



## QUT COUNCIL REPORT OF OUTCOMES – 23 APRIL 2026

QUT Council (Council) is established in the public interest by the *Queensland University of Technology Act 1998* (Qld) to deliver high-quality education and research for the benefit of the community.

Council is the governing body of QUT (Queensland University of Technology or QUT or University) and actively oversees the University's strategy, performance, risk management, culture, and compliance consistent with its purpose and in the public interest (*aligned to Principles 4.1a and 4.1b*).

Council met on 23 April 2026 via web conferencing and at the Gardens Point Campus, and considered, noted, endorsed, or approved the following items.

Statements of alignment with the Principles provided in the *Final Report and Principles | Expert Council on University Governance* are contained in the Report and will inform the annual Principles Compliance Assessment.

### COUNCIL MATTERS

#### Latest disclosed interests for Council

*Aligned to Principle 2.4b*

Council noted the latest report of disclosed interests.

#### Business arising

Council noted there was no business arising.

#### Chair's report and Chancellor's report to Council – April 2026

*Aligned to Principle 1.3d*

Council noted that the Chancellor advised that she is on the committee currently reviewing the Universities Australia-University Chancellors Committee model.

Council noted the Chancellor's report to Council – April 2026.

#### Vice-Chancellor report to Council – April 2026

*Aligned to Principle 1.4di*

Council considered the 'Vice-Chancellor report to Council – April 2026', which is available at the following address: [Reports to Council - QUT Digital Workplace](#) (QUT staff access only).

#### Report from University Academic Board on academic governance activities

*Aligned to Principle 3.2d*

Council noted the key matters actioned by University Academic Board (UAB) at its 24 March 2026 meeting and resolved to invite Prof Lori Lockyer, Executive Dean, Faculty of Creative Industries, Education and Social Justice to present on the new Bachelor of Arts.

#### Reports from other Council committees

*Aligned to Principle 1.2*

Council noted the reports from Risk and Audit Committee (RAC), Finance and Planning Committee (FPC), Governance, Nominations and Remuneration Committee (GNRC), and Indigenous Australian Committee (IAC).

### PERFORMANCE AND QUALITY

#### Response to sector alert: compliance concerns about early childhood education and training

*Aligned to Principles 7.1c and 7.1e*

Council approved the outcomes of the internal self-review, which did not reveal any areas of concern.

## STRATEGIC FOCUS

### **Major issues currently impacting Australian higher education**

*Aligned to Principles 7.1c and 7.1e*

Council noted the issues currently facing the Australian higher education sector and potential impacts for QUT. Council requested a further submission in February and one prior to the Council strategy day/session, normally conducted in December each year.

### **QUT Strategy 2036**

*Aligned to Principle 4.1c*

Council noted and resolved to provide feedback on the draft QUT Strategy 2036, noting that consultation was currently taking place within the University community. Council further noted and resolved to provide feedback on the draft approach to funding and implementation, including the “Lighthouse” project approach.

### **Updated on QUT Health Facility – Confidential**

*Aligned to Principles 4.2b and 7.1c*

Council noted the *confidential* update on the QUT Health Facility.

## FINANCIAL SUSTAINABILITY

### **Financial Update**

*Aligned to Principle 7.1c*

Council noted the financial update and requested a further update on the medium-term financial outlook (MTFO) at its next meeting, including the possibility of conducting a workshop for Council members. Council noted the MTFO will assist the University to understand the possible range of financial outcomes over the next five to ten years.

### **Long-Term Investments Project – Confidential**

*Aligned to Principle 7.1c*

Council noted the Long-Term Investments Project undertaken by Finance Business Solutions in conjunction with FPC, including the progress achieved to date and the proposed next steps.

## GOVERNANCE MATTERS

### **Controlled entity review**

*Aligned to Principle 1.4f*

Council noted the findings and recommendations of the external and independent review of controlled entities, commissioned to review the University’s approach to the monitoring of its controlled entities. Council approved the implementation plan.

### **For Information – Enforceable Undertaking (EU) with the Fair Work Ombudsman**

*Aligned to Principles 6.1a, 7.1c, 8.1a, and 8.2c-d*

Council noted the progress of compliance with the EU and that no further contraventions, or potential contraventions, of the *Fair Work Act 2009* (and other relevant legislation), and Enterprise Agreements have been identified.

### **Council nomination to Risk and Audit Committee**

*Aligned to Principles 1.2ai and 1.2aiii*

Council approved the nomination of Mr Nigel Fischer to serve on RAC for a term of office from 24 April 2026 to 31 December 2027.

### **Election of Deputy Chancellor – Confidential**

*Aligned to Principles 1.3 and 2.1g*

Council noted that the term of office of the Deputy Chancellor, Adj Prof Susan Rix, concludes on 20 October 2026. Council further noted the nomination and election process for the Deputy Chancellor in accordance with *Council Procedure 3 – Election of Chancellor and Deputy Chancellor*.

Council approved the election of the QUT Deputy Chancellor Elect for a term of office commencing 21 October 2026 for a period not longer than two years up until 20 October 2028.

### **Proposed changes to the charter and membership of the IAC**

*Aligned to Principle 1.2a*

Council approved the recommended change to the IAC charter, specifically its membership [Section 5(5)] to include the addition of a nominated Indigenous staff member. Council approved a minor change to the IAC charter, specifically its responsibilities [Section 3(3)], to update the title of the Indigenous Student Success Program Advisory Group to Indigenous Australian Leadership Team. Council further approved a change to the IAC charter to include a clause to allow nominated members of the committee to serve a term of office up to two years.

### **Code of Conduct – Student and related policies**

*Aligned to Principles 6.1d-e and 6.2a*

Council approved the *Code of Conduct – Student, Management of Student Misconduct Policy*, and *Gender-based Violence Prevention and Response Policy* and noted the revised *Suitability to Study* and *Suitability for Professional Experience* policies, to be approved under delegated authority by the Vice-Chancellor. The policies were reviewed in light of the changing Federal environment and the introduction of the *National Higher Education Code to Prevent and Respond to Gender-based Violence*.

### **Casual vacancy – elected academic staff member**

*Aligned to Principles 2.1f-g*

Council noted the appointment of Assoc Prof Naomi Barnes to fill the casual vacancy in the elected academic staff member category, from 20 March 2026 until 30 September 2029.

### **University Academic Board Deputy Chair election outcome**

*Aligned to Principle 3.1b*

Council noted the outcome of the University Academic Board Deputy Chair election.

### **Change to University Research Committee membership**

*Aligned to Principle 1.2ai*

Council approved an update to the University Research Committee charter to include an additional member nominated by and from University Academic Board.

### **Outcomes of the 2025/2026 Institutional Quality Self Check (IQSC)**

*Aligned to Principle 7.2a*

Council noted the outcomes of the 2025/2026 IQSC undertaken in early 2026 against the *Higher Education Quality and Standards Framework (Threshold Standards) 2021 (Threshold Standards)* and noted the update on the Institutional Quality Assurance Assessments undertaken in 2025 and scheduled assessments for 2026 against the Threshold Standards.

### **Policy Governance Framework and Procedure**

*Aligned to Principles 6.1d-e*

Council approved the revised *Policy Governance Framework* and noted the revised *Policy Governance Procedure*, to be approved under delegated authority by the Vice-President (Administration) and University Registrar.

### **OTHER MATTERS**

Council also considered:

- Executive action: Confirmation of 19 February 2026 special meeting minutes
- *Aligned to Principle 1.2a(ii)* – Executive action: Approval for the Appointment of a Chair of the Indigenous Australian Committee
- *Aligned to Principle 6.1c* – QUT Sexual Harm 2025 Annual Report – *Confidential*
- Post meeting action sheet – 27 February 2026
- Council annual work plan and items pending.

### **OTHER BUSINESS**

*Aligned to Principle 2.3b*

Council noted that the Business Leaders Forum was a significant and important reputational event that attracted minimal cost to the University to host.

Council further noted the valuable experience observing meetings of UAB and other Council committees.

## **DISCLAIMER**

*Aligned to Principle 4.2a*

This Report is intended to communicate key outcomes from the meeting, not to be an official record of the meeting. It does not cover all matters discussed or the full detail of decisions or discussions. While the decisions of Council are crucial, there are sometimes legal and commercial reasons for maintaining confidentiality.

## **FURTHER INFORMATION**

*Aligned to Principles 1.1a-d, 2.4a, and 5.1a*

The [QUT Council Charter](#) is published in the Manual of Policies and Procedures (MOPP) and sets out Council's responsibilities in alignment with its purpose to provide proper, effective, and prudent governance and oversight of the University's functions. The members of Council are listed on the [corporate web site](#). To support its members in fulfilling their roles, Council also maintains the [QUT Council Charter and Code](#) (QUT staff access only).