

# Capability Statement

## Our Unique Story

Culturev8 was founded by Dr Chris McLaughlin, whose work across the Torres Strait and regional Australia shaped his philosophy that culture is the foundation of strong, resilient communities.

His experience supporting regional, rural, remote and Indigenous communities, alongside government, industry, and the non-profit sector, continues to guide our approach.

Today, we are a trusted multidisciplinary consultancy supporting councils, NGOs, and private sector partners across Queensland, and beyond.

We strengthen communities through culturally grounded engagement, and support organisations with strategic, practical solutions that deliver real impact.

We feel so strongly about this philosophy that we named ourselves after it...

### cultivating culture (culturev8)

### Memberships

Local Buy Prequalified Supplier (QLD/NT/TAS)

- LB308 - IT Support
- LB309 - Business Management and Consulting Services
- LB311 - Legal Services

Registered Lobbyist (QLD/AUS)



Queensland  
**Law Society**  
 MEMBER



MEMBER  
 LGMA  
 QUEENSLAND INC



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## Our Services

At Culturev8, we offer our clients professional integrated services in law, business strategy, and engagement, aimed at enhancing community led development.

We support community service providers to navigate the unique complexity of regional, rural, remote and Indigenous communities, and deliver on community vision. Our key specialties include:

### **Strategic Planning & Business Development**

Strategy, policy development, organisational planning and capacity building, tailored to local priorities and operational realities.

### **Legal, Governance & Compliance**

Practical advice on regulatory compliance, governance frameworks and policy.

### **Land Management**

Professional legal advice specialising on all manner of land management capability, including leasing and licensing of land, Native Title and Cultural Heritage.

### **Change Management**

Risk identification and mitigation, alongside practical strategies for organisational change and workforce adaptation.

### **Stakeholder Engagement & Political Advocacy**

Strategic and community engagement, government relations and advocacy to shape policy outcomes and build strong partnerships.

### **Project Management**

End-to-end project support from planning and stakeholder alignment, through execution, funding readiness and evaluation.

### **Conflict Resolution & Mediation**

We have accredited mediators who are able to assist with professional mediation.

# Our Team



## Dr Chris McLaughlin

Practice  
Director and Lawyer

Lawyer, academic and senior executive, Chris leads culturev8, guiding service providers through complexity and change, with a focus on strategy, governance, and impactful leadership.



## Melanie McLaughlin

Director and  
Practice Support

Qualified educator and practice director, Mel ensures seamless administration and quality outcomes, supporting operations and delivering lasting value for clients and communities.



## Katherine Wiggins

Senior Governance and  
Engagement Lead

Experienced in policy, governance, and engagement across government and social sectors, with expertise in deep listening and First Nations engagement, delivering tailored solutions that strengthen organisations.



## Rob Dwyer

Senior Risk Management  
Specialist

ICT specialist with over 30 years' experience, Rob focuses on strategy, infrastructure optimisation, and cyber security, delivering robust project management solutions for clients.



## Julia Mauro

Senior Lawyer

Experienced government lawyer with expertise in local government, compliance and community legal issues. Delivers practical legal solutions for complex statutory and governance challenges.



## Sarah Rizvi

Engagement, Planning  
and Environment Specialist

Urban and regional planner with Queensland experience, Sarah specialises in strategy, communications, and project delivery, focusing on meaningful engagement and practical community outcomes.



## Dr Alan Clough

Lawyer

Professorial Research Fellow at James Cook University and practising solicitor, Alan is nationally recognised for legal-policy integration, public health, and reform, supporting community advancement through research and leadership.

# Our Commitment to Social Responsibility

As well as providing exceptional professional service, the way we work helps you deliver on your own social, environmental and procurement responsibilities. When you engage Culturev8, your investment contributes to outcomes beyond the project itself – contributing directly to your social responsibility procurement targets.

- 1. We are paperless**  
We have seen enough destruction of our forestry, so we embrace cutting-edge technology to seamlessly and securely offer our services to you, anywhere, anytime.
- 2. We communicate smarter**  
We use video conferencing and cloud collaboration alongside on-site work, so you get faster communication, with no unnecessary travel costs in our fees. We travel at your request when it adds clear value, including for workshops, culturally appropriate engagement, and complex decision making.
- 3. We work where we are**  
We are entirely decentralised and work across the regions, ensuring our connection to community.
- 4. We champion local and Indigenous opportunity**  
We create and promote local and Indigenous opportunity, both economic and cultural.

## Our valued clients

