



THE UNIVERSITY OF
WAIKATO
Te Whare Wānanga o Waikato

REPORT OF COUNCIL

The following is a report of the Council meeting held on 23 September 2025

KARAKIA

The meeting was opened with a karakia.

REGISTER OF INTERESTS

Council confirmed a register of its members' declared interests.

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 12 AUGUST 2025 (PART 1)

Council confirmed the minutes of the Council meeting held on 12 August 2025 (Part 1).

REPORT OF THE VICE-CHANCELLOR (PART 1)

Council received a written report from the Vice-Chancellor.

APPOINTMENTS TO THE CAPITAL AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

Council resolved to appoint Mr Graeme Milne as Chairperson of the Capital and Finance Committee.

Council resolved to appoint Ms Erin Wansbrough as a member of the Capital and Finance Committee.

2026 DOMESTIC STUDENT TUITION FEES

Council resolved to increase 2026 domestic student tuition fees by 6%.

NEXT MEETING

Council noted that its next meeting would be held on 28 October 2025.

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 12 AUGUST 2025 (PART 2)

Council confirmed the minutes of the Council meeting held on 12 August 2025 (Part 2).

COUNCIL WORK PLAN

Council received its 2025 Work Plan.

REPORT OF THE VICE-CHANCELLOR (PART 2)

Council received a written report from the Vice-Chancellor.

Council received a further oral report from the Vice-Chancellor from which it was noted that the University was expecting to enter into a final agreement with Waikato Tainui for its Hillcrest Campus land lease.

Council resolved to delegate authority to the Vice-Chancellor to enter into a lease agreement with Waikato Tainui for its Hillcrest Campus Land lease at \$3M per annum for the periods 2021-2026 and 2026-2031.

SAFETY AND WELLBEING REPORT

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

MINUTES OF THE HEALTH & SAFETY, RISK AND ASSURANCE COMMITTEE

Council received the minutes of the Health & Safety, Risk and Assurance Committee meeting held on 26 August 2025.

UOW FINANCIAL SUMMARY

Council received the University of Waikato financial summary for the period ended 31 August 2025.

NEW ZEALAND GRADUATE SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

Council received updates from the Vice-Chancellor and the Pro Vice-Chancellor Health with respect to the programme of work being undertaken to progress the establishment of the New Zealand Graduate School of Medicine.

STUDENT ACCOMMODATION OPPORTUNITIES

Council received an update from the Chief Operating Officer with respect to the University's proposed student accommodation developments in Hamilton and Tauranga.

Council resolved to delegate authority to the Vice-Chancellor and Chief Operating Officer to enter into two formal agreements to lease, subject to specific conditions being met, future student accommodation developments in Tauranga.

Council resolved to approve the University proceeding with the development of a modular construction student accommodation development on its Hillcrest campus, and to approve the University directly funding this development, costed at \$16.5m, as a variation to its approved capital programme.

FUTURE DIRECTION FOR UNIVERSITIES

Council received a summary of a cabinet paper from the Minister for Universities that set out a future direction for New Zealand universities including Government's response to the recommendations of the University Advisory Group.

Council also received the draft Tertiary Education Strategy, together with a review prepared by Tertiary Insight.

REPORT OF THE STUDENT DISCIPLINE APPEALS COMMITTEE

Council received a report from the Student Discipline Appeals Committee.

VICE-CHANCELLOR'S 2025/2026 KPIS

Council considered proposed key performance indicators and targets for the Vice-Chancellor for the period 2025/2026.

Council noted that the proposed indicators reflected those already agreed by Council with respect to reporting against the University Strategy.

Council resolved to request that the People and Culture Committee work with the Vice-Chancellor to develop a suite of four to five indicators for the period that focussed on the Vice-Chancellor's personal goals and intended outputs.

AUDIT ARRANGEMENTS: UNIVERSITY OF WAIKATO

Council noted that the University had received advice from the Office of the Auditor General with respect to the appointment of the University's auditor for its annual year-end audit.

POROPOROAKI

The meeting was closed with poroporoaki.

Brandon McGibbon
Secretary to Council