



THE UNIVERSITY OF
WAIKATO
Te Whare Wānanga o Waikato

REPORT OF COUNCIL

The following is a report of the Council meeting held on 19 May 2026

KARAKIA

The meeting was opened with karakia.

REGISTER OF INTERESTS

Council confirmed a register of its members' declared interests.

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 31 MARCH 2026 (PART 1)

Council confirmed the minutes of the Council meeting held on 31 March 2026 (Part 1).

REPORT OF THE VICE-CHANCELLOR (PART 1)

Council received a written report from the Vice-Chancellor.

CONFERMENT OF DEGREES AND AWARD OF DIPLOMAS AND CERTIFICATES

Council resolved to confer a number of degrees and award a number of certificates and diplomas.

DISPOSAL OF A UNIVERSITY ASSET

Council noted that, between meeting, members had resolved to approve the disposal of a prefabricated building (UL3), located on Knighton Road, to permit the Stage 2 Knighton Road Townhouse students accommodation development that had been approved by Council at its meeting on 31 March 2026.

NEXT MEETING

Council noted that its next meeting would be held on 7 July 2026.

PUBLIC EXCLUSION

Council resolved to exclude the public from the meeting from this point.

The following items were considered following the exclusion of the public from the meeting:

PART 2

MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 31 MARCH 2026 (PART 2)

Council confirmed the minutes of the Council meeting held on 31 March 2026 (Part 2).

ENTERPRISE RISK FRAMEWORK

Council noted that the University Enterprise Risk Management Framework would be presented to the Council at its 7 July 2026 meeting.

REVIEW OF EU GOVERNANCE

Council noted that the requested review of the University's governance of the 2020 gas cylinder fire event and the development of the subsequent Enforceable Undertaking had been completed; the report would be considered at the Health & Safety, Risk and Assurance Committee at a future meeting.

COUNCIL WORK PLAN

Council received its 2026 Work Plan.

REPORT OF THE VICE-CHANCELLOR (PART 2)

Council received a written report from the Vice-Chancellor.

Council considered proposed approaches to the management of enrolments should the University's domestic intakes be required by the Tertiary Education Commission.

Council noted its support for the University to continue to enrol in accordance with student demand, subject to the Tertiary Education Commission's approval to enrol to those volumes, and the University continuing with open-entry for the majority of its undergraduate qualifications.

SAFETY AND WELLBEING REPORT

Council received a report with respect to the University's safety and wellbeing.

Council noted its concern about delays associated with the implementation of the University's new health and safety reporting system and the impact that this might have on the University's achievement of its health and safety objectives.

STRATEGIC PRIORITY 4: DEVELOPING PEOPLE, CAPABILITY AND A CULTURE OF DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION

Council received a report from the Director of People and Capability, Ms Rose Macfarlane, with respect to strategic priority 4 of Kia Haere Whakamua: Developing People, Capability and a Culture of Diversity and Inclusion.

KIA HAERE WHAKAMUA – UPDATE TO STRATEGIC PRIORITY 3: LEADERSHIP IN GRADUATE-ENTRY HEALTH PROGRAMMES

Council resolved to approve a revised list of actions to be included in Strategic Priority 3: Leadership in Graduate-Entry Health Programmes of Kia Haere Whakamua (the University Vision and Strategy 2025-2029).

UNIVERSITY OF WAIKATO INVESTMENT PLAN 2027-2029

Council received an update on the development of the University's Investment Plan 2027-2029.

Council delegated authority to the Chancellor to approve the University's 2027-2029 Investment Plan and associated documents for submission to the Tertiary Education Commission on 3 July 2026.

Secretary's note: This delegation was not required as the Tertiary Education Commission had subsequently confirmed its willingness to accept the University's Investment Plan documents as draft subject to Council's confirmation of these at its meeting on 7 July 2026.

UOW FINANCIAL SUMMARY

Council received the University of Waikato financial summary for the period ended 31 March 2026.

Council noted that the University's 2026 international enrolments were tracking below budget and that the University need to make cost savings in 2026, including deferral of planned capital expenditure.

NZGSM ESTABLISHMENT PROGRAMME UPDATE

Council received an update on the New Zealand Graduate School of Medicine Establishment Programme.

Council resolved to request that financial reporting against the programme budget be include as part of the regular reporting against the programme.

CAMPUS DEVELOPMENT PLAN

Council received a presentation with respect to the University's Campus Development Plan.

Council noted that the Campus Development Plan set out a range of principles that would underpin the future development of the University's Hillcrest campus.

REVITALISATION OF TE RŌPŪ MANUKURA

Council received a proposal from the Pro-Chancellor, Hon Te Ururoa Flavell, with respect to revitalisation of Te Rōpū Manukura.

Council resolved to:

- support the re-establishment of Te Rōpū Manukura as a committee of Council.
- approve the initiation of a consultation process with iwi and key stakeholders.
- endorse the Pro-Chancellor, the Hon Te Ururoa Flavell, and the representative of Te Arikiniui, Ms Parekawhia McLean, to lead the consultation.
- support the proposed membership model set out in document C26/44 as a basis for consultation.
- support the current Terms of Reference remaining in place pending review.
- request a further report with respect to the Revitalisation of Te Rōpū Manukura following consultation.

REPORT OF THE STAFF MEMBER TO COUNCIL

Council received a report from the staff member to Council, Ms Michelle Blake.

REPORT OF THE STUDENT DISCIPLINE APPEALS COMMITTEE

Council received a report from the Student Discipline Appeals Committee.

DRAFT MINUTES OF THE ACADEMIC BOARD

Council received the draft minutes of the Academic Board meeting held on 24 April 2026.

Council noted that the University would provide additional funding to the Waikato Students' Union to support student hardship.

POROPOROAKI

The meeting was closed with poroporoaki.

Brandon McGibbon
Secretary to Council