Draft Governance Rules 2025 Comparison Statement

The Local Government Act 2020 (the Act) mandates that Council adopt Governance Rules. The Governance Rules 2020 were adopted on July 2022. Three years later it is timely to review the Governance Rules to reflect legislative changes and any continuous improvement opportunities. To assist in understanding the draft Governance Rules 2025 this document provides a comparison to the Governance Rules 2022

Chapter 1 Governance Framework		
Chapter 2 Meeting Procedure for Council Meetings		
		Comparison to what is currently in Governance Rules
– Introduction		
	Formatting	Divisions and Parts removed from Governance Rules Continuous numbering updated
1	Title	No material change
2	Purpose of this Chapter	No material change
3	Definitions and Notes	Remove definition – "Minute Book" Added definition - "Council Meeting" - "Open to the Public" - "Present" Combined into one list
Election of Mayor		
4	Election of the Mayor	No material change
5	Method of Voting	No material change
6	Determining the election of the Mayor	Update to order in which councillors vote for candidates Added Nominee to accept nomination
7	Election of the Deputy Mayor and Chairs of Delegated Committees	Additional clause added.
8	Appointment of Acting Mayor	Removal of word Deputy Added procedural comment
Meetings Procedure		
– Notice of Meetings and Delivery of Agendas		
9	Date, Time and Place of Meetings Fixed by Council	Small change to wording
10	Council May Alter Meeting Dates	Small change to wording
11	Meeting Not Fixed by Council	No material change
12	Notice Of Meeting	Small change to wording
Quorums		
13	Attendance by electronic means	Included information on meetings held electronically and councillor attending virtually

14	Inability to Obtain a Quorum	Added - Information for if Councillor is present virtually Added - No quorum due to conflicts of interest by Councillors
15	Inability to Maintain a Quorum	No material change
16	Adjourned Meetings	Small change to wording
17	Time limited for Meetings	Clearer guidelines for extending the meeting
18	Cancellation of Postponement of a Meeting	Add requirement for information on website
– Business of Meetings		
19	Agenda and the Order of Business	No material change
20	Change to the Order of Business	Requires resolution of Council
21	Urgent Business	No material change
Motions and Debate		
22	Councillors May Propose Notice of Motion	Small wording change
23	Notice of Motion	Added 23.5 (b) & (d) under clause for CEO to reject Reduced timeframe from 10 days to 7 days
24	Chairs Duty	No material change
25	Introducing a Report	Remove resolution to have staff read an entire report
26	Introducing a Motion or an Amendment	No material change
27	Right of Reply	Added clearer guidelines for questions Added no right of reply if no Cr has spoken against the motion
28	Moving an Amendment	Remove subsection to confirm previous resolution cannot be amended
29	Who may propose an Amendment	No material change
30	How Many Amendment May be Proposed	No material change
31	An Amendment Once Carried	No material change
32	Foreshadowing Motions	Small change to wording
33	Withdrawal of Motions	Added Chair to call for substitute mover and seconder
34	Separation of Motions	No material change
35	Chair May separate Motions	Small change to wording
36	Priority of address	No material change
37	Motions in Writing	No material change
38	Repeating Motion and/or Amendment	No material change
39	Debate must be relevant to the Motion	Added requirement for adequate debate and whether opposing views sufficiently put
40	Speaking Times	Added extension times
41	Addressing the Meeting	People must be addressed respectfully

42	Right to Ask Questions	Seek permission from chair
Procedural Motions		
43	Procedural Motions	Added new motions and new items listed to table
Recission Motions		
44	Notice of Rescission	No material change
45	If lost	No material change
46	If not moved	No material change
47	May be moved by any councillor	No material change
	When not required	Remove section
Points of Order		
48	Chair to decide	Small change to wording
49	Chair may adjourn to consider	Small change to wording
50	Dissent From Chairs Ruling	Small change to wording
51	Procedure for Point of Order	No material change
52	Valid Points Of Order	Small change to wording
Public Question Time		
53	Question Time	Privacy Statement Added Clear guidelines on number of questions Submitter of question must be present for question to be read Questions taken on notice Time limit for question time included Procedural motion for time limit
Petitions & Joint Letters		
54	Petitions and Joint Letters	Remove word Ordinary Remove reference to stabled, pinned paper Number of signatures required increased Petitions relating to URDI, managed in accordance with URDI Policy
Voting		
55	How Motion Determined	No material change
56	Silence	No material change
57	Casting Vote	No material change
58	By Show of Hands	Clear guidelines for Councillor attending virtually
59	Recount	Move to after show of hands
60	Voting en Bloc	Added prohibited to vote en bloc
61	Procedure for a Division	Small change to wording Abstain votes to be record as against
62	No Discussion Once Declared	Removal of point

Minutes		
63	Confirmation of minutes	Add attendance virtually Slight change to wording Removal of reference to minute book
64	No Debate on Confirmation of Minutes	No material change
65	Deferral of Confirmation of Minutes	No material change
66	Form and Availability of minutes	Include if Councillor attends virtually
Behaviour		
67	Public Addressing the Meeting	No material change
68	Recording of Proceedings	Added new section re permission required to record
69	Chair May Remove	No material change
70	Chair may adjourn disorderly meeting	Small change to wording
71	Removal from Chamber	Include member of Security
Additional Duties of Chair		
72	The Chairs Duties and Discretions	No material change
Suspension of Standing Orders		
73	Suspension of Standing Orders	No material change
Chapter 3 - Meeting Procedure of Delegated Committees and Asset Committees		
Delegated Committees		
74	Meeting Procedure Generally	Small change to wording
75	Meeting Procedure Can Be Varied	No material change
Asset Committees		
76	Introduction	No material change
77	Meeting Procedure	Small change to wording
Chapter 4 – Audit and Risk Committee		
78	Purpose for Audit and Risk Committee	Added new section
Chapter 5 – Disclosure of Conflicts of Interest		
79	Disclosure of Conflict of Interest at a Council meeting	Update to create clearer guidelines
80	Disclosure of Conflict of Interest at a Delegated Committee Community Asset Committee	Consolidated Delegated and Asset Committees into one section.
81	Disclosure at a Meeting Conducted Under the Auspices of Council	Small change to wording
82	Disclosure by Members of Council Staff Preparing Reports for Meetings	Small change to wording
83	Disclosure of Conflict of Interest by Members of Council Staff in the Exercise of Delegated Power	Small change to wording
84	Disclosure by a Member of Council Staff in the Exercise of a Statutory Function	Small change to wording
85	Retention of Written Notices	No material change

Chapter 6 – Miscellaneous		
86	Procedure not provided in this Chapter	No material change
87	Criticism of members of Council staff	Small change to wording
88	Display of placards and posters	Added as new section
89	Informal Meeting of Councillors	No material change
90	Confidential Information	Update following repeal of 77(2)(c) of the Local Government Act 1989 Include clearer guidelines for CEO designating confidential information
Chapter 7 – Election Period Policy		
	Policy objectives	Small change to wording to include requirements from Local Government Act 2020 (LGA 2020)
	Definitions Electoral Material Electoral Matter	Definitions as shown in LGA 2020
	Material published by Council	Small change to wording
	Functions and Events Public Events Staged by External Bodies Council Events and Functions Speeches / Keynote addresses	Clarification for Councillors attending events during the Election Period
	Access to Council information	Change to wording for candidate requests