



Limestone Coast Local Government Association

Ordinary Board Meeting Minutes

13 February 2026

Mount Gambier



Limestone Coast Local Government Association

"Limestone Coast Better Together"

**MINUTES of the Ordinary Meeting of the
Limestone Coast Local Government Association Board**

held at the

**Wulanda Recreation and Convention Centre,
7 Margaret Street, Mount Gambier SA 5290**

on

13 February 2026

commencing at 10am



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Board Members

City of Mount Gambier	Mayor Lynette Martin OAM - <i>President</i>
Tatiara District Council	Mayor Liz Goossens - <i>Vice President</i>
District Council of Grant	Mayor Kylie Boston
District Council of Robe	Mayor Lisa Ruffell
Kingston District Council	Mayor Jeff Pope
Naracoorte Lucindale Council	Mayor Patrick Ross

CEO's/Staff

City of Mount Gambier	Paul Simpson	CEO
Tatiara District Council	Kingsley Green	CEO
District Council of Grant	Darryl Whicker	CEO
District Council of Robe	Nat Traeger	CEO
Kingston District Council	Ian Hart	CEO
Naracoorte Lucindale Council	Kelly Westell	CEO
LCLGA	Charlotte Edmunds	Executive Officer

1. **PRESIDENT'S WELCOME**

Meeting opened at 10:01am

Host Mayor Lynette Martin OAM welcomed members and guests and acknowledged the Boandik peoples as the traditional custodians of the land.

Mayor Martin acknowledged new City of Mount Gambier CEO Paul Simpson.

2. **APOLOGIES**

Board Member apologies: Nil

Board Members leave of absence: Nil

CEO's/Staff apologies: Darryl Whicker, District Council of Grant

3. **CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

RESOLUTION

MOVED: District Council Grant

SECONDED: Tatiara District Council

The minutes of the LCLGA Board Meeting held 12 December 2026 at Kingston SE be taken as read and confirmed as accurate.

CARRIED

4. **DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS**

Nil

5. **BUSINESS ADJOURNED**

6. **MINUTE ACTION LIST**

RESOLUTION	
Moved: Kingston District Council Seconded: District Council Grant	
That the minute action list be received and noted.	
CARRIED	

Completed	Will be removed from Action List	all actions required of the Motion have been completed
In Progress	Will remain on Action List until completed	A start has been made on the action of the Motion (progress commentary will provide explanation)
Outstanding/Delayed	Will remain on Action List until completed	Work has not yet commenced or there has been a delay on the action. (progress commentary will provide explanation)

Meeting date	Agenda Item	Resolution	Progress commentary	Due Date	Updated due date
12/12/25	9.3 Risk register and assurance map	2. That the board supports the establishment of a risk management policy framework register.	Risk register has been drafted and recommended by the Audit and Risk Committee. Further work proposed for an 'assurance map'	13/02/26	10/04/26
12/12/25	9.1 TOURISM	1. A workshop be held on 12 February 2026 to discuss Tourism.	Workshop 12/02/26	12/02/26	

Meeting date	Agenda Item	Resolution	Progress commentary	Due Date	Updated due date
10/10/25	9.4 Strategic Plan	Transition to a new strategic framework that combines the Annual Business Plan and Budget with a 5-year Strategic Plan. Commence the new budgetary and strategic framework from the 2026-27 financial year, delegating the EO to produce a document that incorporates the functions of a Strategic Plan, Action Plan, Long-term Financial Plan and Annual Business Plan to be presented to the Board in draft at the April 2026 meeting of the LCLGA Board.	Draft to be presented at the April meeting.	10/4/2026	
8/08/25	16.2 LCLGA DIGITAL TOURISM ASSET MANAGEMENT	That the Naracoorte Lucindale Council investigate a proposal to manage social media assets for 3-month 'trial', with constituent councils to provide as much content as possible.	To be discussed at workshop.		
13/12/24	10.1 4WD messaging	That the LCLGA leverage the learnings from the positive effort to define and control 4WD messaging from Robe to Beachport Coastline and seek to continue	EO held stakeholder meetings 10/09/25, 11/09/25 and 29/09/25. DCG and KDC to provide details for maps.		

Meeting date	Agenda Item	Resolution	Progress commentary	Due Date	Updated due date
		this work with all Coastal Councils. That a working party be formed to consider the merit of a consistent approach to 4WD messaging around access to coastlines	Graphic designer has not received details needed to progress.		
16/02/24	10.2.2 Eyes on Eyre	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Request the Executive Officer to obtain more information about resources, including costing. 2. Present findings to the LCLGA Board at the LCLGA April 2024 Board Meeting. 	<p>EO distributed briefing paper on Eyes on Eyre 10 October 2025.</p> <p>National Parks and Wildlife (DEW) rep attended the Tourism Transition Committee meeting 4/11/25 to discuss booking system.</p> <p>EO requested list of possible bookable product from all constituent councils.</p> <p>Refer to report.</p>	19/04/24	

7. PRESENTATIONS/VERBAL REPORTS

Nil

8. EXTERNAL ORGANISATIONS REPORTS

8.1 DEPARTMENT OF PRIMARY INDUSTRIES AND REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Report Author:	
Attachments:	

Nil

8.2 REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT AUSTRALIA – LIMESTONE COAST

Report Author:	Robyn Verrall, Chair RDA LC - verbal report
Attachments:	Nil

8.3 CROSS BORDER COMMISSIONER

Report Author:	Commissioner Kelly-Anne Saffin- verbal report
Attachments:	NIL

Mayor Boston left the meeting 10:28am and did not return.

8.4 LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Verbal Report:	Andrew Lamb – verbal report
Attachments:	Nil

8.5 UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Nil – Apology from Peta Crewe, Regional Manager Mount Gambier, University of South Australia



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9. LCLGA REPORTS

9.1 PRESIDENTS REPORT

Report Author:	LCLGA President
Consulted:	N/A
Strategic Reference:	
Budget Implications:	Nil
Risk Assessment:	Low
Attachments:	Nil

RESOLUTION

Moved: City of Mount Gambier
Seconded: Kingston District Council

1. That the report be received and noted.

CARRIED

9.2 EXECUTIVE OFFICERS REPORT

Report Author:	Executive Officer
Consulted:	N/A
Strategic Reference:	Strategic Plan 2020-2025
Budget Implications:	Nil
Risk Assessment:	Low
Attachments:	Nil

RESOLUTION

Moved: Tatiara District Council
Seconded: Kingston District Council

1. That the report be received and noted.

CARRIED

9.3 FINANCE REPORT

Report Author:	Executive officer
Officers consulted:	External Finance Consultant Audit and Risk Committee
Strategic Reference:	
Budget Implications:	A reduction in consolidated review of \$123,426.17
Risk Assessment:	Extreme (Mismanagement of funds or fraud)
Attachments:	9.3 BUDGET REVIEW 2

RESOLUTION

Moved: Kingston District Council
Seconded: Naracoorte Lucindale Council

1. That the report be received and noted.
2. That the Board amend the 2025/26 Budget as per updated forecasts presented in **Attachment 9.3 Budget Review 2**

CARRIED

9.4 RISK REGISTER AND ASSURANCE MAP

Report Author:	Executive Officer
Officers / committee consulted:	Audit and Risk Committee
Strategic Reference:	Strategic Plan 2020-2025
Budget Implications:	Nil
Risk Assessment:	Low
Attachments:	9.4 LCLGA DRAFT RISK REGISTER

RESOLUTION

Moved: Robe District Council
Seconded: Tatiara District Council

- | | |
|---|----------------|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That the report be received and noted. 2. That the Risk Register be adopted as drafted. 3. That a workshop be convened to discuss the development of an assurance map. | <p>CARRIED</p> |
|---|----------------|

9.5 CHARTER REVIEW

Report Author:	Executive Officer
Consulted:	NA
Strategic Reference:	Strategic Plan 2020-2025
Budget Implications:	Nil
Risk Assessment:	Low
Attachments:	Nil.

RESOLUTION

Moved: Naracoorte Lucindale Council

Seconded: Tatiara District Council

1. That the report be received and noted.
2. That the LCLGA Charter be circulated to Constituent Councils for comment and feedback to inform any necessary amendments to be received by the Executive Officer no later than 1 May 2026
3. That should amendments be suggested, a tender process be undertaken as per the LCLGA Procurement Policy to engage a commercial law firm to draft the amended Charter with the draft to be presented to the Board at its August meeting.

CARRIED

9.6 DROUGHT RESILIENCE PLAN

Report Author:	Executive Officer
Consulted:	Nil
Strategic Reference:	Strategic Plan 2020-2025

Budget Implications:	Nil
Risk Assessment:	Low
Attachments:	9.6.1 Limestone Coast Regional Drought Resilience Plan
	9.6.2 Table 3: Pillar Implementation Pathways and Actions

RESOLUTION

Moved: Kingston District Council
 Seconded: District Council of Robe

1. That the report be received and noted.
2. That the Board appoint Naracoorte Lucindale Council Mayor Patrick Ross as a representative to Limestone Coast Regional Drought Resilience Plan Project Reference Group.

CARRIED

9.7 LCLGA POLICY AND PROCEDURES REVIEW

Report Author:	Executive officer
Officers consulted:	
Strategic Reference:	Strategic Plan 2020-2025
Budget Implications:	A reduction in consolidated review of \$123,448.95
Risk Assessment:	Low
Attachments:	9.7 POLICY AND PROCEDURES REGISTER

RESOLUTION

Moved: District Council of Robe
 Seconded: Kingston District Council

That the LCLGA Board resolves that:

1. That the report be received and noted.
2. That the Executive Officer be delegated to review all policies, procedures and codes and draft suggested amendments to the register, including revoking unnecessary policies and procedures and adding any required new policies and procedures and that the amended register be presented to the Board in April.

<p>3. All new or amended policies and procedures be presented to the Board in draft no later than 30 June 2026.</p> <p>4. Any policies, procedures or codes that relate to financial governance of the LCLGA will be referred to the LCLGAs Audit and Risk Committee prior to recommending to the Board.</p>	<p>CARRIED</p>
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9.8 LCLGA SUB-COMMITTEE MINUTES

9.8.1 TOURISM TRANSITION COMMITTEE

SUB-COMMITTEE	Tourism Transition Committee
MEETING DATE/s	Next meeting date 3 March 2026
MINUTES	Nil

9.8.2 TOURISM WORKING COMMITTEE

SUB-COMMITTEE	Tourism Working Committee
MEETING DATE/s	Next meeting 24 February 2026
MINUTES	Nil

9.8.3 ROADS AND TRANSPORT WORKING COMMITTEE

SUB-COMMITTEE	ROADS AND TRANSPORT WORKING COMMITTEE
MEETING DATE	Next meeting TBC (last week Feb)
MINUTES	Nil

10. LIMESTONE COAST REGIONAL TOURISM ORGANISATION

Report Author:	LCLGA EXECUTIVE OFFICER
Consulted:	REGIONAL TOURISM MANAGER
Strategic Reference:	Strategic Plan 2020-2025
Budget Implications:	Nil
Risk Assessment:	Low



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Attachments:	Nil
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RECOMMENDATION

Moved: Naracoorte Lucindale Council
Seconded: District Council of Robe

1. That the report be received and noted.

CARRIED

11. MOTIONS WITH NOTICE

Nil

12. MOTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE

Nil

13. QUESTIONS WITH NOTICE

Nil

14. QUESTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE

Nil

15. CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS

15.1 AUDIT AND RISK COMMITTEE MINUTES

Pursuant to Section 83(5) of the Local Government Act 1999 the accompanying documents to this agenda item is delivered to the Committee Members upon the basis that the Committee consider the documents in confidence under Part 3 of the Act, specifically on the basis that the Committee will receive, discuss or consider:

(k.) tenders for the supply of goods, the provision of services or the carrying out of



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works

SUB-COMMITTEE	AUDIT AND RISK
MEETING DATE	30 January 2026
ATTACHMENT	15.1 AUDIT AND RISK COMMITTEE MINUTES PROVIDED IN-CONFIDENCE

CONSIDERATION FOR EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC

Resolution

Moved: Tatiara District Council

Seconded: Kingston District Council

Exclusion of the Public – Section 90(3)(k) Order

Pursuant to Section 90(2) and (3)(k) of the Local Government Act 1999 the Limestone Coast Local Government Association Board (the Board) orders all persons present with the exception of all Board Members and CEOs Paul Simpson, Kingsley Green, Nat Traeger, Ian Hart, Kelly Westell and Charlotte Edmunds be excluded from attendance during **Agenda Item 15.1 Audit and Risk Committee Minutes**. The Board is satisfied that, pursuant to section 90(3)(k) of the Act, the associated documents to be received, discussed and considered in relation to this Agenda Item are tenders for the provision of services.

The Board is satisfied that the principle that the meeting be conducted in a place open to the public has been outweighed in the circumstances because the information to be disclosed and discussed has the potential to impact adversely on each of the tenderers as competitive commercial information will be disclosed.

CARRIED



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RESOLUTION

Moved: Tatiara District Council

Seconded: Kingston District Council

That the minutes of the Audit and Risk Committee meeting held 30 January 2026 be received and noted.

CARRIED

CONSIDERATION FOR KEEPING ITEMS CONFIDENTIAL

Resolution

Moved: Kingston District Council

Seconded: Tatiara District Council

1. Having considered Agenda Item 15.1 Audit and Risk Committee Minutes in confidence under section 90(2) and (3)(k) of the Local Government Act 1999, the Limestone Coast Local Government Association Board (the Board), pursuant to section 91(7) of that Act orders that the documents and minutes relevant to Agenda Item 15.1. be retained in confidence until all tenderers have been notified.

2. The Committee delegates to the LCLGA Executive Officer, pursuant to Section 91(9)(c) of the Local Government Act 1999, the power to revoke the order made by the Committee under Section 91(7) and (9) of the Act at part (1) of this resolution at any time prior to the expiration of the period of the order specified therein.

CARRIED

15.2 APPOINTMENT OF EXTERNAL AUDITORS

Pursuant to Section 83(5) of the Local Government Act 1999 the accompanying documents to this agenda item is delivered to the Committee Members upon the basis that the Committee consider the documents in confidence under Part 3 of the Act, specifically on the basis that the Committee will receive, discuss or consider:

(k.) tenders for the supply of goods, the provision of services or the carrying out of works.



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Report Author:	LCLGA EXECUTIVE OFFICER
Consulted:	LCLGA AUDIT AND RISK COMMITTEE
Strategic Reference:	Strategic Plan 2020-2025
Budget Implications:	Within adopted Budget
Risk Assessment:	Extreme – (Mismanagement of funds or fraud)
Attachments:	15.2 Tender Proposals for Audit Services

CONSIDERATION FOR EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC

Resolution

Moved: Tatiara District Council

Seconded: Kingston District Council

Exclusion of the Public – Section 90(3)(k) Order

Pursuant to Section 90(2) and (3)(k) of the Local Government Act 1999 the Limestone Coast Local Government Association Board (the Board) orders all persons present with the exception of all Board Members and CEOs Paul Simpson, Kingsley Green, Nat Traeger, Ian Hart, Kelly Westell and Charlotte Edmunds be excluded from attendance during **Agenda Item 15.2 Appointment of External Auditors**. The Board is satisfied that, pursuant to section 90(3)(k) of the Act, the associated documents to be received, discussed and considered in relation to this Agenda Item are tenders for the provision of services.

The Board is satisfied that the principle that the meeting be conducted in a place open to the public has been outweighed in the circumstances because the information to be disclosed and discussed has the potential to impact adversely on each of the tenderers as competitive commercial information will be disclosed.

CARRIED



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RESOLUTION

Moved: Tatiara District Council

Seconded: Kingston District Council

1. That the report be received and noted.
2. That the Board resolve to appoint Bentleys as external auditors for a 5-year period 2025/26 through to 2029/30 in accordance with Clause 20 of the Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 2011.

CARRIED

CONSIDERATION FOR KEEPING ITEMS CONFIDENTIAL

Resolution

Moved: Tatiara District Council

Seconded: Naracoorte Lucindale Council

1. Having considered Agenda Item 14. Appointment of External Auditors in confidence under section 90(2) and (3)(k) of the Local Government Act 1999, the Limestone Coast Local Government Association Board (the Board), pursuant to section 91(7) of that Act orders that the documents and minutes relevant to Agenda Item 15.2. Appointment of External Auditors be retained in confidence until all tenderers have been notified.
2. The Committee delegates to the LCLGA Executive Officer, pursuant to Section 91(9)(c) of the Local Government Act 1999, the power to revoke the order made by the Committee under Section 91(7) and (9) of the Act at part (1) of this resolution at any time prior to the expiration of the period of the order specified therein.

CARRIED

16. MEETING SCHEDULE

As per Cluse 3.7.7 of the LCLGA Charter, the time and place of ordinary meetings of the Board (including the Annual General Meeting) fixed by the Board in accordance with clause 3.7.2 will be confirmed at each ordinary meeting of the Board.

Resolution	
MOVED: Naracoorte Lucindale Council SECONDED: Kingston District Council	
That the Board confirm the 2026 meeting schedule as follows;	
DATE	LOCATION
13 FEBRUARY 2026	CITY OF MOUNT GAMBIER
10 APRIL 2026	DISTRICT COUNCIL OF ROBE
26 JUNE 2026	DISTRICT COUNCIL OF GRANT
7 AUGUST 2026	TATIARA DISTRICT COUNCIL
9 OCTOBER 2026	NARACOORTE LUCINDALE COUNCIL
11 DECEMBER 2026	KINGSTON DISTRICT COUNCIL - AGM
CARRIED	

LATE AGENDA ITEMS (not included in Agenda papers)

17. CREDIT CARD PAYMENT

Report Author:	Executive officer
Officers consulted:	External Finance Consultant
Strategic Reference:	STRATEGIC PLAN 2020-2025
Budget Implications:	NIL
Risk Assessment:	Extreme (Mismanagement of funds or fraud)
Attachments:	CORPORTATE CREDIT CARD POLICY



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RESOLUTION

Moved: District Council of Robe

Seconded: Kingston District Council

1. That the report be received and noted.
2. That the Board grants authority for the monthly automatic payment of the Bank SA Business VISA LCLGA credit card ending **1911**

CARRIED

Executive Summary

Bank SA requires a signed minutes of a Board resolution granting authority for the Executive Officer's LCLGA Credit Card to be paid automatically each month from the Cheque account.

BACKGROUND

The Executive Officer has use of a Credit Card with a limit of \$5,000 which is used for expenses in line with the LCLGAs *Corporate Credit Card Policy*.

The use of a credit card ensures the efficient management of day-to-day operations of the organisation. Examples of expenses include:

- Subscriptions i.e news corp, the border watch, mailchimp
- Miscellaneous purchases i.e postage stamps, catering for meeting expenses

The *Corporate Credit Card Policy* states that all transactions listed on corporate credit card statements are to be reconciled monthly with supporting documents that include costing details.

For further financial transparency and scrutiny the EO's purchase card expenditure will be reported to the audit committee at least twice annually for independent review.

Enabling the automatic payment of any balance at the end of month prior to fees being charged ensures that the Association can avoid any necessary fees.



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18. KOPPAMURRA PROJECT - INDEPENDENT VULNERABILITY ASSESSMENT

Report Author:	Executive officer
Officers consulted:	Constituent Councils
Strategic Reference:	STRATEGIC PLAN 2020-2025 ADVOCACY FRAMEWORK
Budget Implications:	NIL
Risk Assessment:	Low
Attachments:	18.1 LCSF Presentation to the Board 2025 18.2 Kingston District Council letter of support

RESOLUTION

Moved: Naracoorte Lucindale Council

Seconded: Kingston District Council

1. That the LCLGA re-affirms support for Limestone Coast Sustainable Futures and requests that the South Australian Government commit to a comprehensive and independent vulnerability assessment which investigates all aspects of rare earth mining activities in the Limestone Coast and potential risks to the economy, environment and community.
2. That the LCLGA provides advocacy support to the LCSF as required when it aligns with the adopted LCLGA Advocacy Agenda.
3. That the Minutes and any additional documents of relevance from meetings of the Koppamurra Community Consultative Committee be tabled at Ordinary Meetings of the LCLGA Board, with Committee Member Mayor Patrick Ross to provide a verbal report if required.

CARRIED

Executive Summary

This recommendation seeks to formalise the collective position of constituent councils regarding the support for Limestone Coast Sustainable Futures request that the South Australian Government commit to a comprehensive and independent vulnerability assessment.

Background

The Limestone Coast Sustainable Futures Association (LCSF) presented to the Board in April 2025. The following resolution was made:

1. *The LCLGA notes the presentation of the Limestone Coast Sustainable Futures Association.*
2. *The LCLGA writes to the Premier of SA, the Minister for Environment, the Minister of Primary Industries, Regional Development and Forestry, the Minister for Mining and Energy, Shadow Ministry counterparts and local Members of Parliament to express concerns around the potential impact to water, agriculture, viticulture, dairy and forestry of the strip-mining project, and to seek an independent science-based assessment of environmental impact of the proposal.*
3. *The LCLGA seeks a presentation from the proponents in order to understand the proposal from the proponent's perspective and any scientific evidence they have to mitigate environmental impacts.*

A presentation was then given by AR3 (the proponents) 27 November 2025.

Discussion

The Limestone Coast Sustainable Futures Association (LCSF) is running a grassroots campaign urging the State Government to halt all mineral mining proposals in the region to undertake an independent scientific evaluation to prove there is no detrimental risk.

LCSF claims that the Koppamurra Project poses a significant threat to the future productivity of local agricultural industries due to lost soil profiles, risk to underground water resources, loss of biodiversity and ultimate impact to community wellbeing.

Many Councils in the Limestone Coast have supported the LCSF in their ask for an independent vulnerability assessment through formal resolutions or board letters of support.

Resolutions made by Tatiara District Council and Naracoorte Lucindale Councils are as follows.

TATIARA DISTRICT COUNCIL RESOLUTION 2025/81

Moved: Cr Trevor Butler

Seconded: Cr Miles Hannemann

That Tatiara District Council supports Limestone Coast Sustainable Futures in their quest to see the South Australian State Government commit to a vulnerability assessment undertaking a comprehensive, science based, independent investigation exploring the potential impacts of strip-mining activities to support informed decision



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making in regard to the proposed strip-mining and extraction process of Rare Earths in the Limestone Coast region prior to the commencement of mining operations.

CARRIED

NARACOORTE LUCINDALE COUNCIL RESOLUTION 215/25

MOVED CR CROSSLING

SECONDED CR GOODMAN

That the Mayor write to the Honourable Tom Koutsantonis MP, Minister for Energy and Mining, and to the Honourable Susan Close MP, Minister for Climate, Environment and Water to:

- *Support the Limestone Coast Sustainable Futures Association's request that the South Australian Government commit to a comprehensive and independent vulnerability assessment which investigates all aspects of strip mining activities in the Limestone Coast and potential risks to the economy, environment and community.*
- *Seek these investigations as a matter of urgency, prior to any such proposals progressing.*

CARRIED

A Letter of Support from Kingston District Council to SFLC is attached.

While the Limestone Coast Local Government Association advocates for an overarching mechanising to support regional communities and primary producers navigate the complexities of land use conflict in the ask for State Government to investigate the establishment of an Agricultural Commissioner, the specific issue of the proposed rare earth mining in the Limestone Coast requires consideration of a formal position of the LCLGA in the meantime.

This issue fits with in the adopted Advocacy Framework of the LCLGA in relation **to How we Advocate** as follows:

- *Brokering partnerships and strategic alliances with other local and regional organisations, community leaders and relevant bodies*
- *Actively working with peak organisations and **supporting their advocacy efforts** when they are aligned with ours.*



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Upon formal resolution of the Board, a letter will be sent to Minister for Energy and Mining reiterating our position in-line with the recently endorsed LCLGA 2026 Policy Priorities.

It is also suggested that to ensure that constituent councils of LCLGA remain informed on the progression of this issue, it is suggested that Minutes of the Koppamurra Consultative Committee (CCC) be included in LCLGA Board meeting Agendas. In addition, as Mayor Patrick Ross is a Local Government representative of the CCC and a LCLGA Board Member, Mayor Ross can also provide a verbal update to the Board if and when required.

19. MEETING CLOSE AT 12:09pm