

# COUNCIL

## Public Meeting Minutes

### Te Kaunihera o Te Whare Wānanga o Waitaha

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<b>DATE</b>	Tuesday 24 March 2026
<b>TIME</b>	9:00am
<b>VENUE</b>	Council Chamber, Level 6, Matariki Building
<b>PRESENT</b>	Hon. Amy Adams (Chancellor), Professor Cheryl de la Rey (Vice-Chancellor), Dr Sina Cotter Tait, Professor Jack Heinemann, Mr Bruce Irvine via Zoom, Ms Tumaru Mataio, Ms Rachel Robilliard, Ms Gillian Simpson, Ms Lisa Tumahai, Hon. Poto Williams (Pro-Chancellor) via Zoom, Mr Steve Wakefield, Ms Catherine Woods.
<b>IN ATTENDANCE</b>	Mr Michael Edmonds, Associate Professor Alison Griffith, Ms Stefanie Gutschmidt, Professor Lucy Johnston, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research & Innovation), Mr Grantley Judge, Governance & Compliance Manager, Ms Adela Kardos, General Counsel & Registrar, Mr Keith Longden, Executive Director Planning, Finance & Digital Services, Professor Catherine Moran, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic), Ms Jess van Zelderen.
<b>APOLOGIES</b>	An apology for late arrival (9.35am) was received from Hon. Poto Williams, whose flight was returned to Wellington due to fog. An apology for early departure (10.30am) was received from Mr Bruce Irvine, who attended the meeting via Zoom from overseas.
<b>WELCOME</b>	The Chancellor opened the meeting with a Karakia.
<b>REGISTER OF INTERESTS</b>	The Chancellor requested that the Registrar be advised of any amendments to the Register of Interests.
<b>CONFLICTS OF INTEREST</b>	No conflicts of interest were advised.
<b>MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING</b>	<b>Confirming Minutes of the Previous Meeting</b> <u>Moved:</u> <i>That the minutes of the meeting held on 25 February 2026 were confirmed as a true and correct record.</i>

Carried

**MATTERS ARISING**      There were no matters arising.

**FROM THE CHANCELLOR**      **Degrees Conferred in Absentia**

Moved:  
*That Council noted the list of degrees to be awarded in absentia for the public record were approved by the Executive Committee on 11 March 2026.*

Carried

**FROM THE VICE-CHANCELLOR**      **Vice-Chancellor’s Monthly Report**

The Vice-Chancellor presented her report, which included an update on health and safety matters, and responded to questions from Council.

Moved:  
*That Council noted the Vice-Chancellor’s monthly report.*

Carried

**Academic Board Report**

Associate Professor Alison Griffith presented the Academic Board Report and responded to questions.

Council briefly discussed the proposed changes to the Committee on University Academic Programmes (CUAP), following from the University Advisory Group Report, including the suggestion that universities might move toward greater autonomy in programme approval, potentially enabling self-accreditation of new courses.

Moved:  
*That Council noted:*

- 1. the 20 February 2026 Academic Board Report.*
- 2. the new curricula proposals endorsed by the Academic Board and reported to CUAP on 1 March 2026.*

Carried

**PUBLIC EXCLUDED MEETING**      Moved:  
*That the public be excluded from the following parts of this meeting, pursuant to section 48 of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987:*

<b>Item on Public Excluded Agenda</b>	<b>General Subject Matter</b>	<b>Reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter</b>	<b>Grounds under section 48(1) for the passing of this resolution</b>
4.0 4.1	<b>Minutes</b> Confirm public excluded minutes of 25 February 2026	These items concern matters that were previously dealt with during proceedings of Council from which the public was excluded.	Refer to previous minutes
5.0 5.1 5.2	<b>Matters Arising</b> Action Schedule Information Papers	To enable the free and frank expression of opinions by or between or to members or officers or employees of the University.	7(2)(f)(i)

6.0	<b>Council &amp; Vice-Chancellor Only Time</b>	To enable the University to carry out, without prejudice or disadvantage, commercial activities. To enable the free and frank expression of opinions by or between or to members or officers or employees of the University.	7(2)(h) 7(2)(f)(i)
7.0 7.1	<b>Health &amp; Safety</b> Monthly Health & Safety Report	To enable the University to carry out, without prejudice or disadvantage, commercial activities. To enable the free and frank expression of opinions by or between or to members or officers or employees of the University.	7(2)(h) 7(2)(f)(i)
8.0 8.1 8.2 8.2.1 8.2.2 8.2.3 8.2.4 8.2.5 8.3	<b>Audit &amp; Risk Committee</b> Audit & Risk Committee Report ARC Recommendations to Council: Representation Letters Audit Fraud Questionnaire Annual Report 2025 Delegation of Authority to Approve Annual Report Internal Audit Plan 2026 Audit Clearance & Audit Opinion Report	To enable the University to carry out, without prejudice or disadvantage, commercial activities. To enable the free and frank expression of opinions by or between or to members or officers or employees of the University. To protect the privacy of natural persons.	7(2)(h) 7(2)(f)(i) 7(2)(a)
9.0 9.1 9.2	<b>Capital and Investment Committee</b> Capital & Investment Committee Meeting Report Connectivity Refresh Programme Decision Business Case	To enable the University to carry out, without prejudice or disadvantage, commercial activities. To enable the free and frank expression of opinions by or between or to members or officers or employees of the University.	7(2)(h) 7(2)(f)(i)
10.0 10.1 10.2	<b>Finance</b> Monthly Financial Update (February 2026) 6-Monthly Annual Leave Liability Report	To enable the University to carry out, without prejudice or disadvantage, commercial activities. To enable the free and frank expression of opinions by or between or to members or officers or employees of the University.	7(2)(h) 7(2)(f)(i)
11.0 11.1	<b>Digital Services</b> Digital Enablement Programme 6-Monthly Update	To enable the free and frank expression of opinions by or between or to members or officers or employees of the University. To protect the privacy of natural persons.	7(2)(f)(i) 7(2)(a)
12.0 12.1 12.2 12.3 12.4	<b>Other</b> Freedom of Expression Statement Arbitration Matter Verbal Update Trust Amalgamation Verbal Update Proposed Graduation Dates 2027 & 2028	To enable the University to carry out, without prejudice or disadvantage, commercial activities. To enable the free and frank expression of opinions by or between or to members or officers or employees of the University. To protect the privacy of natural persons.	7(2)(h) 7(2)(f)(i) 7(2)(a)
13.0 13.1 13.2 13.3	<b>From the Chancellor</b> Council Skills Matrix Chancellor Meetings & Correspondence Updated Council Workplan	To enable the free and frank expression of opinions by or between or to members or officers or employees of the University. To protect the privacy of natural persons.	7(2)(f)(i) 7(2)(a)
14.0 14.1 14.2	<b>From The Vice-Chancellor</b> Vice-Chancellor's Monthly Report Academic Board Minutes (21 November 2025)	To enable the University to carry out, without prejudice or disadvantage, commercial activities. To enable the free and frank expression of opinions by or between or to members or officers or employees of the University. To protect the privacy of natural persons.	7(2)(h) 7(2)(f)(i) 7(2)(a)
15.0	<b>General Business</b>	To enable the University to carry out, without prejudice or disadvantage, commercial activities. To enable the free and frank expression of opinions by or between or to members or officers or employees of the University.	7(2)(h) 7(2)(f)(i)

16.0	<b>Council-Only Time</b>	To enable the University to carry out, without prejudice or disadvantage, commercial activities.	7(2)(h)
		To enable the free and frank expression of opinions by or between or to members or officers or employees of the University.	7(2)(f)(i)
		To protect the privacy of natural persons.	7(2)(a)

*and that staff identified by the Chancellor and Vice-Chancellor, as having knowledge relevant to particular matters to be discussed, be permitted to remain at this meeting.*

Carried

**GENERAL BUSINESS**      There were no items of general business.

**NEXT MEETING**              The next Council meeting will be held on Tuesday 26 May 2026 at 9:00am in the Council Chamber.

**MEETING CLOSED**          The public meeting closed with a Karakia at 12.49pm.

SIGNED AS A CORRECT RECORD: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

**COUNCIL ACTION SCHEDULE**  
from the meeting held on 24 March 2026

	<b>Action</b>	<b>By Whom</b>	<b>Due Date</b>	<b>Expected</b>
1.	No actions			