



GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

AGENDA

Meeting to be held on Wednesday 19
November 2025 at Longreach
Council Chambers,
96 Eagle St, Longreach



**Longreach
Regional Council**
Ilfracombe Isisford Longreach Yaraka

**LONGREACH REGIONAL COUNCIL
GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE MEETING AGENDA**

Dear Councillors

**Re: Meeting Notice for Governance Committee Meeting to be held on Wednesday
19 November 2025**

Notice is hereby given that the Governance Committee Meeting of the Longreach Regional Council will be held in the Longreach Council Chambers, 96 Eagle Street, Longreach, Qld 4730 on Wednesday 19 November 2025 commencing at 10:30am.

Your attendance at this meeting is requested.

Yours faithfully



Brett Walsh
Chief Executive Officer
Enc

**LONGREACH REGIONAL COUNCIL
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1 Opening of Meeting and Acknowledgment of Country

2 Leave of Absence

3 Declaration of any Prescribed / Declarable Conflicts of Interest by Councillors

4 Confirmation of Minutes

4.1 Confirmation of Minutes

Recommendation:

That Council confirms the Minutes dated 15 October 2025 as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

Appendices

1. Governance Committee Minutes 15 October 2025 [**4.1.1** - 7 pages]



GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

MINUTES

Meeting held on Wednesday 15 October 2025
at 96 Eagle St, Longreach



**Longreach
Regional Council**
Ilfracombe Isisford Longreach Yaraka

LONGREACH REGIONAL COUNCIL
GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE MEETING AGENDA

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GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE MEETING AGENDA

LONGREACH REGIONAL COUNCIL
GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

1 Opening of Meeting and Acknowledgment of Country

The Mayor declared the meeting open at **9:05 am**.

"We acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of the land on which we meet today, and we pay our respects to their elders past and present."

2 Leave of Absence

Nil

3 Declaration of any Prescribed / Declarable Conflicts of Interest by Councillors

Cr Rayner declared a declarable conflict of interest in Item 7.1 Department of Resources - Information Session. The nature of the conflict is that Cr Rayner is a co owner of a rural property in Barcaldine Regional Council. They hold a Permit To Occupy over a tertiary stock route within the property. Cr Rayner will seek approval from Councillors to remain in the meeting for the presentation as it is an information session only.

Moved Cr Leonie Nunn / Seconded Cr Nikki Gay

That the Committee permits Cr Rayner to remain in the meeting and discuss Item 7.1.

ENDORSED

Cr Nunn declared a declarable conflict of interest in Item 7.1 Department of Resources - Information Session. The nature of the conflict is that Cr Nunn is a co owner of a rural property in Longreach Regional Council. Cr Nunn will seek approval from Councillors to remain in the meeting for the presentation as it is an information session only

Moved Cr Dale Bignell / Seconded Cr Tony Emslie

That the Committee permits Cr Nunn to remain in the meeting and discuss Item 7.1.

ENDORSED

4 Confirmation of Minutes

4.1 Confirmation of Minutes

Recommendation:

That the Committee confirms the Minutes dated 17 September 2025 as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

ENDORSED

LONGREACH REGIONAL COUNCIL
GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE MEETING AGENDA

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5 Notices of Motion

Nil.

6 Deputations

Nil.

Recommendation:

That the Committee suspends the order of business in order to immediately receive the Closed Matters.

ENDORSED

Recommendation:

That pursuant to section 254J(1) of the Local Government Regulation 2012 the meeting be closed at 9:08am to discuss the following matters, which are considered confidential for the reasons indicated.

9.1 CHILDCARE REVIEW (ASTUTE)

This report is considered confidential in accordance with section 245J (3) (c) of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*, as it contains information relating to the local government's budget.

9.2 QTC CREDIT REVIEW

This report is considered confidential in accordance with section 245J (3) (i) of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*, as it contains information relating to a matter the local government is required to keep confidential under a law of, or formal arrangement with, the Commonwealth or a State.

ENDORSED

Attendance:

Mel Comerford, Astute Early Years Specialists joined the meeting at 9:10 am

Attendance:

Mel Comerford, Astute Early Years Specialists left the meeting at 10:06 am

The meeting adjourned for Morning Tea at **10:09 am** and resumed at **10:38 am** with all those present prior to adjournment in attendance.

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Recommendation:

*That the Committee move out of closed session at **10:50 am** to endorse Items 9.1 and 9.2.*

ENDORSED

9 Closed Matters

9.1 Childcare Review (Astute)

Reasons for Confidentiality

This report is considered confidential in accordance with section 245J (3) (c) of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*, as it contains information relating to the local government's budget.

Recommendation:

That the Committee receives the report, as presented.

ENDORSED

9.2 QTC Credit Review

Reasons for Confidentiality

This report is considered confidential in accordance with section 245J (3) (i) of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*, as it contains information relating to a matter the local government is required to keep confidential under a law of, or formal arrangement with, the Commonwealth or a State.

Recommendation:

That the Committee notes the correspondence from QTC.

ENDORSED

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Attendance:

Sandra Witheyman, Kent Morris, Deborah Eaton & Kelly Scott of the Department of Natural Resources and Mines, Manufacturing and Regional and Rural Development joined the meeting at 11:00 am

7 General Business

7.1 Department of Resources - information session

Consideration of information received in relation to approvals as trustee of reserves and road manager to consent to the use of the land for grazing.

Recommendation:

That the Committee receives the information, as presented.

ENDORSED

Attendance:

Sandra Witheyman, Kent Morris, Deborah Eaton & Kelly Scott of the Department of Natural Resources and Mines, Manufacturing and Regional and Rural Development left the meeting at 11:52 am

7.2 Consideration of Gifts and Benefits Policy

Consideration of a newly drafted Gifts, Benefits and Hospitality Policy.

Recommendation:

That the Committee notes the revised Gifts, Benefits and Hospitality Policy to be endorsed for adoption at the November Ordinary Council Meeting.

ENDORSED

7.3 Customer Service Requests

Consideration of Customer Service Requests for the previous month.

Recommendation:

That the Committee receives the Customer Service Request report, as presented.

ENDORSED

LONGREACH REGIONAL COUNCIL
GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE MEETING AGENDA

LONGREACH REGIONAL COUNCIL
GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

7.4 Meetings Action Register

Consideration of actions arising from previous meetings.

Recommendation:

That Committee receives the Meetings Actions Register report, as presented.

ENDORSED

The meeting adjourned for lunch at **12:30 pm** and resumed at **1:07pm** with all those present prior to adjournment in attendance.

Other Business

Ordinary Council Meeting Agenda

The meeting proceeded to review the Agenda for the upcoming Ordinary Council Meeting.

Attendance:

Cr Emslie left the meeting from 1:16 pm to 1:18 pm, having declared a declarable conflict of interest with Item 14.5 in the Ordinary Council Agenda.

Community Water Forum - Ilfracombe

The meeting reviewed the presentation to be delivered at the Community Water Forum - Ilfracombe to be held 15 October 2025.

8 Late Items

Nil

10 Closure of Meeting

There being no further business, the meeting was closed at **2:50 pm**.

Minutes Certificate

These minutes are unconfirmed

Cr AC Rayner
Mayor

Brett Walsh
Chief Executive Officer

5 Notices of Motion

None received at time of agenda preparation.

6 Deputations

None received at time of agenda preparation.

7 General Business

7.1 Digital Water Meter Request

Consideration of presentation by Taggle Systems.

Corporate Plan Alignment

Strategy
OUR SERVICES
3.1.3 Implement innovative water management practices to preserve the water supply

Consultation:

Internal	External
Director of Works, Manager of Innovation and Business Support	Taggle Systems

Officer Report

Responsible Officer:

Shane Anderson (Utilities Consultant),

Kimberley Dillon (Manager of Innovation and Business Improvement)

Taggle Systems, the project partner delivering the Longreach digital meter initiative, will provide a presentation offering:

- An update on the project's progress to date; and
- An overview of the implemented solution

Taggle Systems is a Telstra Partner, with their technology currently supporting over 75 councils and water utilities across Australia.

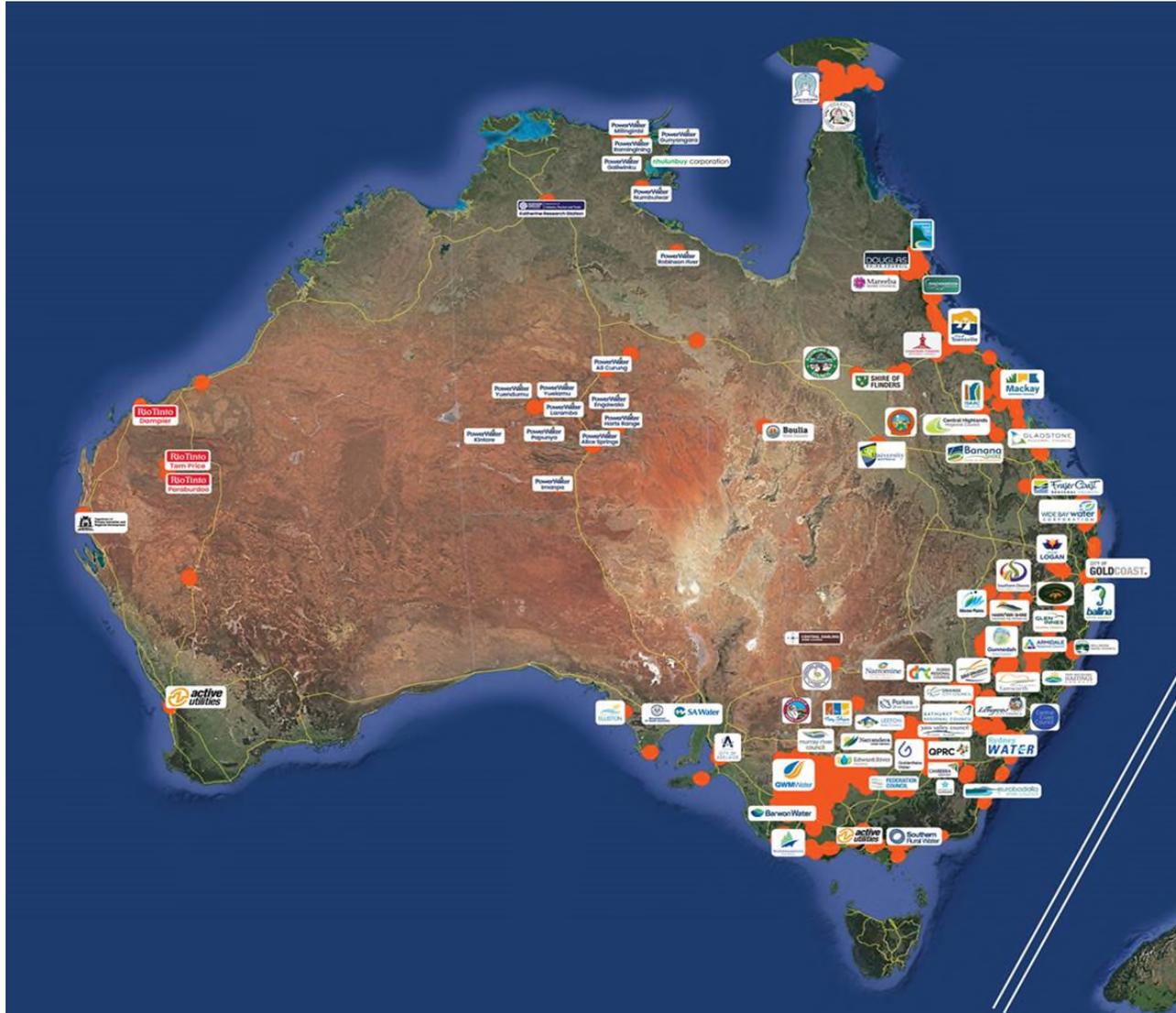
Appendices

1. Taggle Systems - Councils across Aust [7.1.1 - 1 page]

Recommendation:

That the Committee notes the presentation delivered by Taggle Systems.

LONGREACH REGIONAL COUNCIL GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE MEETING AGENDA



7.2 Smartweed Removal - update

Consideration of current situation and future actions regarding Smartweed in the Thomson River, Longreach.

Corporate Plan Alignment

Strategy

OUR COMMUNITY

1.3.2 Maintain and improve the health of the Thomson and Barcoo River waterways and catchments
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Officer Report

Responsible Officer:

Jeffrey Newton (Manager of Regulatory Services),

Brooke Machin (Regulatory Services Technical Officer (Contractor))

A contractor was engaged during August 2025 to remove Smart Weed from sections of the Thomson River. This activity was done in the lead-up to the annual Fishing Competition, across ~1.17km of riverbank. The process involved manually cutting and removing the weed in sections using specialised equipment. Monitoring continues to measure re-growth and spread to identify the need for further harvesting or other actions.

Comparison photos of Smartweed in the Thomson River (boat ramp area) over a 12-month period – November 2024 to November 2025.

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**LONGREACH REGIONAL COUNCIL
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Appendices

Nil

Recommendation:

That the Committee receives this report.

7.3 Department of Housing - Update

Consideration of information received from the Department of Housing and Public Works.

Corporate Plan Alignment

Strategy

OUR COMMUNITY

1.1.3 Develop and implement a housing strategy to meet employee and community needs

OUR ECONOMY

2.1.1 Advocate to and partner with regional organisations, industry stakeholders, and governments to support emerging economic development opportunities

Consultation:

Internal	External
Councillors and ELT	Department of Housing

Officer Report

Responsible Officer:

Sharon Calligaro (Executive Officer of Governance)

External presentation by Althena Davidson, Director of Acquisitions and Planning, Social and Affordable Housing Growth.

Appendices

Nil

Recommendation:

That the Committee notes the presentation.

7.4 MICE market - Draft Compendium

Consideration of the Draft Meetings, Incentives, Conferences and Exhibitions (MICE) Compendium.

Corporate Plan Alignment

Strategy
<p>OUR COMMUNITY</p> <p>1.2.2 Support the delivery of arts and cultural activities, civic functions, and community events to celebrate identity, and to create a vibrant community</p>
<p>OUR ECONOMY</p> <p>2.1.1 Advocate to and partner with regional organisations, industry stakeholders, and governments to support emerging economic development opportunities</p> <p>2.1.2 Grow the region’s importance as service hub to communities beyond our local government area</p> <p>2.2.2 Provide tourism development services to promote the region and grow the visitor economy</p>

Consultation:

Internal	External
Tourism Co-Ordinator, CEO	Tourism, Events and Hospitality Operators in the Longreach Region, Your Tourism Matters

Officer Report

Responsible Officer:

Tanya Johnson (Director of Communities)

This compendium provides councillors with an update on the current status of the Meetings, Incentives, Conferences, and Events (MICE) market within the Longreach Region. It reflects Council’s strong commitment to investing in our community by supporting and expanding business tourism opportunities, which in turn stimulate growth for our small business community and translate to leisure tourism.

Through strategic investment in our local small business, hospitality, events and tourism sectors, the Longreach Region is positioning itself as a competitive and attractive destination for business events. This document highlights the significant progress made in developing infrastructure, services, and partnerships that demonstrate our region’s readiness to host conferences and corporate gatherings, showcasing how advanced and capable we are in delivering a high-quality business event experience. Please note that this is in draft form and has more work to be done.

**LONGREACH REGIONAL COUNCIL
GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE MEETING AGENDA**

Recommendation:

That the Committee receives the report as presented.

7.5 Customer Service Requests

Consideration of Customer Service Requests received.

Corporate Plan Alignment

Strategy

OUR LEADERSHIP

5.3.1 Deliver quality, timely, and efficient service to prioritise customer needs and outcomes
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Consultation:

Internal	External
Relevant officers	Relevant customers

Officer Report

Responsible Officer:

Council officers as assigned by the Customer Service team.

Presenting for the information of the committee is a confidential summary of Customer Service Requests received.

Recommendation:

<i>That the Committee receives the Customer Service Request report, as presented.</i>

7.6 Meetings Action Register

Consideration of actions arising from previous meetings.

Corporate Plan Alignment

Strategy

OUR LEADERSHIP

5.2.1 Maintain a robust strategic and policy framework that meets statutory requirements, mitigates risks, and drives effective governance practices

Consultation:

Internal	External
Relevant Managers ELT	Councillors

Officer Report

Responsible Officer:

Senior staff as assigned in the Action Register

Presenting a confidential summary of the actions arising from previous meetings.

Recommendation:

That the Committee receives the Meetings Actions Register report, as presented.

8 Late Items

Nil for this meeting

9 Closed Matters

9.1 Childcare Discussion

Reasons for Confidentiality

This report is considered confidential in accordance with section 245J (3) (c) of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*, as it contains information relating to the local government's budget.

9.2 Budget Planning and Project Pipeline

Commence discussion on the FY27 budget preparation.

10 Closure of Meeting