



LINCOLN
UNIVERSITY
TE WHARE WĀNAKA O AORAKI

LINCOLN UNIVERSITY COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting held on Tuesday 24th February 2026 at 10:00am
in Memorial Hall, Lincoln University and online via MS Teams

Meeting Minutes

Present: Michelle Ash, Janice Fredric, Prof. Derrick Moot, Gabrielle Thompson, David Jensen, Puamiria Parata-Goodall, James Parsons, Liz Hill-Taiaroa, Prof. Grant Edwards, Dr Marjan van den Belt, Grant Miller, Zara Weissenstein, (each a Council Member).

Via MS Teams:

In attendance: Susie Roulston (Chief Operating Officer)
Nathaniel Heslop (Council Secretary)
Prof Chad Hewitt (Provost)
Prof. Merata Kawharu (DVC, Māori)
Karen McEwan (Executive Director, People, Culture & Wellbeing)
Damian Lodge (DVC Student Life)
Steve Hunter (Health & Safety Manager)
Patryk Szczerba (Sustainability Officer)
Halle Gravatt (Tumuaki)

Apologies: Puamiria Parata-Goodall

Meeting started at 10:00am.

1. Welcome/Karakia/Apologies

The Chancellor welcomed Councillors to the meeting, especially Councillor Grant Miller who is attending his first meeting as a member of Council.

The Chancellor invited Zara Weissenstein to open the meeting with karakia.

RESOLUTION LUC/2026/0001

That Council:

1. Receive an apology for absence from Puamiria Parata-Goodall.

Resolution

MOTION CARRIED

2. Disclosures of interests

The Register of Interests was NOTED.

Susie Roulston advised she has been appointed a director to Westroads Limited.

3. Confirmation of the Previous Meeting Minutes

Resolution LUC/2026/0002

That Council:

Confirm the minutes from the Council meetings held on 2nd December 2025 as a true and correct record.

Resolution

MOTION CARRIED

4. Matters arising from the Minutes

Council requested the IP Commercialisation Policy be put back onto the active list, noting that due to the national policy statement on commercialisation currently under development, it would be premature to finalise the policy now.

#6 & #10 were moved to the Action Register for Audit, Risk, & Assurance Committee.

The balance of the action register was noted.

5. Notice of items of General Business

There were no items of general business

6. Vice Chancellors Report

The Vice-Chancellor's written report was taken as read, and the following key matters were highlighted and discussed:

- National negotiations led by CAUL and Universities New Zealand concluded successfully in December, ensuring uninterrupted access to Elsevier and other major publishers.
- Lincoln University achieved a position within the top 100 universities globally in the UI Green Metric sustainability ranking, reflecting strong performance in campus operations such as waste, energy, water, and biodiversity management.

Resolution LUC/2026/0003

That Council:

1. **RECEIVE** the information in the Vice Chancellor's Report.

Resolution

MOTION CARRIED

7. LUSA Report

The LUSA President informed Council:

- 40% of students pre-enrolled in 2026, which is the highest number ever.
- A university strategy is in place around ELLS.

Resolution LUC/2026/0004

That Council:

1. **RECEIVE** the information in the LUSA's February 2026 Report.

Resolution

MOTION CARRIED

8. Sustainability Plan 2025-2028

The Vice Chancellor presented the report to Council and introduced the Sustainability Officer. where it was noted:

- This report reflects 6-monthly progress up to 31 December 2025
- University engaged Toitū in 2024-2025. 5% reduction in emissions across farms portfolio between 2023-2025.

Councillors highlighted the need to ensure Lincoln University has a clear and explicit definition of sustainability, especially as it feeds into strategy, plan monitoring, and reporting consistency.

Staff confirmed that a definition exists within the plan for campus operations but may require further refinement to ensure clarity.

Councillors sought clarification on how sustainability targets are set and whether these are benchmarked internationally. Staff advised that targets are primarily based on Lincoln University's 2030 carbon-neutral targets.

Council received an update from staff on progress of the Agrivoltaic farm project.

Resolution LUC/2026/0005

That Council:

1. **RECEIVE** the Sustainability Plan 2025-2028 – Report 2026.
2. **NOTE** progress against the Sustainability Plan 2025-2028 – Report 2026.

Resolution

MOTION CARRIED

9. Health and Safety Report

The report was taken as read.

The Health & Safety Manager reported a robotic mower incident in a Landcare-leased paddock, where the machine struck an unseen earth mound and overturned onto the operator, causing significant bruising and suspected concussion. The staff member has returned to work on reduced hours. Immediate controls have been implemented, and an ICAM investigation is underway, with findings to return to Council.

Councillors discussed governance assurance for student health and safety, particularly during the high-risk early-semester period in halls. The VC and Director outlined induction processes, use of the SafeLU app, emergency briefings, and pastoral-care reporting. Council requested that the external audit explicitly assess how student H&S processes integrate into LU's risk-management framework and how assurance is provided to Council.

*Action: Health
& Safety
Manager*

Council further noted the Catering H&S Committee had not met for several months. Staff advised this was due to a bereavement and confirmed meetings

will resume by March. Council emphasised the importance of maintaining H&S governance despite operational pressures.

Resolution LUC/2026/0006

That Council:

1. RECEIVE the content of this Health and Safety Report for the periods of November and December 2025 and January 2026.

Resolution

MOTION CARRIED

10. Appointment of members to Committees of Council

The Chancellor spoke to the report and noted that Liz Hill-Taiaroa had been erroneously omitted from the Awards Committee. With that singular change Council passed the resolution LUC/2026/0007.

Resolution LUC/2026/0007

That Council:

Pursuant to s283(4) Education and Training Act 2020 Council:

1. RATIFY the Executive Committee's decision to APPOINT the following members to the Audit, Risk, and Assurance Committee by email resolution on 22 January 2026 for the period 1 January 2026 to 31 December 2026:

- a. Audit, Risk & Assurance Committee (ARAC):
 - i. Grant Miller (*Chair*)
 - ii. David Jensen
 - iii. Puamiria Parata-Goodall
 - iv. Janice Fredric (*ex-officio*)
 - v. Grant Edwards (*ex-officio*)

Resolution

2. APPOINT the following members to the standing committees for the period 1 January 2026 to 31 December 2026:

- a. Awards Committee:
 - i. Michelle Ash (*Chair*)
 - ii. Janice Fredric (*ex-officio*)
 - iii. Grant Edwards
 - iv. Puamiria Parata-Goodall
 - v. Zara Weissenstein (*LUSA*)
 - vi. Professor Emma Stewart (*Academic Board*)
 - vii. Andrew Lingard (*Alumni President*)
 - viii. Ian Collins (*Alumni Office nominee*)
 - ix. Liz Hill-Taiaroa (*Ngai Tahu Representative*)
- b. Appointments and Remuneration Committee:
 - i. David Jensen (*Chair*)
 - ii. James Parsons
 - iii. Gabrielle Thompson
 - iv. Janice Fredric (*ex-officio*)
 - v. Puamiria Parata-Goodall (*ex-officio*)
- c. Ahumairaki Committee:

MOTION CARRIED

12. Council Appeals Committee Terms of Reference

The report was taken as read.

Resolution LUC/2026/0009

That Council:

1. **APPROVE** the revised Council Appeals Committee Terms of Reference as outlined in Appendix A, noting that the amendments arise from the scheduled review and incorporate Council's December 2025 feedback, updated appeal processes, clarity on membership and authority, strengthened procedural guidance, bi-lingual headings, and new review and self-assessment provisions.
2. **AGREE** that the revised Terms of Reference replace the previous (2022) version and take effect immediately.
3. **DIRECT** that the approved Terms of Reference be updated in the Lincoln University Policy Library.

Resolution

MOTION CARRIED

13. Conferral of Degrees, Diplomas and Certificates

The report was taken as read.

RESOLUTION LUC/2026/0010

That Council:

1. Acting under section 19 of the Lincoln University Act 1961 and in accordance with the University's Conferment of Qualifications Regulations, *confers* the degrees, diplomas, and certificates listed in Schedule A upon the individuals named, with effect from 24 February 2026.

Resolution

MOTION CARRIED

15. General Business

There were no items of General Business.

16. Motion by the Chancellor for Resolution LUC/2026/0011 to Exclude the Public Pursuant to s48 of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987

I move that the public be excluded from the following parts of the proceedings of this meeting, namely:

General Subject Matter	Reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter	Grounds under section
Vice Chancellor's Report	To protect information where making available the information would be likely to prejudice the commercial position of the person who is subject of the information	s7(2)(b)(ii)
Academic Board	To protect information where making available the information would be likely to prejudice the commercial position of the person who is subject of the information	s7(2)(b)(ii)
Lincoln University – Bioeconomy Science Institute	To avoid prejudice or disadvantage to the commercial activities of the University	s7(2)(h)
LU Trans-National Education Strategy	To avoid prejudice or disadvantage to the commercial activities of the University	s7(2)(h)
BFU-LU Joint Education Programme	To avoid prejudice or disadvantage to the commercial activities of the University	s7(2)(h)
YAU-LU Joint Masters Programme	To avoid prejudice or disadvantage to the commercial activities of the University	s7(2)(h)
LAL Q4 Dashboard Report and Statement of Consent	To avoid prejudice or disadvantage to the commercial activities of the University	s7(2)(h)
Ahumairaki Committee 1. Report – business of Committee 2. Minutes from meeting on 18 February 2026 3. Charter of Understanding 4. Lincoln University Kaupapa Māori Initiatives 5. Manaaki Tauria PSR	To protect the privacy of natural persons To prevent the disclosure of use of official information for improper gain or improper advantage	s7(2)(a) s7(2)(j)
Audit, Risk, & Assurance Committee 1. Report – business of Committee 2. Minutes from meeting on 17 February 2026 3. 2025 Draft Financial Result & Audit Plan 4. Key Accounting Matters 5. NCH Funding Update 6. Treasury Policy review 7. 2025 Annual Report Update	To protect the privacy of natural persons To protect information where making available the information would be likely to prejudice the commercial position of the person who is subject of the information	s7(2)(a) s7(2)(b)(ii)
Executive Committee 1. Report – business of Committee 2. Minutes from meeting on 18 November 2025 3. 2026 Budget 4. 2026 CAPEX Budget 5. NCH Award of Contract	To avoid prejudice or disadvantage to the commercial activities of the University	7(2)(h)
Appointment & Remuneration Committee 1. Report – business of Committee 2. Minutes from meeting on 20 February 2026 3. Vice Chancellor Performance Review 4. Council Fee Review 5. Appointment of Lincoln Agritech Limited Directors	To avoid prejudice or disadvantage to the commercial activities of the University To protect the privacy of natural persons To prevent the disclosure or use of official information for improper gain or improper advantage	7(2)(h) 7(2)(a) 7(2)(j)

Resolution

I move also that: Prof Chad Hewitt (Provost), Prof Merata Kawharu (Deputy Vice Chancellor, Māori and Pasifika), Mrs S Roulston (Chief Operating Officer), Mrs K McEwan (Executive Director People, Culture & Wellbeing), Mr D Lodge (Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Student Life), Travis Glare & Bruce Gemmell (CEO & Chairperson, Lincoln Agritech Limited) Mr Tim Lester (General Counsel), Prof. Emma Stewart, Prof. Hugh Bigsby, Tumuaki Te Awhioraki, and Mr Nathaniel Heslop (Council Secretary), be permitted to remain at this meeting after the public has been excluded, because of their knowledge of the various matters being discussed. This knowledge, which will be of assistance in relation to the matters to be discussed, is relevant to those matters because of their involvement in the development of reports to Council on these matters.

MOTION CARRIED

17. Closure and next Meeting

Ms Zara Weissenstein led the closing karakia.

The meeting closed at 1:55pm.

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, 24th March 2026 at 10:00am and will be held in Memorial Hall, Ivey West, Lincoln University Campus

CONFIRMED THIS 24th DAY OF March 2026

JANICE FREDRIC
CHANCELLOR

UNCONFIRMED