

Record of Meeting

Meeting	Edu.au Advisory Committee Meeting	
Date / Time	Monday 12 May 2025 / 11.00am – 12.00pm AEST	
Location	via Microsoft Teams Meeting	
Present	Andrew J. Smith, Chair Haydn Cockayne, Catholic Ed, WA Michael O’Leary, Qld DoE <i>(joined at 11.04pm)</i> Felix Pirie, ITECA <i>(joined at 11.10am)</i>	Amanda Shay, ESA Kris Cutmore, ESA Sam Wijesinha, ESA <i>(joined at 11.11am)</i> Sandra Hook, auDA Director <i>(joined at 11.11am)</i> Jane Smith, auDA CPCO Sonia Joksimovic, auDA Co Sec Bruce Tonkin, auDA CEO Steph Viljoen, auDA GMCO Barba Schade, auDA Senior Compliance Policy Officer
Apologies	Andrew Donaldson, ISA Craig Bennett, ACECQA Margot McNeill, TAFE, NSW Peter Elford, auDA Director	

1. Welcome, attendance, apologies

The Chair opened the meeting at 11.03am.

The Chair foreshadowed that a quorum was yet to be confirmed and until such time, the agenda would be reprioritised for auDA to present on its draft 2026–2030 Strategy for consultation, seeking feedback from members present, in a workshop forum.

2. Acknowledgement of Country

The Chair provided an Acknowledgement of Country paying respect to the traditional owners of the lands upon which the Committee was meeting, including elders past and present.

3. Declarations of Interest

The Committee noted the standing Declarations of Interests Register and confirmed there were no updated interests to declare and no conflicts of interest.

The Chair moved to agenda 6.

6. Consultation Workshop: auDA's [DRAFT] 2026–2030 Strategy

The Chair invited auDA's CEO, Dr Bruce Tonkin to present auDA's [draft] 2026–2030 Strategy.

The Committee noted [auDA's 2026–30 Draft Strategy Consultation Paper](#) was released on 16 April 2025 for public consultation and emailed to the Committee, with members invited to provide feedback.

Participants **supported** the discussion being recorded, to capture feedback.

The Committee noted an overview on:

- auDA's history from [its incorporation] 1997 to date.
- Evolution to sustainably support Australia's online presence into the future (i.e. 2025–2030)
- Future Scenario Projects (i.e. State of Alert, Ecological Civilization)
- Proposed Strategic Pillars of Trust, Innovation, Impact and Capability
- Potential Strategic Projects for consideration (i.e. Private Registration Services, Online Identity, Anti-Scam Program, etc)

Felix Pirie joined the meeting.

The Chair invited feedback from members, with the Committee commending auDA's CEO on the evolution of the Company's Strategy and information presented, noting it was both comprehensive and future focused.

Michael O'Leary joined the meeting.

The Chair suggested there had previously been challenges regarding the allocation of university email addresses, which was discussed, including the future of ISP hosted email addresses.

Sandra Hook and Sam Wijesinha joined the meeting.

The CEO noted the criticality for stakeholders to help shape .au and enhance auDA's understanding of the changing needs of Australians online, with the Chair noting CAUDIT has also been invited to provide feedback and will share auDA's draft strategy with its members.

Action: The Chair encouraged members to provide any additional feedback prior to the closing date, Friday 16 May 2025 [Committee, May 2025]

The Committee noted that following feedback, a final iteration of auDA's draft 2026–2030 Strategy is proposed to be approved by the Board in June 2025.

The Chair reverted to agenda 4 and confirmed a quorum present.

4. Record of Meeting from the Previous Meeting

The Committee noted the Record of Meeting held 3 March 2025.

The Committee **confirmed** the 3 March 2025 Record of Meeting as a true and correct record of the meeting.

5. Actions Arising

The Committee noted the actions arising from the previous meeting were completed.

The Chair moved to agenda 7.

7. ESA Quarterly Report Update for FY25 Quarter 2

The edu.au Domain Registrar Progress Report was tabled as read.

The Chair invited Amanda Shay from ESA to provide the Committee a summary on the edu.au Domain Registrar Service, including current statistics and any changes or concerns that may impact namespace and/or its customers, for the reported period.

The Committee noted as of 30 April 2025, edu.au Domain Registrar has 17,417 registered edu.au domain names and 1,018 .au direct domain names, with eligibility criteria and top rejection reasons outlined and discussed.

The Committee further noted:

- the edu.au domain space has an annual retention rate of 95.11%
- ESA has successfully migrated to the new Domain Management Platform, with positive customer feedback and confirmed enhanced user experience reported.
- After eight years, Andrew Smith will be stepping down from his position as CEO at ESA on 30 May 2025 to take up a new role as CEO of Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority (VCAA), with ESA's CTO, Stuart Mitchell, to serve as Acting CEO while the Board commences a recruitment process.

The Chair provided an acknowledgement to Andrew Smith for his support and leadership with the edu.au Committee.

No comments or further questions were noted.

8. .au Licencing Rules Review

The Chair invited ESA Representative, Amanda Shay to update the Committee on the recommendations for consideration tabled, for the .au Licencing Rules, which are no longer fit for purpose with proposed amendments tabled.

auDA's Senior Compliance Policy Officer, Barbara Schade, provided an update on the EOI process and pending advertisement for a Chair and Panel Members to be appointed as an independent multi-stakeholder Policy Advisory Panel, who will lead the review of the [.au Domain Administration Rules: Licensing \(.au Licensing Rules\)](#).

auDA confirmed the timeline for the .au Licensing Review, as tabled, with the Committee noting feedback from members of the public on issues that they believe should be included in a review of the .au Licensing Rules, will also help inform the Terms of Reference for the Policy Advisory Panel and reflect key areas for potential improvement identified by the community.

Action: The Chair encouraged members to email feedback to the Company Secretary on the tabled paper, prepared by ESA, in advance of the next scheduled meeting [Committee, May 2025]

No further comments or questions were noted.

9. Any Other Business

No other business was noted.

10. Meeting Close

The Meeting closed at 11.59pm

It was noted the next meeting is scheduled **Monday 4 August 2025 at 11.00am – 12.00pm.**

Signed as a true and correct record.

Andrew J. Smith
Committee Chair

Date: