



EXECUTIVE MINUTE

on JOINT COMMITTEE OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS AND AUDIT REPORT

[No. 506]

[Inquiry into Commonwealth Financial Statements 2022-23]

General comments

The legislative due date for annual reports under the *Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act* 2013 (PGPA Act) for Commonwealth Entities is 15 October each year. The short timeframe between this date and the expectation under the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet Tabling Guidelines that annual reports are tabled prior to the start of the Supplementary Budget Estimates hearings each year (end October/early November) does not always allow for this expectation to be met. Ministerial approval is also required for a government document to be tabled in Parliament.

Recommendation No 3:

The Committee recommends that the Anindilyakwa Land Council provide a response within six months on why their annual report has not been tabled in time to be scrutinised at supplementary budget estimates for the past three years.

Summary of response:

Agreed.

Supporting rationale:

The Anindilyakwa Land Council (ALC) defines the schedule to complete the annual audit of financial statements and the annual report in consultation with the Australian National Audit Office appointed contract auditor, to meet the Public Governance Performance and Accountability Act (PGPA) section 46 requirement to submit the annual report to the responsible Minister by 15 October.

The pdf format ALC Annual Reports 2023-24 and 2022-23 were submitted to the responsible Minister on 14 and 12 October respectively for the given year. The 2021-22 annual report was delayed, pending completion of the annual audit of financial statements.











Following submission of the annual report to the responsible Minister additional steps include obtaining the responsible Minister's approval to table the annual report, and printing and delivery of the report to Parliament House for tabling. The ALC works earnestly to reach tabling of the annual report as soon as practicable within the requirements of the annual audit of financial statements and the processes to print and table the annual report.

Yours sincerely,

ALC Chair Cherelle Wurrawilya

Interim CEO Colin Wakefield





