

conducted training with our Tenant Creek and Regional Staff. This was the start of a rotational program that will be conducted throughout the organisation and the executive committee.

Equal Opportunity

The Central Land Council (CLC) is committed to providing a work environment in which staff feel that they are a valued member of the organisation, that they are treated fairly, and are given recognition for their contribution to the organisation's success and also aim to provide an environment that fosters good working relationships.

The CLC is also committed to ensuring that unlawful discrimination does not take place. Additionally, the CLC respects and values diversity in the workplace.

Superannuation

"Choice of Fund" - The Council is an employer agency responding to the Commonwealth Superannuation (Productivity Benefit) Act 1988. The Department of Finance and Administration is managing the legislative framework facilitating implementation of "choice of fund" for responding agencies.

Occupational Health & Safety

The following statement is provided in accordance with section 74 of the Occupational Health and Safety (Commonwealth Employment) Act 1991 (the OH&S Act).

Reporting Requirements under the OH&S Act

Section 68 Occurrences (Notification and Reporting of Accidents and Dangerous Occurrences)

Two incidents under section 68 were reported to Comcare.

There were no notices issued under sections 29 (Provisional Improvement Notices), 46 (Power to Issue Prohibition Notices), and 47 (Power to Issue Improvement Notices) of the OH&S Act, and no directions were given to the

Department under section 45 (Power to Direct that Workplace Not Be Disturbed).

Investigations

No investigations were conducted in 2005-06 and the CLC remains committed to adhering to Comcare guidelines.

New Office Complex

The CLC currently operates from six locations in Alice Springs as staff numbers and activities have expanded beyond the capacity of its main premises.

The purchase of a block of land suitable for the construction of a purpose-built facility has been finalised.

As required by the Minister, the CLC is engaged in a continuing process with FaCSIA OIPC staff with respect to the design and construction of the proposed new building. Significant progress is expected during 2006-07 to take the project close to a successful conclusion.

Risk Management & Fraud Control

The Commonwealth Fraud Control Guidelines apply to all agencies covered by the Financial Management and Financial Accountability Act 1997 (FMA Act); and bodies covered by the Commonwealth Authorities and Companies Act 1997 (CAC Act) that receive at least 50 per cent of funding for their operating costs from the Commonwealth or a Commonwealth agency.

The Commonwealth Fraud Control Guidelines do not apply to a CAC Act agency that does not receive the above level of funding.

Such agencies are, however, strongly encouraged to comply with the best practice standards set out in these Guidelines.

As a CAC statutory authority that is not 50% budget funded the CLC is not required to implement these guidelines. However, the CLC acknowledges that the guidelines do provide a good

overview to better practice approaches for fraud control in the public sector.

Over the years, CLC has developed various internal practices and procedures to ensure appropriate authorizations and financial delegations are in place and for rigorous monitoring and detection of any anomalies in the following areas:

- use of purchase orders
- use of CLC vehicles, assets and property
- use of computers, email and Internet
- access to CLC properties
- petty cash, handling of cash, signing of cheques, approving payments
- approving travel movement & bookings
- disposal of assets

Staff and management of CLC operate under an Instrument of Authorizations which documents the appropriate financial delegations and authorities framework.

Overlaying this framework is a Code of Conduct which proscribes personal and professional behavior and ethics in the workplace.

We are proud of our track record and some of our procedures have been referred to as best practice in peer organizations and the wider community.

While the existing CLC practices have the elements of a fraud strategy, they have never been collectively formalized as a risk management plan.

ANAO Audit Report 28

The Australian National Audit Office [ANAO] has issued Audit Report No 28 - Performance Audit. The published report contains various recommendations.

- Recommendation 4

"The ANAO recommends that the Land Councils put in place a