

Annual Full Council

Guide for Agenda Items

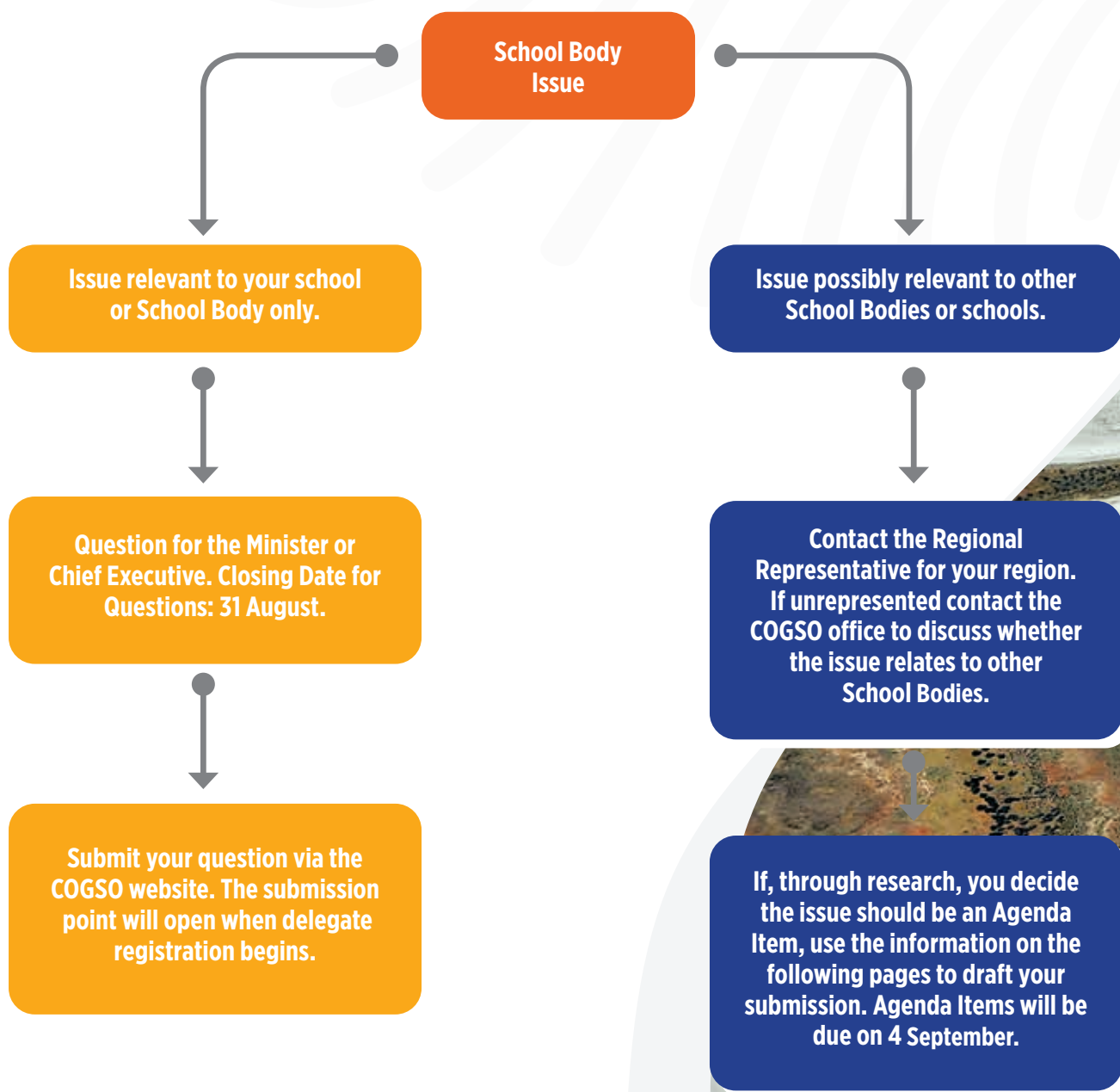
(Motions)

Questions for the Minister and Chief Executive of the Department of Education

The Full Council meeting provides an outstanding opportunity to pose questions of significance directly to the Minister and the Chief Executive of Education. These two education leaders will respond to your School Body question during their session. School Bodies are encouraged to meet and discuss questions they would like answered, seeking feedback from their Regional Representative as needed.

School Bodies should also consider whether your issue or question could be a topic which NTCOGSO could lobby for on your behalf. This is particularly the case if it is affecting other School Bodies. In these instances, School Bodies are encouraged to put forward an Agenda Item to the Full Council meeting.

Use the flow chart below to assist you in determining if your topic is better handled by the question or agenda item route.



THE VOICE FOR NT PUBLIC EDUCATION

The NT Full Council meeting is the forum where affiliates have the opportunity to propose agenda items seeking:

- amendments to the NTCOGSO Constitution (if applicable)
- amendments to the NTCOGSO Policy document (if applicable)
- information/action from the Minister for Education and Chief Executive of Education or other government authorities.

Agenda Information and Example Agenda Item

Agenda items should seek to amend the NTCOGSO Constitution, NTCOGSO Policy or relate to a Territory or National educational issue.

You must include adequate preamble and/or support material to enable other affiliates to be well informed about the issue you are raising.

NTCOGSO Policy is a 'living' document and needs reviewing/amending each year to ensure it is up to date and relevant to what is happening within education in the Northern Territory and Australia.

Affiliates are asked to review the NTCOGSO Policy to identify sections of the policy they see as needing amendment.

Motions must contain the basic instructions / directions you are seeking Full Council to endorse. Agenda items, when accepted by Full Council, either become part of NTCOGSO Constitution or Policy or form the basis of actions to be undertaken by the Executive Committee during the coming year.

The **Example Action Agenda Item** page provided serves as a model. It shows the structure of an agenda item: an adequate preamble, an issue of Territory or national educational interest and character, and a clearly defined action to be undertaken. Agenda items must not relate to individual persons or schools.

REMEMBER

A delegate who has submitted an Agenda Item should be prepared to speak at Full Council. To some people this can be a daunting idea. If this worries you, please contact the NTCOGSO office for advice.

Full Council cannot amend Constitutional items (other than typographical or grammatical errors) once these items are placed on the agenda.

Policy or Action items may be amended by Full Council, but no amendment can negate the intention of the original motion.

Motions need to define what action you wish taken, who is to undertake the action and how it is to occur.

Please contact your Regional Representative or the NTCOGSO office should you require any advice or assistance with preparing your Agenda Item. They are experienced in offering helpful suggestions about support arguments, additional sources of information and wording of motions.

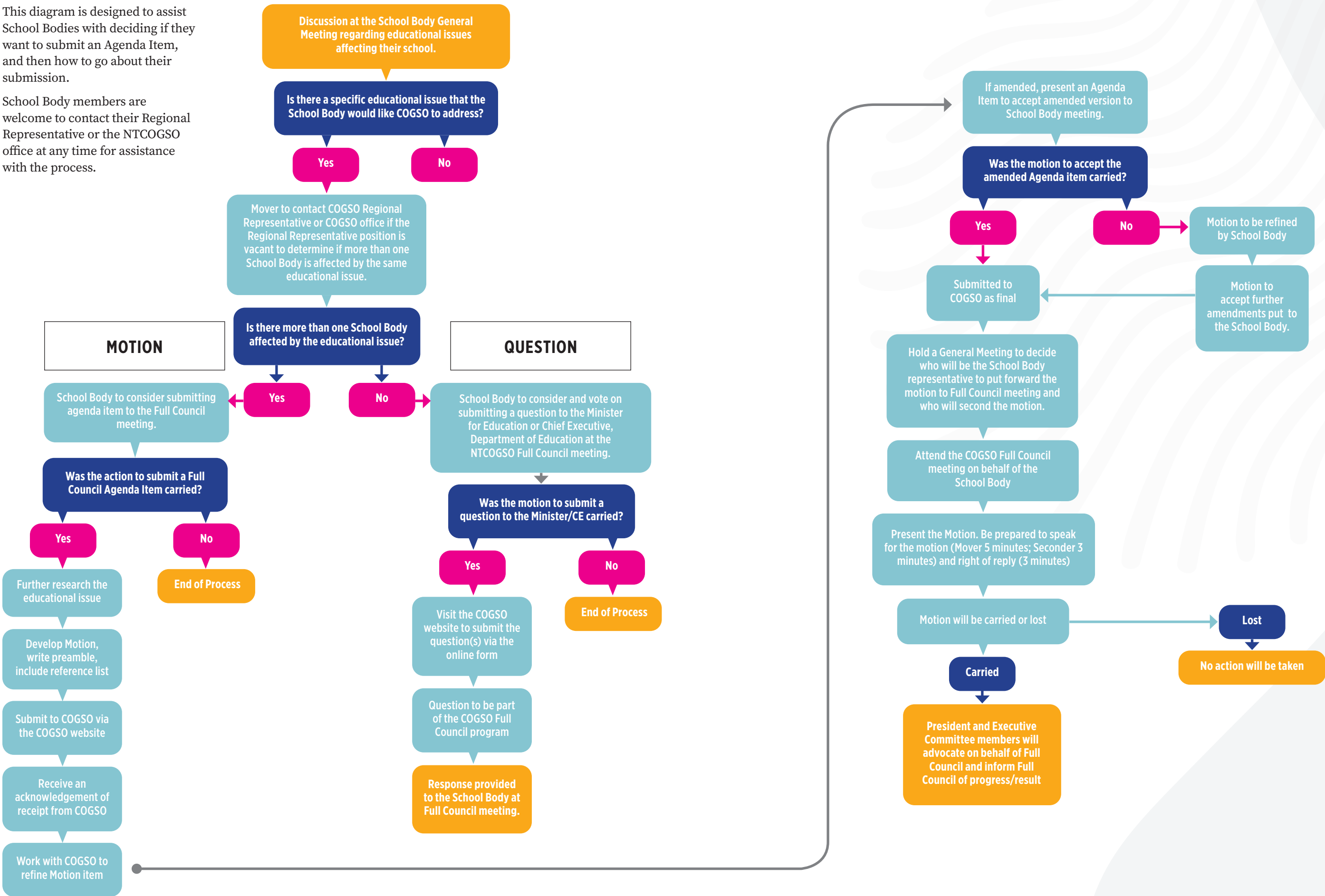
Items must be received by 4 September. Late submissions cannot be accepted.



AGENDA ITEM FLOWCHART

This diagram is designed to assist School Bodies with deciding if they want to submit an Agenda Item, and then how to go about their submission.

School Body members are welcome to contact their Regional Representative or the NTCOGSO office at any time for assistance with the process.



Example Action Agenda Item

AGENDA ITEM 4

Subject: Safeguarding the Purpose and Integrity of Student Reporting

Preamble:

In 2032, the Northern Territory Government announced changes to school reporting requirements that significantly reduced the depth and personalisation of student reports. Under the new policy, public school teachers are no longer required to include subject-specific comments or personalised remarks, nor are schools expected to provide parents and carers with a student's achievement position relative to their peers.

While the intention may be to reduce teacher workload, these changes have unintentionally weakened a critical line of communication between schools and families. Reports are one of the few formal touchpoints where parents and carers receive a consolidated, school-endorsed view of their child's learning, strengths, challenges, and progress.

The removal of personalised and comparative information diminishes families' ability to:

- Understand their child's progress in context,
- Recognise when early intervention or extension may be needed,
- Engage meaningfully in their child's learning journey,
- Collaborate effectively with teachers to support learning outcomes.

In a time where family-school partnerships are known to improve student engagement and success, policies that reduce transparency and limit parents' ability to act on information must be carefully reconsidered.

Motion: That NTCOGSO

- advocate for the reinstatement of personalised subject comments in student reports to support meaningful communication between schools and families
- advocate for the Department of Education to ensure parents and carers are provided with clear comparative data on their child's academic performance relative to their cohort, as permitted under national reporting standards.
- request the Department of Education to consult with School Bodies prior to any future changes to reporting practices, recognising families as key stakeholders in the education process.

CARRIED

CARRIED AS AMENDED

LOST