



MINUTES

MEETING OF THE GEELONG REGIONAL LIBRARY CORPORATION

Thursday 2 October 2025
Board Members and Officers only
(MS TEAMS)

The Geelong Regional Library Corporation acknowledges the Wadawurrung People of the Kulin nation, and the Gulidjan and Gadubanud Peoples of the Maar nations as the Original Owners of the lands on which our library services operate. We pay respect to Elders past, present and emerging. We acknowledge and celebrate First Nations Peoples of this land as the custodians of learning, literacy, knowledge and story.





SECTION A - PROCEDURAL MATTERS

At 5.33pm GRLC Chair, Cr Liz Pattison opened the meeting and welcomed everyone.

The meeting was held online via MS Teams.

1. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

Cr Pattison acknowledged the Traditional Owners of this land and paid respects to Elders past, present and emerging.

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2. ATTENDEES

		Attendance		
Name	Council	In person	Online	Apology
BOARD MEMBERS				
Cr Isabelle Tolhurst	Borough of Queenscliffe (BoQ)		x	
Cr Elise Wilkinson (Deputy Chair)	City of Greater Geelong (CoGG)		x	
Cr Emma Sinclair	City of Greater Geelong (CoGG)			x
Cr Rowan D. Story AM RFD	City of Greater Geelong (CoGG)			x
Cr Trent Sullivan	City of Greater Geelong (CoGG)		x	
Cr Mick McCrickard	Colac Otway Shire (COS)		x	
Cr Owen Sharkey	Golden Plains Shire (Mayor, GPS)		x	
Cr Liz Pattison (Chair)	Surf Coast Shire (SCS)		x	
COUNCIL OFFICERS				
Damien Waight	General Manager, Community Life, SCS		x	
Amie Higgs	Manager Community Participation, CoGG			x
Anthony Basford	Executive Directory City Life, CoGG		X	
Gayatri Baskaran	Finance Coordinator, CoGG		x	
Ian Seuren	General Manager Development & Community Services, COS		x	
Martin Gill	CEO, BoQ		x	
Lynnere Gray	Director Corporate Services, GPS			x
GRLC OFFICERS				
Vanessa Schernickau	Chief Executive Officer		x	
David Semmens	Director, Community Experience		x	
Skye Wilson	Director, P&C and Strategic Engagement		x	
Robbie Cullen	Director, Digital and Finance		x	
Vanessa Rechichi	Executive Assistant		x	





3. **APOLOGIES**

Cr Emma Sinclair, Cr Rowan Story, Amie Higgs and Lynnere Gray

4. **INTERESTS, CONFLICTS OF INTEREST AND PECUNIARY INTERESTS**

5. **CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES DATED 28 AUGUST 2025 (ATTACHMENT 1)**

Recommendation:

That the draft minutes of the Board Meeting held on 28 August 2025 be confirmed.

Moved: Mayor Owen Sharkey
Second: Cr Elise Wilkinson
Passed: Unanimously

Library Funding Advocacy

The Chair and CEO updated the board on their letter to the Minister regarding library funding advocacy. The CEO mentioned that the Minister's Office has contacted her, and the Minister's Advisor accepted the offer to visit and see some programs.

Procurement Australia Contract Approval

The Chair discussed the need for Board approval carried over from the last meeting for the use of the Procurement Australia contract for library collections and associated resources.

The CEO and Director Digital and Finance addressed questions about the contract's transition into the new business model.

Recommendation:

That the Procurement Australia Contract be approved.

Moved: Mayor Owen Sharkey
Second: Cr Elise Wilkinson
Passed: Unanimously





SECTION B – REPORTS

1. GRLC DRAFT ANNUAL REPORT 2024 - 2025

Vanessa Schernickau, Chief Executive Officer

Recommendation

1. That the DRAFT ANNUAL REPORT 2024 – 2025 be adopted.
2. That the ANNUAL REPORT 2024-25 be submitted to the Minister for Local Government.
3. That a public notice is placed stating the ANNUAL REPORT has been prepared and can be inspected.

The CEO acknowledged the hard work of the finance team and the pride of the library staff in their achievements over the past year.

Moved: Cr Isabelle Tolhurst
Second: Cr Mick McCrickard
Passed: Unanimously

2. RISK MANAGEMENT (CONFIDENTIAL)

Robbie Cullen, Director Digital and Finance

Recommendation

1. Approve the proposed approach to risk reporting

Moved: Cr Isabelle Tolhurst
Second: Cr Mick McCrickard
Passed: Unanimously





3. MONTHLY FINANCE REPORT (CONFIDENTIAL)

Robbie Cullen, Director Digital and Finance

Recommendation

That the MONTHLY FINANCE REPORT be noted.

3. GLHC CATERING PROCUREMENT AND KITCHEN PURCHASE REPORT (CONFIDENTIAL)

Skye Wilson, Director People, Culture and Strategic Engagement

Recommendation

That the Board note the progress of the GLHC Catering Procurement and Kitchen Purchase projects.

Other Business:

The CEO reminded the Board of the next meeting as confirmed for 4 December with the Board Workshop to be confirmed for the afternoon of the February Board meeting.

Next Meeting:

Thursday 4 December, 5.30pm

Signed: _____
Cr Liz Pattison
Chair

Date of Confirmation: 13 / 01 / 2026

