



THE UNIVERSITY OF
WAIKATO
Te Whare Wānanga o Waikato

REPORT OF COUNCIL

The following is a report of the Council meeting held on 25 August 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 7 JULY 2026 (PART 1)

Council confirmed the minutes of the Council meeting held on 7 July 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.

2027 COUNCIL MEETING DATES

Council received the confirmed 2027 meeting dates for Council and its committees.

APPOINTMENT TO THE HONOURS COMMITTEE

Council resolved to appoint Ms Fiona Michel as a member of the Honours Committee for a term to coincide with her current term on Council.

NEXT MEETING

Council noted that its next meeting would be held on 13 October 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 7 JULY 2026 (PART 2)

Council confirmed the minutes of the Council meeting held on 7 July 2026 (Part 2).

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 received a further oral report from the Vice-Chancellor with respect to the ACT Party policy announcement relating to Compulsory Student Services Fees, domestic student funding and the University's 2027 scholarship round.

UOW FINANCIAL SUMMARY

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

HEALTH PRECINCT ACCOMMODATION PROPOSAL

Council received a paper with respect to a proposed student accommodation build to support the University's health precinct.

Council noted that a full business case would be provided to the 13 October 2026 meeting of Council for consideration.

SOLAR CARPARK ARRAYS

Council considered a business case with respect to the installation of solar generation above the University's Gate 1 and Gate 2B carparks.

Council resolved to approve the University proceeding with the installation of fully University owned large-scale solar carport arrays in the Gate 1 and Gate 2B carparks at a total capital cost of \$7.2M.

SAFETY AND WELLBEING REPORT

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

PEOPLE PLAN

Council resolved to approve the adoption of the University's People Plan 2026-2029.

FUTURE STRUCTURE OF TE RŌPŪ MANUKURA

Council resolved to defer consideration of a future structure for Te Rōpū Manukura until a future meeting of Council.

EDUCATIONAL PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

Council received a report comparing the University's 2025 performance against the Tertiary Education Commission's educational performance indicators with that of other New Zealand universities.

Council resolved to request additional reporting to a future meeting of Council with respect to the University's actions to close learner success gaps between Māori and Pacific students and non-Māori and non-Pacific students.

INVESTMENT PLAN MID-YEAR PROGRESS REPORT

Council received a 2026 mid-year update against the University's 2025-2027 Investment Plan forecast Statement of Service Performance.

STRATEGIC PRIORITY 5: GIVING EFFECT TO TE TIRITI O WAITANGI

Council received a report with respect to strategic priority 5 of Kia Haere Whakamua: Giving Effect to Te Tiriti o Waitangi.

Council resolved to request a final report against the University Taskforce and Parata/Gardiner recommendations for the next meeting of Council.

STRATEGIC PRIORITY 3: LEADERSHIP IN GRADUATE-ENTRY HEALTH PROGRAMMES

Council received a report with respect to strategic priority 4 of Kia Haere Whakamua: Leadership in Graduate-Entry Health Programmes.

NZGSM ESTABLISHMENT PROGRAMME UPDATE

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

COUNCIL MEMBER REPORT BACK - TAURANGA

Council received a report with respect to a Council member's investigation into the University's delivery of its strategic commitment to developing the Tauranga campus.

COUNCIL MEMBER REPORT BACK - INTERNATIONALISATION

Council received a report with respect to a Council member's investigation into the University's delivery of its strategic commitment to internationalisation.

COUNCIL MEMBER REPORT BACK – WORK-INTEGRATED LEARNING

Council received a report with respect to a Council member's investigation into the University's delivery of its strategic commitment to work-integrated learning.

REPORT OF THE STAFF MEMBER TO COUNCIL

Council received a report from the staff member to Council.

REPORT OF THE STUDENT DISCIPLINE APPEALS COMMITTEE

Council received a report from the Student Discipline Appeals Committee.

LIBRARY DATABASE COSTS

Council received an oral report with respect to a change in accounting treatment of digital library database assets which would require a write-off to move these from capital assets to operational.

Council noted that this change would have a negative impact on the University's reported 2026 financial result.

LIBRARY DATABASE COSTS

Council noted that the 2026/2027 WSU elections were underway and that the incoming WSU President would attend Council's remaining 2026 meetings alongside the current student member to Council.

POROPOROAKI

The meeting was closed with poroporoaki.

Brandon McGibbon
Secretary to Council