



**Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee**

**Supplementary Budget Estimates 2025-26**

Central Land Council appearance: 1 December 2025

**Opening statement, Central Land Council CEO – Les Turner**

Firstly, I would like to reiterate the importance of Aboriginal people being consulted about laws and policies affecting them. The CLC will continue to advocate for this across the priorities of its Council.

CLC continues to focus on our statutory functions and continuously improving our practices. In doing so we are maximising opportunities for Aboriginal people in Central Australia to improve their quality of life, to maintain culture and manage threats to the cultural and natural values of their land.

CLC had a successful council meeting at Yulara in October, with the celebration of the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Uluru handback. This was a source of pride for traditional owners, Anangu and other Aboriginal people. The joint management of the Uluru-Kata Tjuta national park is an example of the strengths of shared governance and honouring Aboriginal culture. It is an area where we continue to focus on ensuring traditional owner voices and custodial responsibilities are honoured and respected, while also enabling visitors to enjoy the space.

The CLC appreciates the government's ongoing support of Ranger and Indigenous Protected Area programs across the country and in the CLC region. The CLC supports its constituents to manage their land through 14 CLC ranger groups and six Indigenous Protected Areas. These are important programs for sharing knowledge to protect country and culture. They enable meaningful training and jobs on country and support remote communities and the environment to thrive into the future.

We welcome further discussion of our work with the Committee today.