

KARAKIA

KARAKIA TIMATANGA

Manaakitia tēnei ropu
Arahina ngā kōrero
Arahina ngā pātai
Kia puta ai te maramatanga

*Look after this group
Guide the talk
and the questions
so that the understanding will emerge*

KARAKIA WHAKAMUTUNGA

Mā te kōrero ka mōhio
mā te mōhio ka marama
mā te marama ka mātau
mā te matau ka ora ai te iwi

*Through discussion we learn,
through learning we are enlightened,
through enlightenment we are
empowered,
through empowerment the well-being
of the people is achieved*

OPENING KARAKIA (MIT)

Me Īnoi tātou
Kia tūturu tātou (*Let's be real*)
Kia manaaki tātou (*Let's be caring*)
Kia whai hiranga tātou (*Let's pursue excellence*)
Kia tūhonohono tātou (*Let's connect*)

Whano! Whano!
Haramai te toki!
Haumi ē!
Hui ē!
Taiki ē!

CLOSING KARAKIA (UNITEC)

Ka wehe atu tātou
I raro i te rangimārie,
Te harikoa, me te manawanui
Haumi ē! Hui ē! Taiki ē!

*Let us depart
Under the mantle of peace
Happiness and joy
Bind it, fasten it, it is steadfast!*

Manukau Institute of Technology and Unitec

Register of Council Members

Member	Start Date	Re-appointment date	Current term ends	Appointed by	Committee membership	Safety walks undertaken
Alastair Bell (Chair)	2 December 2025		1 December 2028	Minister for Vocational Education	Nominations and Chief Executive Performance Committee (Chair) Assurance, Finance and Property Committee (ex officio Member) People and Remuneration Committee (ex officio Member) Programmes and Engagement Committee (ex officio Member)	MIT Tech Park (8 December 2025) MIT Ōtara (4 February 2026) Unitec Mt Albert (11 March 2026) MIT Ōtara (15 April 2026) MIT Manukau (27 May 2026) Unitec Mt Albert (24 June 2026)
Simon Harding (Deputy Chair)	2 December 2025		1 December 2029	Minister for Vocational Education	Assurance, Finance and Property Committee (Chair) Nominations and Chief Executive Performance Committee (Member)	MIT Tech Park (8 December 2025) Unitec Mt Albert (11 March 2026) MIT Ōtara (15 April 2026) MIT Manukau (27 May 2026)

Member	Start Date	Re-appointment date	Current term ends	Appointed by	Committee membership	Safety walks undertaken
						Unitec Mt Albert (24 June 2026)
Ward Kamo	2 December 2025		1 December 2028	Minister for Vocational Education	People and Remuneration Committee (Chair) Academic Committee (observer) Programmes and Engagement Committee (Member)	MIT Ōtara (4 February 2026) Unitec Mt Albert (24 June 2026)
Sharon Brownie	2 December 2025		1 December 2029	Minister for Vocational Education	Programmes and Engagement Committee (Chair) Academic Committee (observer)	MIT Ōtara (4 February 2026) Unitec Mt Albert (11 March 2026) MIT Ōtara (15 April 2026) MIT Manukau (27 May 2026)
Peter Parussini	5 February 2026		4 February 2028	Council	People and Remuneration Committee (Member) Programmes and Engagement Committee (Member)	MIT Ōtara (4 February 2026) Unitec Mt Albert (11 March 2026) MIT Ōtara (15 April 2026)

Member	Start Date	Re-appointment date	Current term ends	Appointed by	Committee membership	Safety walks undertaken
						MIT Manukau (27 May 2026) Unitec Mt Albert (24 June 2026)
Bhavdeep Dhillon	5 February 2026		4 February 2028	Council	Assurance, Finance and Property Committee (Member)	MIT Ōtara (4 February 2026) Unitec Mt Albert (11 March 2026) MIT Manukau (27 May 2026)

Council of Manukau Institute of Technology and Unitec

Interests Register

Dated 24 June 2026

This Interests Register records interests that have been disclosed and considered.

Note that any conflicts declared by Council members or Council committee members should also be recorded in the minutes of the meeting of the council/committee at which the conflict is declared (with this being a statutory requirement where the conflict relates to the conditions of service of the person as the chief executive or a member of the staff or the person has any other direct or indirect pecuniary interest in the matter).

Name	Interest	Nature of Interest
Alastair Bell	Entrust	Elected Trustee
	Vector Limited	Board member
	New Zealand Post Limited	Board member
	Kiwirail Holdings Limited	Board member
	Auckland Nationalist Centre Incorporated	Committee member
Simon Harding	Broadway Properties Limited	Director
	The Golf Lounge Newmarket Limited	Director
	Residual Aurum Limited	Director
	Droxford Farms Limited	Director
	MTT Limited	Director and Shareholder
	Tuesday Corporation Limited	Shareholder
	The Mist Trust	Settlor, Trustee and Beneficiary
	The Padiwi Trust	Settlor, Trustee and Beneficiary
	The Fianna Trust	Settlor and Trustee
Sharon Brownie	School of Rural Medicine, Charles Sturt University, NSW, Australia	Professor in Medicine School of Rural Medicine
	Australasian College of Health Service Managers	Fellow

Name	Interest	Nature of Interest
	College of Nurses Aotearoa New Zealand	Fellow
	Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre	Honorary Research Fellow
	Green Templeton Centre Oxford University	Member PRAXIS Forum Events Manager Oceania Alumni Group
	Australian Institute of Company Directors	Graduate GAICD and Member
	New Zealand Institute of Company Directors	Member
	New Zealand Nursing Council	Director and Deputy Chair Nursing Council Board
	New Zealand Nursing Council	Registered Nurse
	Waikato Institute of Technology (Wintec)	Adjunct Professor
	Australian Health Practitioners Regulatory Authority	Registered Nurse
	Affinity Nursing Agency, Australia	FIFO Registered Agency Nurse
	Frontiers in Medicine Health Workforce	Academic Editor
	Kōtuitui: New Zealand Journal of Social Sciences	Academic Editor
Ward Kamo	Te Kawerau A Maki Investment Trust	Chair
	Te Pūhana Ora	CEO
	Ngāti Mutunga o Wharekauri iwi Trust	CEO
	Te Kahui Manu Taiko (Chatham Islands)	Member
Peter Parussini	ANZ Bank New Zealand	Executive staff member On board of Pacific Operations Company
	Southern Cross Campus Foundation	Trustee

Name	Interest	Nature of Interest
	Southern Cross Campus in Mangere	On the board of trustees
Bhavdeep Dhillon	Cemix Products Limited	Director
	Cemix Construction Products Limited	Director
	Dunlop Drymix Limited	Director
	Concrete Group Limited	Director
	DFT Capital Limited	Director
	Harikoa Capital Limited	Director
	Kiwi Media Publishing Limited	Director
	Transworld Estates Limited	Director and Shareholder
	Associated Properties Limited	Director
	Remuera Properties Limited	Director
	DFT Developments Limited	Director
	Dhillon Trustee Limited	Director and Shareholder
	Construction Products Trustee Limited	Director and Shareholder
	Concrete Trustee Limited	Director and Shareholder
	26 Rimu St Limited	Director
	McIntyre Homes Limited	Director
	Papatoetoe Homes Limited	Director
	Harikoa Homes Limited	Director
	Heretaunga Homes Limited	Director
	Torrance Homes Limited	Director
	Murvale Homes Limited	Director
	Bowater Homes Limited	Director
	India NZ Business Council	Patron
	Dhillon Family Trust	Settlor, Trustee and Beneficiary
	Kiwi Indian Diaspora Foundation	Settlor, Trustee and Beneficiary

Name	Interest	Nature of Interest
	Sunrise Trust	Settlor, Trustee and Beneficiary
	DFT Trust	Settlor, Trustee and Beneficiary

Functions and Duties of a Polytechnic Council

Section 280 Functions of Councils

- (a) appoint a chief executive, and monitor and evaluate the chief executive's performance:
- (b) prepare and submit an investment plan:
- (c) ensure that the institution is (i) managed in accordance with the investment plan and (ii) determine policies to implement the investment plan:
- (d) determine the policies of the institution in relation to the management of its affairs:
- (e) undertake planning relating to the institution's long-term strategic direction

281 Duties of Councils

- (a) strive to ensure that the institution attains the highest standards of excellence in education, training, and research:
 - (b) acknowledge the principles of [Te Tiriti o Waitangi](#):
 - (c) encourage the greatest possible participation by the communities served by the institution:
 - (d) ensure that the institution does not discriminate unfairly against any person:
 - (e) ensure that the institution operates in a financially responsible manner:
 - (f) ensure that proper standards of integrity, conduct, and concern for the public interest and the well-being of students are maintained.
- (2) comply with [section 97](#) of the Crown Entities Act 2004 in respect of subsidiaries

321 Additional duties of council of polytechnic

- (a) consider the need to collaborate with other polytechnics to use resources effectively, to avoid duplicating effort, and to identify opportunities for sharing services; and
- (b) be responsive to industry and community needs, including skills shortages; and
- (c) ensure that the polytechnic operates in a way that allows the polytechnic to develop meaningful relationships and to engage with communities at a local level, including industries, Māori employers, hapū and iwi, and Pacific communities

Minutes for MIT and Unitec Council Meeting

OPEN SESSION

A meeting of the Council of Manukau Institute of Technology and Unitec was held on 24 June 2026 at MIT and Unitec's Mt Albert campus. Persons present in-person or telephonically were:

Present: Alastair Bell, Sharon Brownie, Bhav Dhillon, Simon Harding, Peter Parussini, Ward Kamo

Attending: Christina Hong, Simon Bilton, Kristine Brothers, Simon Nash, Martin Carroll, Kara Hiron, Natasha Whiting[†], Dan Brady[†]

Apologies: Nil

**Attended remotely*

[†]Attended for part of the meeting

Welcome, karakia and apologies

Alastair Bell delivered the opening karakia and the meeting started at 10.44 am.

The Chair welcomed the Council Members and MIT and Unitec staff to the meeting.

The Chair congratulated Sharon Brownie on being appointed a Member of the New Zealand Order of Merit (MNZM) in the King's Birthday Honours.

Declarations and Administration

The Chair noted:

- the interests register; and
- the Council's functions and duties

The Chair reminded members:

- to declare anything that could cause a claim against Council insurance policies. No declarations were received.
- of the confidentiality of Council proceedings.

Simon Harding noted an amendment to the expiry date of his term in the Council Register. Peter Parussini noted an addition to his interests listed in the Interests Register.

ACTION: Council Secretary to update Council Register and Interests Register.

Correspondence (open)

No correspondence was received.

Chief Executive's report (open)

The report was received by Council and the following points were discussed:

- whether attendance at graduation ceremonies this year was lower than in previous years and, if so, the extent to which cost of living pressures were a contributing factor;
- the Council offered congratulations to the employee who has received a Fulbright Scholarship, and it was confirmed that the employee's salary ceases for the period of scholarship but the research is attributed to MIT and Unitec; and
- it was noted that the Council is fully supportive of the proposed Enterprise Solutions unit.

Academic Committee minutes (open)

The report was received by Council and the following points were discussed:

- setting of the targets and benchmarks. The DCE Academic confirmed that the TEC sets national benchmarks, and then the leadership team sets internal targets and brings them to Council for discussion as part of the investment plan approval.
- Our approach to use of AI by students. Management's view was to take an educative approach to how people learn to use AI and a common strategy in New Zealand is the 'two lanes' approach (a blended approach). This also needs to be balanced against the NZQA requirement to ensure that learners meet every learning outcome.

ACTION: DCE Academic and Legal Director to discuss whether some proceedings of Academic Committee should be moved into closed session.

Resolution to exclude the public

The Chair spoke to the resolution.

RESOLVED (Alastair Bell/Bhav Dhillon)

That the public be excluded from the remainder of the meeting.

CARRIED

The meeting moved into closed session.



27 July 2026

Ebony Komene

Fulbright - Ngā Pae o te Māramatanga Graduate Awardee

By email to: ebony.komene@auckland.ac.nz

Tēnā koe Ebony

Congratulations!

I write on behalf of the Chairman Alastair Bell, Members of our Council, Chief Executive Prof. Christina Hong, and the staff of Manukau Institute of Technology and Unitec.

We are delighted to read of your selection as the 2026 Fulbright–Ngā Pae o te Māramatanga Graduate Award recipient and wanted to extend our warmest congratulations on behalf of the MIT community. This is an outstanding achievement and a testament to your dedication, scholarship, and leadership in nursing and Indigenous health research.

Those of us who know MIT and Unitec take particular pride in seeing our graduates go on to make a meaningful difference in their professions and communities. Your journey from MIT nursing student to PhD candidate, researcher, and now Fulbright scholar is a wonderful example of what can be achieved through hard work, resilience, and a strong sense of purpose.

What is especially striking is your commitment to improving outcomes for Māori through both practice and research. Your work exploring Indigenous nursing and Indigenous Nurse Practitioner models, while fostering connections with Indigenous nurses and researchers across the Pacific and North America, reflects a vision that is both ambitious and deeply grounded in service to others.

Your success is richly deserved. It is also an inspiration for current and future MIT and Unitec students, who will see in your achievements the possibilities that come from believing in yourself, staying connected to your values, and pursuing excellence with determination and integrity.

As you embark on this exciting chapter in the United States, please know that your MIT and Unitec whānau is immensely proud of all that you have accomplished. We look forward to following your journey and seeing the impact your work will continue to have - both here in Aotearoa and internationally.

Congratulations once again, Ebony. We wish you every success for the year ahead and for all that follows. Ka rawe to mahi!

Ngā mihi nui,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'M. Carroll'.

Professor Martin Carroll

Deputy Chief Executive Academic

Contact Rob McDonald
6 August 2026



By email:

Dear Chief Executive / Chairperson

Publication of Official Information Act (OIA) complaints data

As you may know, the Office of the Ombudsman publishes data on Official Information Act (OIA) complaints on a six-monthly basis. The purpose of this initiative is to promote greater transparency in the operation of the OIA as a means of improving agency performance and compliance with the Act.

The data for **1 January 2026 to 30 June 2026** will be published on **10 September 2026**. Please find enclosed a copy of the data to be published.

You will find a document covering [frequently asked questions](#) available on the Ombudsman website. If you have any queries or concerns about the data as it relates to your agency, please contact Rob McDonald (rob.mcdonald@ombudsman.parliament.nz) by **21 August 2026**.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Allen", with a stylized flourish at the end.

John Allen
Chief Ombudsman

Encl: OIA complaints received
OIA complaints completed

SUMMARY OF OMBUDSMAN DATA – Complaints Received

Number of complaints received	Total
Accident Compensation Corporation	20
Ara Institute of Canterbury	5
Associate Minister for ACC	1
Associate Minister for Energy	1
Associate Minister of Agriculture (Animal Welfare, Skills)	2
Board of Trustees - Schools	74
Broadcasting Standards Authority	2
Civil Aviation Authority of New Zealand	8
Commerce Commission	6
Crown Law Office	8
Department of Conservation	9
Department of Corrections	80
Department of Internal Affairs	11
Department of the Prime Minister And Cabinet	10
Deputy Prime Minister	1
Earth Sciences New Zealand	1
Education Review Office	3
Electoral Commission	1
Electricity Authority	2
Environmental Protection Authority	3
Ferry Holdings Limited	1
Financial Markets Authority	4
Fire and Emergency New Zealand	7
Government Communications Security Bureau	11
Guardians of New Zealand Superannuation and any subsidiaries	1
Health & Disability Commissioner	2
Health Research Council of New Zealand	2
Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga	1
Human Rights Commission	1
Inland Revenue Department	13
Kāinga Ora - Homes and Communities	27
KiwiRail Holdings Limited	6
Management agencies under the Biosecurity Act 1993	3
Manukau Institute of Technology and Unitec	1
Maritime New Zealand	2
Massey University	2
Meteorological Service of New Zealand Limited	1
Minister for ACC	1
Minister for Disability Issues	1
Minister for Energy	2
Minister for Land Information	1
Minister for Media and Communications	1
Minister for Mental Health	1

Minister for National Security and Intelligence	1
Minister for Oceans and Fisheries	5
Minister for Rail	1
Minister for Regulation	4
Minister for Resources	3
Minister for Rural Communities	1
Minister for Social Development and Employment	3
Minister for Space	1
Minister for the South Island	1
Minister for Trade	3
Minister for Veterans	1
Minister of Agriculture	1
Minister of Climate Change	2
Minister of Education	3
Minister of Finance	3
Minister of Foreign Affairs	1
Minister of Health	12
Minister of Housing	2
Minister of Immigration	3
Minister of Justice	4
Minister of Police	7
Minister of Statistics	1
Minister of Transport	3
Minister Responsible for RMA Reform	1
Ministry for Cities, Environment, Regions and Transport	7
Ministry for Culture and Heritage	1
Ministry for Pacific Peoples	1
Ministry for Primary Industries	41
Ministry for the Environment	3
Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment	50
Ministry of Defence	1
Ministry of Education	33
Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade	6
Ministry of Health	25
Ministry of Housing and Urban Development	2
Ministry of Justice	30
Ministry of Māori Development-Te Puni Kōkiri	3
Ministry of Social Development	38
Ministry of Transport	1
Natural Hazards Commission Toka Tū Ake	1
New Zealand Customs Service	3
New Zealand Defence Force	21
New Zealand Fish and Game Council	1
New Zealand Lotteries Commission	1
New Zealand Parole Board	2
New Zealand Police	296

New Zealand Post Limited	2
New Zealand Qualifications Authority	1
New Zealand Security Intelligence Service	4
New Zealand Tourism Board	1
New Zealand Trade and Enterprise & any subsidiaries	1
New Zealand Transport Agency	35
Non-scheduled agency	26
Oranga Tamariki - Ministry for Children	28
Otago Polytechnic	1
Parliamentary Under-Secretary to the Minister for Infrastructure	1
Pharmaceutical Management Agency Ltd	1
Prime Minister	12
Privacy Commissioner	3
Public Service Commission	14
Public Trust	2
Quotable Value Limited	1
Remuneration Authority	1
Reserve Bank of New Zealand	1
Sport and Recreation New Zealand	2
Te Wānanga o Aotearoa (Te Awamutu)	1
Te Wānanga o Raukawa (Otaki)	1
Te Whatu Ora - Health New Zealand	63
Teaching Council of Aotearoa New Zealand	7
Television New Zealand Limited	7
The Treasury	6
Toi Ohomai Institute of Technology	3
Transpower New Zealand Limited	1
University of Auckland	15
University of Canterbury	3
University of Otago	7
University of Waikato	2
Victoria University of Wellington	4
WorkSafe New Zealand	13
Grand Total	1244

SUMMARY OF OMBUDSMAN DATA – Complaints Received

Number of complaints completed	
Agency	Total
Accident Compensation Corporation	13
Airways Corporation of New Zealand Limited	3
Ara Institute of Canterbury	3
Associate Minister for Energy	1
Associate Minister of Agriculture (Animal Welfare, Skills)	1
Associate Minister of Education (Partnership Schools)	1
Associate Minister of Finance	1
Auckland University of Technology	2
Bioeconomy Science Institute	1
Board of Trustees - Schools	76
Broadcasting Standards Authority	3
Callaghan Innovation	1
Charter School Authorisation Board	3
Civil Aviation Authority of New Zealand	4
Commerce Commission	8
Crown Infrastructure Delivery Limited	1
Crown Law Office	10
Department of Conservation	14
Department of Corrections	80
Department of Internal Affairs	15
Department of the Prime Minister And Cabinet	10
Deputy Prime Minister	1
Earth Sciences New Zealand	2
Education Review Office	6
Electoral Commission	1
Electricity Authority	3
Environmental Protection Authority	2
Financial Markets Authority	1
Fire and Emergency New Zealand	6
Fish & Game Councils	1
Government Communications Security Bureau	5
Health Research Council of New Zealand	5
Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga	1
Inland Revenue Department	14
Kāinga Ora - Homes and Communities	23
KiwiRail Holdings Limited	1
Land Information New Zealand	2

Lead Coordination Minister for the Crown's response to the recommendations of the Royal Commission of Inquiry into Abuse in Care	1
Management agencies under the Biosecurity Act 1993	2
Manukau Institute of Technology and Unitec	1
Maritime New Zealand	2
Massey University	1
Meteorological Service of New Zealand Limited	1
Minister for ACC	2
Minister for Biosecurity	1
Minister for Economic Growth	1
Minister for Energy	2
Minister for Land Information	2
Minister for Media and Communications	3
Minister for Mental Health	2
Minister for National Security and Intelligence	1
Minister for Oceans and Fisheries	2
Minister for Rail	1
Minister for Regulation	3
Minister for Resources	7
Minister for Rural Communities	1
Minister for Social Development and Employment	3
Minister for Space	1
Minister for Tourism and Hospitality	2
Minister for Trade	3
Minister of Climate Change	1
Minister of Education	6
Minister of Foreign Affairs	3
Minister of Health	12
Minister of Housing	2
Minister of Immigration	3
Minister of Internal Affairs	1
Minister of Justice	2
Minister of Police	5
Minister of Revenue	1
Minister of Science, Innovation and Technology	2
Minister of Statistics	1
Minister of Transport	2
Minister Responsible for RMA Reform	2
Ministry for Culture and Heritage	1
Ministry for Pacific Peoples	2
Ministry for Primary Industries	34
Ministry for Regulation	5
Ministry for the Environment	4
Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment	59
Ministry of Defence	4
Ministry of Education	43

Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade	13
Ministry of Health	33
Ministry of Housing and Urban Development	4
Ministry of Justice	26
Ministry of Māori Development-Te Puni Kōkiri	3
Ministry of Social Development	64
Ministry of Transport	2
Natural Hazards Commission Toka Tū Ake	4
New Zealand Customs Service	5
New Zealand Defence Force	20
New Zealand Film Commission	1
New Zealand Fish and Game Council	1
New Zealand Infrastructure Commission/Te Waihangā	1
New Zealand Institute of Skills and Technology	1
New Zealand Parole Board	1
New Zealand Police	302
New Zealand Post Limited	2
New Zealand Qualifications Authority	1
New Zealand Security Intelligence Service	3
New Zealand Trade and Enterprise & any subsidiaries	1
New Zealand Transport Agency	27
Non-scheduled agency	27
Oranga Tamariki - Ministry for Children	38
Otago Polytechnic	1
Pharmaceutical Management Agency Ltd	1
Prime Minister	11
Privacy Commissioner	1
Public Service Commission	6
Public Trust	1
Radio New Zealand Ltd	4
Reserve Bank of New Zealand	3
Sport and Recreation New Zealand	1
Te Wānanga o Aotearoa (Te Awamutu)	2
Te Whatu Ora - Health New Zealand	65
Teaching Council of Aotearoa New Zealand	7
Television New Zealand Limited	3
The Treasury	5
Universal College of Learning	1
University of Auckland	13
University of Otago	2
University of Waikato	4
Victoria University of Wellington	3
WorkSafe New Zealand	19
Grand Total	1298



Manukau Institute of Technology and Unitec Council Meeting Coversheet

Meeting Date	Friday 14 August 2026
Agenda Item No.	
Paper Title	Chief Executive Update – 25 June – 30 July 2026
Author(s)	Christina Hong
Sponsor	Chief Executive
For	Information
Classification	Open Session

Executive Summary

This report provides an overview of the Chief Executive's activities from June – July 31st since the last Council meeting, including communications, operational priorities, and internal and external stakeholder engagement. The Report also highlights portfolio and workstream progress toward organisational harmonisation and unified delivery outcomes across MITU.

Recommendations

That Council receive the Chief Executive's Report – June - July 2026.



MANUKAU
INSTITUTE OF
TECHNOLOGY



Unitec

Manukau Institute of Technology and Unitec Council Meeting

Meeting Date	Friday 14 August 2026
Agenda Item No.	
Paper Title	Chief Executive Report – Thursday 25 June – Thursday 30 July 2026
Author(s)	Christina Hong
Sponsor	
For	Information
Classification	Open Session

Executive Summary

This report provides an overview of the Chief Executive's activities since the last Council meeting, including onboarding, communications, operational priorities, and stakeholder engagement. The ReportUnitec Academic Quality and Integrity team to understand current processes and initiatives. Follow up to occur with MIT equivalents. also highlights portfolio and workstream progress toward organisational harmonisation and unified delivery outcomes across MITU.

Recommendation

That Council receive the Chief Executive's Report – 25 June – 30 July 2026.

1.0 BUSINESS OPERATIONS AND ORGANISATION DEVELOPMENT

- 1.1 Recruitment for a Chief Financial Officer successfully completed. Good pool of applicants received with four candidates shortlisted, and interviews held on 8 July. The panel included, Council member, Simon Harding. The preferred applicant, Gerard Smith accepted the position and commenced as MIT and Unitec's new CFO on Monday, 3 August.
- 1.2 The discovery phase of a Business/Enterprise Solutions unit is ongoing. Initial workshop held and follow-up meetings are in progress to establish opportunities and build a business case.
- 1.3 Weekly CEO Lunchbox sessions continue to be well attended, providing valuable opportunities to connect directly with staff and students across campuses.



- 1.4 The opportunity to engage with MITU teams has continued. Meetings held with *Nga Wai a t Tui* Indigenous Research Centre (30 June) and Pacific Researchers (3 July) to learn about research initiatives and operational progress and support. Attended campus-based meetings with PaC team, Student Support team, and Unitec Academic Quality.
- 1.5 At the request of EY, a meeting was held with Chad Parone, Mike Willett, Peter Bristow and Michael Summers-Gervai (30 June) to discuss integration activities, long-term strategic direction, programme management approaches, and the de-risking of significant planned digital and IT investments.

2.0 INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS

- 2.1 Attended and provided a keynote presentation entitled "Green Building, Share Prosperity" at the China Construction Bank (CCB) Event, "Shaping the Future of Green Buildings in NZ" (15 July). It was held under the Memorandum of Understanding with China Building Technique Group Co. Ltd. Attendees included representatives from New Zealand Tier 2 construction companies, CCB clients from the construction and property sectors, and executives from the New Zealand China Building Industry Association.
- 2.2 MIT and Unitec signed a tripartite MoU (16 July) with China Building Technique Group Co. Ltd and China Construction Bank New Zealand. The partnership will focus on sustainability priorities including, Low-carbon construction, Resilient infrastructure, Healthy buildings, Climate adaptation, Sustainable urban development and Digital construction technologies. The agreement strengthens international research relationships and creates opportunities for staff and students to collaborate on projects with real-world impact.
- 2.3 Interviewed by Dr Linda Sissons (20 July) undertaking a project on behalf of Education NZ to solicit advice from ITPs on how ENZ can further support transnational education and international market recruitment. International Office also provided written responses to key questions.
- 2.4 Participated in a New Zealand vocational and applied education delegation to China alongside Minister Penny Simmonds and 10 other Institutes of Technology and Polytechnic Chief Executives, visiting Beijing, Shanghai and Guangzhou (27-31 July). The delegation provided an opportunity to engage with agents, showcase successful transnational education models, promote New Zealand's revitalised vocational training and applied education sector, and highlighted and strengthened education and industry partnerships with China. Agent sessions and TNE sessions with invited partners were held in each city with presentations by CEs.
- 2.5 MITU promoted the launch of two new collaborative programmes: a joint Data Science and Big Data Technology programme and upcoming opening of the Joint Institute with Hebei University of Engineering (HUE), and a joint Nursing programme with Changsha Social Work College.



Both initiatives strengthen international education links and support the delivery of high-quality vocational training, with the Nursing programme commencing in September.

- 2.6 The first cohorts for Hebei University of Engineering and MITU HUE Joint Institute for all four-degree majors are already full, with 120 students enrolling in each programme ahead of commencement in the Fall semester. This reflects high demand and is indicative of strong success prospects for the joint institute.

3.0 EDUCATION PORTFOLIO

- 3.1 MITU submitted our first TEC Investment Plan 2027-2029 on 9 July based on the Strategic Directions Document. The Plan details our domestic provision and strategic priorities for 2027, including portfolio changes that address changing demand and new innovations. The Plan also includes our Educational Performance Indicator Commitments (EPICs) and financial forecasts for 2027-2029. In support of these, it outlines our Learner Success Plan and Disability Action Plan for 2027-2029.
- 3.2 More than 3,500 new ākonga commenced semester 2 studies across MITU campuses. Semester 2 orientation events well-attended and provided students with welcoming supportive beginning to study.
- 3.3 “Scrum” events were held weekly for the last 3 weeks of enrolment and first 2 weeks of semester, with senior academic and support team leadership attending. At scrums, enrolments, withdrawals and ‘no-show’ data is reviewed and tactical decisions made on actions to achieve EFTs targets.
- 3.4 Overall course experience rating for S1 2026: 8.5/10, consistent with Semester Two 2025 and the highest level since surveys commenced in 2018.
 - o Teacher ratings averaged 9.2/10, reflecting strong learner confidence in teaching quality, subject knowledge and preparation.
 - o Pacific learner outcomes remain comparable with non-Pacific learners while Māori and disabled learners continue to show lower course ratings compared with non-Māori and non-disabled learners, highlighting areas for continued focus and improvement.
- 3.5 Highlights from the recent NZQA monitors' visit to the BN and BNP programmes were extremely positive, providing strong external validation of the quality of our programmes, the expertise and commitment of our staff, and our focus on learner success.
- 3.6 The Advanced Manufacturing Association (AMA) are working with a number of ITPs to partner with local manufacturing employers to offer placement-based New Zealand Certificate in Manufacturing Level 3.



Neither MIT nor Unitec currently have accreditation for this qualification. Accreditation is now being sourced with a view to commencing delivery in Sem 1, 2027.

- 3.7 A MITU project to support disengaged youth in Henderson and West Auckland is being progressed, led by Julie Prentice, Pathways and External Engagement Manager. The project commenced in July with an agreed focus on secondary students who are at risk of disengagement from education, developing partnerships with organisations that support young people who are Not in Education, Employment, or Training (NEET), and undertaking initial scoping work for a potential School of Secondary-Tertiary Studies in West Auckland, modelled on the existing Otara campus. The initiative is intended to strengthen educational pathways and improve outcomes for young people at risk of disengagement.
- 3.8 MITU co-hosted a New Zealand AI Hackathon Festival event (6 August) at our Mt Albert Campus, attracted ~120 participants, including industry sponsors, mentors and guests. The 120 secondary and tertiary learners, including 62 of our own students, developed AI-powered solutions to challenges such as food insecurity, digital accessibility, environmental sustainability, in preparing for an AI-driven future. Over 48 hours, participants worked in multidisciplinary teams to innovate, collaborate, and showcase emerging talent in the technology sector.

4.0 EXTERNAL ENGAGEMENT

- 4.1 Met with Chair Transport ISB Sam McNaughton (25 June) to discuss emerging opportunities in the electric vehicle (EV) sector. The meeting provided an opportunity to better understand the direction and priorities of the transport industry, build a stronger working relationship, and explore future opportunities for collaboration and ongoing engagement.
- 4.2 Met with Lee Marshall, CEO of the Motor Trade Association (MTA), at our TechPark campus (25 June). The visit provided an opportunity to discuss further collaboration and partnership opportunities within the automotive sector.
- 4.3 Meeting held with Alex Vranjac-Wheeler, Master Electricians (29 June) to strengthen industry relationships and explore partnership opportunities.
- 4.4 At the request of EY, a meeting was held with Chad Parone, Mike Willett, Peter Bristow and Michael Summers-Gervai (30 June) to brief EY (post consultancy work previously undertaken) on integration activities, long-term strategic direction, programme management approaches, and the de-risking of significant planned digital and IT investments.



- 4.5 Met with Sean Westbrook, CEO of Douglas Pharmaceuticals, (30 June) to discuss areas of mutual interest and potential opportunities for engagement.
- 4.6 Held a meeting with Committee for Auckland Representatives, Rod Marler and Rupert Hodson (3 July) to introduce MIT and Unitec's vision and strategic priorities, receive an update on the Auckland Narrative workstreams and related initiatives, discuss upcoming events over the following months, and explore how greater value could be derived from the organisation's membership with the Committee for Auckland.
- 4.7 Attended the online ITP (Institutes of Technology and Polytechnics) CE Forum (7 July) where several governance-related items were discussed and approved, including Terms of Reference and matters relating to WorldSkills New Zealand.
- 4.8 Met TEC's Acting Chief Executive, Gillian Dudgeon, and Principal Advisor - Special Projects, Simon Hall, (8 July) to discuss financial forecasts, including current performance, future funding considerations, and broader sector challenges and opportunities impacting MIT and Unitec.
- 4.9 Attended a meeting with CE Digital Manufacturing, Dr Jan Polzer, Principal Lecturer School of Professional Engineering MIT, Nick Kusari and Professor Duncan McFarlane (University of Cambridge, UK) (9 July) to explore potential collaboration opportunities through the Digital Manufacturing (DM) Light Programme and related applied research initiatives.
- 4.10 Meeting held with New Zealand First MP Andy Foster (at his request) at Mt Albert Campus alongside Martin Carroll (17 July). Mr Foster was interested to learn about the vocational training and applied education sector.
- 4.11 Met with EMA Nick Sheppard, Head of Professional Services at the Employers and Manufacturers Association (EMA), (21 July) and Pathways & External Engagement Manager MITU, Julie Prentice to discuss training and advocacy support EMA provides to businesses and to discuss opportunities for collaboration and mutual benefit
- 4.12 Waikato-Tainui Engagement. A strategic engagement meeting was held with Waikato-Tainui at their offices in Hamilton. Presentations from Waikato-Tainui and MIT and Unitec representatives (23 July) on respective organisations and vision for the future were shared. Discussions highlighted strong alignment across
 - o Education
 - o Workforce Development
 - o Research and Innovation
 - o Learner Success



The engagement established a strong foundation for future collaboration through Te Kawenata (Agreement), with both organisations agreeing to continue discussions on identified opportunities. Met with members of the Waikato-Tainui senior leadership team, including Chief Executive Donna Flavell, to better understand iwi strategic priorities and explore partnership opportunities with MIT and Unitec as a unified organisation.

- 4.13 Attended the Rotary annual fundraising event at Trusts Stadium, Henderson, on 24 July, following an invitation from Sir Bob Harvey. The event provided an opportunity to connect with Pam Ford, General Manager of Auckland Economic Development, as well as a range of community and business leaders. These engagements helped strengthen key relationships and enabled discussions on regional priorities, economic development, and opportunities for future collaboration.

5.0 PEOPLE & CULTURE

- 5.1 Matariki Celebrations were held across MIT and Unitec campuses between 3 and 17 July. Approximately 50 people attended the Matariki Dawn Breakfast at Te Noho Kotahitanga Marae, Mt Albert Campus on 8 July.
- 5.2 New Director Pacific Success, Doana Fatuleai begins on 7 September. Doana is currently working at MIT in School of Nursing and has a background in Pacific leadership in Counties Manukau Health.
- 5.3 A change proposal is underway to integrate MIT and Unitec student success teams. These teams (~120 staff total) are responsible for non-academic learner support including pastoral care, counselling, libraries, general advice, student councils, and learning support. The proposal is still under consultation and a decision likely in August 2026. The proposal is to integrate all MIT and Unitec teams into combined teams under a single manager per team (e.g. two library teams become one team under a single Library Manager). A second 'phase' of change is anticipated later in 2026 to redesign the work of the integrated teams, based on a new student success strategy.
- 5.4 Staff annual leave balances (>30-days) remain high. Reinforcement of the need for leave to ensure health and well-being of staff through leave taking and messaging from CEO and SLT has been conveyed to the Extended Leadership Team and line managers for urgent follow-up.

6.0 INFRASTRUCTURE OPERATIONS

- 6.1 Ongoing safety messaging has been provided regarding roadworks and access changes on Carrington Road, Mt Albert Campus, with staff and learners reminded to follow designated pathways, traffic management controls and safety guidance.
- 6.2 The Sanctuary Garden at Mt Albert Campus will close following a court decision. The gardens have significant historical value and have long been used as an outdoor learning space. A final staff gathering and karakia was held on 31 July at the Sanctuary Garden.



7.0 MITU HARMONISATION

- 7.1 Continuing implementation of co-branded assets and organisational alignment activities supporting the transition to operating as one integrated organisation. Updated guidelines for co-branding of communications and assets (letterhead, email signatures, etc) have been provided to MIT and Unitec. [Co-branding your communications: a user guide for kaimahi 'staff'](#)
- 7.2 Work is progressing on organisational structures, including engagement with Rob Heaney (Volte) regarding Tier 2 structure development and alignment.
- 7.3 Digital: Identity, email and collaboration: Tenancy and domain decisions remain pending.
- HRIS & FMIS: Preferred vendors identified. Original timelines are high risk due to procurement requirements and key dependencies; revised timeframes are being recommended.
 - Infrastructure: Service migration completed. Assessment of Maritime application is underway to support future CBD planning.
- 7.4 Property:
- Firebox: Approved upgrades are progressing, with burner and gas safety improvements due by this Council meeting (August) and ventilation installation for August.
- 7.5 Mt Albert: Discussions with Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei have secured a six-month extension for the Environmental Animal Sciences School use of three specialist animal unit portacoms on the sold site.
- 7.6 Projects: Dan Brady (GM Operations MITU) has engaged with Head of Apartments, Megan Lockwood and also Development Manager, Harry Halpin from Avant Group on shared car parking needs for development on former Unitec land at Mt Albert and facilitated discussions on risk, cost and timeframe-assured construction opportunities.

8 Upcoming

- 8.1 India and Sri Lanka Engagement (19-25 August). Participation in Education New Zealand-led initiatives in Delhi and Colombo, including:
- Applied Learning and Industry Connect – Delhi
 - Employability and Industry Connect – Colombo
- The objective of the trip is to strengthen awareness of New Zealand's applied learning sector, build partnerships, and identify future collaboration opportunities for the ITP and PTE sector. India's growing focus on employability and workforce readiness aligns strongly with New Zealand's vocational and applied learning strengths. Ongoing engagement with industry, government, iwi and international partners to support organisational growth, learner success and strategic development priorities.



8.2 The next SLT Strategic Planning Workshop is scheduled for Tuesday 18 August, with a focus to review the current Strategic Directions and test whether they remain fit for purpose as MIT and Unitec progress their integration and future planning. The session will focus on identifying key strategic drivers, refining the strategic pillars and priorities, and strengthening alignment between organisational direction and portfolio delivery.

End of Report.

Manukau Institute of Technology and Unitec Council meeting

Resolution to exclude the public

It will be moved by the Chair that the public be excluded from the remainder of the meeting. This resolution will be made in reliance on section 48(1) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 (LGOIMA) (noting that Manukau Institute of Technology and Unitec is subject to Part 7 of the LGOIMA) and the particular interests protected by section 9 of the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA) which would be prejudiced by the holding of the relevant parts of the proceedings of the meeting in public.

The general subject of each matter to be considered while the public is excluded and the reason for passing the resolution in relation to each matter are as follows:

Item	General subject of each matter to be considered	Section(s)
9	Administration	Section 9(2)(a) OIA Section 9(2)(b)(ii) OIA Section 9(2)(g)(ii) OIA Section 9(2)(h) OIA Section 9(2)(i) OIA Section 9(2)(j) OIA
10	Correspondence	Section 9(2)(i) OIA
11.1	Safety report	Section 9(2)(b)(ii) OIA Section 9(2)(i) OIA Section 9(2)(j) OIA
11.2	Risk report	
11.3	NZQA Update	
13	Recommendations from Council Committees	Section 9(2)(a) OIA Section 9(2)(b)(ii) OIA Section 9(2)(g)(ii) OIA Section 9(2)(h) OIA Section 9(2)(i) OIA Section 9(2)(j) OIA
14.1	Budget assumptions review	Section 9(2)(i) OIA Section 9(2)(j) OIA
14.2	Academic committee minutes	Section 9(2)(a) OIA Section 9(2)(b)(ii) OIA
14.3	Approval of policies	Section 9(2)(a) OIA Section 9(2)(b)(ii) OIA

Item	General subject of each matter to be considered	Section(s)
14.4	China TNE	Section 9(2)(b)(ii) OIA Section 9(2)(ba)(i) OIA
14.5	Office 365 implementation	Section 9(2)(b)(ii) OIA Section 9(2)(i) OIA
14.6	EAS relocation	Section 9(2)(b)(ii) OIA Section 9(2)(i) OIA
14.7	CBD presence	Section 9(2)(b)(ii) OIA Section 9(2)(i) OIA
15.1	Building an external engagement strategy	Section 9(2)(g)(ii) OIA
15.2	Draft programmes suite for 2027	Section 9(2)(a) OIA Section 9(2)(b)(ii) OIA Section 9(2)(g)(ii) OIA
15.3	Accessing NEET funding	Section 9(2)(b)(ii) OIA Section 9(2)(i) OIA
16.1	People and Culture	Section 9(2)(a) OIA Section 9(2)(g)(ii) OIA
16.2	Finance	Section 9(2)(b)(ii) OIA Section 9(2)(i) OIA
16.3	Tribal report	Section 9(2)(b)(ii) OIA Section 9(2)(i) OIA
16.4	Enrolments	Section 9(2)(b)(ii) OIA Section 9(2)(i) OIA
16.5	Stakeholder engagement	Section 9(2)(b)(ii) OIA Section 9(2)(i) OIA
16.6	Academic	Section 9(2)(a) OIA Section 9(2)(b)(ii) OIA Section 9(2)(g)(ii) OI
16.7	Property	Section 9(2)(b)(ii) OIA Section 9(2)(i) OIA
16.8	Digital	Section 9(2)(b)(ii) OIA Section 9(2)(i) OIA

Item	General subject of each matter to be considered	Section(s)
17	Other business	Section 9(2)(a) OIA Section 9(2)(b)(ii) OIA Section 9(2)(g)(ii) OIA Section 9(2)(h) OIA Section 9(2)(i) OIA Section 9(2)(j) OIA

And that certain employees of MIT and Unitec, namely

- Christina Hong
- Simon Bilton
- Gerard Smith
- Manasi Khatkul
- Martin Carroll
- Simon Nash
- Natasha Whiting
- Mike Foley
- David Curry (contractor)
- Ernest Bernard
- Kara Hiron

be permitted to remain at the meeting, after the public has been excluded, because of their specific knowledge in relation to the above items. This knowledge, which will be of assistance in relation to the matters above to be discussed, is relevant to those matters because they may have assisted or will assist in the progression of such matters.

Interests

Section(s)	Interest(s)
Section 9(2)(a)	protect the privacy of natural persons, including that of deceased natural persons.
Section 9(2)(b)(i)	protect information where the making available of the information would disclose a trade secret.
Section 9(2)(b)(ii)	protect information where the making available of the information would be likely unreasonably to prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied or who is the subject of the information.
Section 9(2)(ba)(i)	protect information which is subject to an obligation of confidence or which any person has been or could be compelled to provide under the authority of any enactment, where the making available of the information would be likely to prejudice the supply of similar information, or information from the same source, and it is in the public interest that such information should continue to be supplied.
Section 9(2)(ba)(ii)	protect information which is subject to an obligation of confidence or which any person has been or could be compelled to provide under the authority of any enactment, where the making available of the information would be likely otherwise to damage the public interest.
Section 9(2)(c)	avoid prejudice to measures protecting the health or safety of members of the public.
Section 9(2)(d)	avoid prejudice to the substantial economic interests of New Zealand.
Section 9(2)(e)	avoid prejudice to measures that prevent or mitigate material loss to members of the public.

Section(s)	Interest(s)
Section 9(2)(f)(i)	maintain the constitutional conventions for the time being which protect the confidentiality of communications by or with the Sovereign or [his] representative.
Section 9(2)(f)(ii)	maintain the constitutional conventions for the time being which protect the collective and individual ministerial responsibility.
Section 9(2)(f)(iii)	maintain the constitutional conventions for the time being which protect the political neutrality of officials.
Section 9(2)(f)(iv)	maintain the constitutional conventions for the time being which protect the confidentiality of advice tendered by Ministers of the Crown and officials.
Section 9(2)(g)(ii)	maintain the effective conduct of public affairs through the protection of such Ministers, members of organisations, officers, and employees from improper pressure or harassment.
Section 9(2)(h)	maintain legal professional privilege.
Section 9(2)(i)	enable a Minister of the Crown or any public service agency or organisation holding the information to carry out, without prejudice or disadvantage, commercial activities.
Section 9(2)(j)	enable a Minister of the Crown or any public service agency or organisation holding the information to carry on, without prejudice or disadvantage, negotiations (including commercial and industrial negotiations).
Section 9(2)(k)	prevent the disclosure or use of official information for improper gain or improper advantage.