

I also feel compelled to comment on the revelations this year in the media in regard to domestic violence and sexual abuse.

The CLC welcomed the exposure of this behaviour in the hope that action would be taken at the highest levels to bring about positive change.

We need more police on communities, some real moves on the availability of alcohol in Central Australia, real employment opportunities and, above all, a commit-

ment by all levels of Government to redress the long standing neglect of the bush which has led to this situation.

Many communities have been crying out for years for help to control the situation but their pleas have fallen on deaf ears in Canberra and Darwin.

We hoped this brief window of public attention would finally precipitate a well thought out and proactive strategy from governments.

However, I am concerned - now the dust has settled - that inertia and complacency will return to Government bureaucracy and the status quo – the syndrome of the 'too hard basket' - will continue.

Let's sincerely hope this isn't so.

To conclude this report, I congratulate all of the Land Council staff on their hard work for the year and their considerable efforts continue to be appreciated.