

Job advertisement reference QLD/695518/26
Role type Permanent, Flexible Full-Time
Classification PO6
Salary \$147,769 to \$156,144 p.a. <i>Plus leave loading and 12.75% employer superannuation contribution</i>
Location Meanjin, Brisbane
Contact Alex Correa Email: ac@alexcorreaexecutive.com.au Phone: 3210 0992
Closing date Thursday, 13 th August 2026
Our workplace Crown Law supports the Queensland Government as its most trusted source of legal advice and representation. Join us as we ensure the Queensland Government's legal needs are met across a broad range of practice areas: • commercial • insurance and risk • constitutional and advocacy • native title and resources • public law • workplace relations • dispute resolution

Principal Lawyer

Native Title, Commercial & Property Branch

Native Title Litigation Team

The Principal Lawyer is responsible for providing expert legal advice and managing complex or sensitive matters requiring substantial professional judgement, developing long term strategic client partnerships, and providing guidance and development to lawyers in the Native Title Litigation team.

Your key responsibilities

These are the key competencies from the Legal Professional Competency Framework for this level at Crown Law.

Litigation

- Use advanced advocacy and influencing skills to prepare and present submissions in complex matters.
- Provide guidance to others on the procedural aspects of conducting complex litigation.
- Provide guidance on the strategic use and conduct of alternative dispute resolution processes and managing costs of litigation.
- Ensure best practice in dispute resolution and cost management.

Legal Drafting

- Provide expert drafting for highly complex or sensitive matters.
- Manage significant legal and commercial risks through drafting, within broad direction of senior officer or executive.
- Guide others in drafting strategy and document preparation.

Legal Research

- Oversee complex, specialised and/or sensitive research involving multiple areas of law that requires high levels of expertise.
- Support emerging technologies for research efficiency.
- Ensure research aligns with organisational priorities.

Statutory Interpretation

- Under broad direction, address highly complex and/or specialised interpretation issues involving multiple statutes or conflicting provisions.
- Use extrinsic materials and comprehensive knowledge of the discipline to resolve ambiguity in contentious matters.
- Provide authoritative solutions to organisational statutory interpretation problems.

Legal Advice

- Provide advice on complex issues which require high levels of expertise and comprehensive knowledge of the discipline usually under broad direction and includes a requirement for high levels of expertise and experience to determine professional objectives and priorities.
- Shape legal risk management frameworks and practices.
- Mentor lawyers in developing advisory capability.

Practice Management

- Role model good practice management skills within a team or practice group, ensuring all files, billing, documents, and precedents are accurate, compliant, and efficient.
- Implement and monitor assurance programs, delegations, and risk controls to maintain high standards of service and compliance.
- Role model ethical and professional conduct requirements, ensuring conflicts of interest are identified and appropriately managed.
- Mentor and support junior lawyers and support staff in good governance, risk management, and client-focused service practices.
- Identify and address systemic issues or inefficiencies in practice processes, recommending improvements to senior leadership.

Client Relationships

- Develop long-term strategic client partnerships.
- Embed client satisfaction frameworks within the team.
- Oversee client communications across multiple matters or teams.

Technical skills, abilities and cultural capability

- Extensive knowledge of Native Title Claims and Indigenous Land Use Agreements, or related area that is easily transferable.
- 5+ years' post admission experience primarily gained in Native Title Claims and Indigenous Land Use Agreements, or in an area that is easily transferable.
- Extensive knowledge of the relevant legislation outlined for this team, or similar legislation that is easily transferrable.
- Extensive knowledge of the rules of the Federal and High Court, or similar knowledge that is easily transferable.

Leadership stream — we lead ourselves or we lead others

We are all leaders in the Queensland public sector, across all roles and classification levels. We apply the Leadership Competencies for Queensland (LCQ) framework to outline the expected behaviours and competencies in the workplace for all roles. This role has been identified as an **Individual Contributor**.

Working relationships

This role interacts with internal stakeholders across the entire department and external government entities.

Reports to: Assistant Crown Solicitor

Direct reports: Not applicable

Collaborates with: Native Title Litigation team, External government entities

The Native Title Litigation team

The Native Title Litigation Team specialises in litigation, negotiation, and agreements under the *Native Title Act 1993 (Cth)*. The team acts for the State in Federal Court proceedings and provides strategic advice on native title claims, compensation, and Indigenous Land Use Agreements.

Key responsibilities:

- Managing litigation, mediation, and negotiation in Federal Court native title determination application and compensation applications
- Advising on connection and evidentiary requirements under the *Native Title Act 1993 (Cth)*.
- Advising on statutory interpretation of the *Native Title Act 1993 (Cth)*, *Land Act 1994 (Qld)*; *Aboriginal Land Act 1991 (Qld)*, and *Torres Strait Islander Land Act 1991 (Qld)*.
- Negotiating, drafting, and advising on Indigenous Land Use Agreements (ILUAs) and compensation agreements.
- Advising on government policy risks and implications of future act processes.
- Representing the State in mediation and settlement negotiations before the Federal Court.

Key legislation:

Native Title Act 1993 (Cth); *Land Act 1994 (Qld)*; *Aboriginal Land Act 1991 (Qld)*; *Torres Strait Islander Land Act 1991 (Qld)*; *Mineral Resources Act 1989 (Qld)*; *Nature Conservation Act 1992 (Qld)*; *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Act 2003 (Qld)*; *Torres Strait Islander Cultural Heritage Act 2003 (Qld)*.

Qualifications and conditions

- Admission as a Legal Practitioner of the Supreme Court of Queensland, and enrolment or eligibility for enrolment, to practice in the Federal and High Courts of Australia.
- High levels of expertise and experience in Native Title Claims and Indigenous Land Use Agreements.

Identified role

This position is not designated as an identified role.

Suitability for employment

The following suitability for employment checks are required for this role:

- Serious disciplinary action check
- Criminal history check

Additional information

Here is some additional information about the role. Review the **Applicant Information Package** for more information.

Physical demands and nature of work

This role is administration-based and requires:

- prolonged sitting and high computer usage
- carrying of laptop and paperwork when alternating between home and office
- limited lifting of up to 7kg archive boxes
- travelling remotely for meetings and hearings to all locations within Queensland
- walking, standing, twisting, bending (at the waist), crouching (bend knee) in various types of terrain and weather conditions.

Exposure to trauma and/or vicarious trauma

The work of the Native Title Litigation Team may expose employees to disturbing material including offending behaviours, criminal activity and other explicit, distressing, or offensive content.

We have a range of physical and psychosocial safety controls in place for our workplaces, including strategies to manage the risk of workers being exposed to traumatic events, material and/or vicarious trauma. We also support employees who are impacted by their work.

You should consider the above information and your personal resilience and coping strategies to sustain working in environments that may expose you to traumatic events and/or material.

Please consider this carefully before applying for this role.

How to apply

Apply via [Smart Jobs](#) and submit:

- Your resume (3 - 4 pages recommended).
- Cover letter

Valuing equity and diversity

We know that embedding diverse perspectives enriches our work, helping us to meet the needs of all Queenslanders.

We encourage applications from people of all backgrounds, including Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, individuals with disability, culturally and linguistically diverse communities, LGBTQIA+ individuals, veterans, and people of all ages.

We encourage you to share how your unique experiences, perspectives, and contributions would support our inclusive and respectful workplace.

Remember to let us know if we can help you participate in the recruitment process. Our selection decisions are not influenced by whether an applicant needs assistance or a subsequent workplace adjustment. Email us for a confidential chat at CapabilityandCulture@justice.qld.gov.au.