting and financial management systems
- provide relevant, accurate and timely performance based management reporting
- manage procurement of funds to sustain and advance the CLC operational plan and performance of statutory functions
- administer and monitor compliance with statutory regulatory requirements
- recruitment, training and development opportunities for CLC personnel
- prepare, implement and manage appropriate governance and risk management framework

Accounting, Financial Management and performance reporting

The Central Land Council is a Commonwealth Statutory Authority within the terms of the Commonwealth Authorities and Companies Act 1997 and the Minister has determined the form of financial statements to be as prescribed under Schedule 2 of

the Commonwealth Authorities and Companies Act 1997.

Further the Council is a Native Title Registered Body within the terms of the Native Title Amendment Act 1998 and various sections of that Act proscribe financial reporting requirements.

Elsewhere in this report the Council's statutory annual financial reports are published together with the unqualified audit opinion issued by the Australian National Audit Office.

The Council maintains and develops financial accounting and reporting systems utilising the SUN enterprise-wide integrated business application and associated products.

Managers and other staff access operational management financial reporting, including budget funding versus actual expenditure variance analysis, in an on-line real-time password secured and controlled environment.

In collaboration with the Office of Indigenous Policy Coordination the outcomes and outputs framework has been revised.

The framework has been approved by the Minister for Families, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs, Mal Brough.

The framework is intended to provide the basis for preparing budget estimates and reporting on performance and utilisation of resources.

Management is continuing to address the challenge of applying the framework to routine reporting of operational performance.

The CLC provides for the operation of a professional library and records facility with appropriately qualified and accredited staff.

The library service includes current affairs information, scientific and historical reference enquiries, on-line searches and inter-library loans.

The Records Unit (which includes Archives) are managed in accordance with the Commonwealth Archives Act 1983 and according to the Records Management Association of Australia's Administrative Functions Disposal Authority (AFDA) schedules.

Human Resource Management

Enterprise Bargaining Agreement

CLC staff work under the Central Land Council Enterprise Bargaining Agreement (EBA) and the CLC/NLC Award.

The Joint Consultative Committee continued discussions in relation to a range of reserved matters within the EBA.

These included time-in-lieu arrangements, the means of transporting staff to remote areas (with a view to introducing efficiencies to provide a source of funds for future salary increases) and a review of both the Occupational Health and Safety and Workplace Harassment and Grievance Procedure Policy.

The Aboriginal Employment and Career Development Committee (established under the EBA) also met to discuss employment issues affecting Aboriginal staff.

The current EBA expires on February 2007.

With the introduction of Work-Choices on the 27th of March this year changes have come into effect proscribing the content of new Certified Agreements.

Preparations are underway to start negotiations of the new Certified Agreement.

The current EBA is also currently under review to ascertain Work-Choices prohibited content to ensure that it does not appear in the next certified agreement.

Compliance with the Australian Fair Pay and Conditions standard is also recognised as a prerequisite.