

# Record of Meeting

Meeting	Edu.au Advisory Committee Meeting	
Date / Time	Monday 2 March 2026 / 11.00am – 12.00pm AEDT	
Location	via Microsoft Teams Meeting	
Present	Andrew J. Smith, Chair Haydn Cockayne, Catholic Ed, WA Michael O'Leary, Qld DoE	Amanda Shay, ESA Corrina Maloney, ESA Sandra Hook, auDA Director ( <i>joined at 11.05am</i> ) Peter Elford, auDA Director Bruce Tonkin, auDA CEO ( <i>joined at 11.07am</i> ) Sonia Joksimovic, auDA Co Sec
Invitees	Sharon Copeland-Smith, auDA COO Duncan Cambray, auDA Director .au Licensing Framework	Tim Carruthers, ESA
Apologies	Felix Pirie, ITECA Andrew Donaldson, ISA	Craig Bennett, ACECQA Margot McNeill, TAFE, NSW

## 1. Welcome, attendance, apologies

The Chair opened the meeting at 11.03am, introducing ESA representatives, with Corrina Maloney welcomed back from maternity leave.

The Chair further welcomed auDA Director .au Licensing Framework, Duncan Cambray, to his first meeting.

The Chair noted that a quorum was yet to be confirmed, with participants supporting the meeting to progress as scheduled.

## 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.

*Sandy Hook joined the meeting.*

### **3. Declarations of Interest**

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

### **4. Record of Meeting from the Previous Meeting**

The Committee noted the Record of Meeting held 20 October 2025.

The Committee **confirmed** the accuracy of the 20 October 2025 minutes, with the Record of Meeting to be formally approved as a true and correct record of the meeting when a quorum is confirmed.

*[Due to an inquorate, the Record Meeting will be carried over for formal adoption at the next scheduled meeting]*

### **5. Actions Arising**

The Chair provide an update on the actions arising from the previous meeting, noting that following discussion at today's meeting, all actions will have been completed, with the .au Licensing Rules Review being re-tabled in the meeting papers, for Committee consideration and endorsement.

### **6. ESA Quarterly Report Update**

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

The Chair invited Amanda Shay from ESA to provide the Committee an update on the edu.au Domain Registrar service for the December 2025 quarter, including current statistics and any changes or concerns that may impact on the namespace and/or its customers.

*Bruce Tonkin joined the meeting.*

The Committee noted that:

- as of 31 December 2025, edu.au Domain Registrar has 17,448 registered edu.au domain names and 840 .au direct domain names with decline on .au direct namespace noted and discussed.
- the sharp fall in September 2025 is due to the annual lapse of registrations from the original cohort, noting the .au direct domains commenced in September 2022, which is why September expirations are always higher.
- a drop-off for all domains was due to ESA's recent platform migration, with communication prompting some customers to cancel, in addition to there being some delays in processing new applications.

ESA confirmed new registrations have remained steady in 2025 with an average 5.3 new edu.au registrations per month and new registrations for .au direct remaining low, with

an average of 1.8 registrations per month reported in 2025. It was noted ESA continue to roll out promotions to support .au brand awareness.

The Committee further noted:

- Eligibility categories of 'schools' (both Government and non-Government)
- Other eligibility types
- The edu.au namespace holds 24.2% of domain names, with an annual retention rate of 96.5%
- A verbal update on January 2026 performance

No comments or further questions were noted.

## 7. .au Licencing Rules Review

The Committee noted the following previous discussion, the recommendations tabled for .au Licencing Rules have been updated.

The Chair invited Amanda Shay from ESA to speak to the proposed amendment to the – *Generic Education and Training Terms*.

The Company Secretary suggested the additional proposed recommendation be circulated to all members for Committee endorsement, noting previously the Committee have supported the proposed recommendations tabled by ESA.

auDA confirmed the proposed recommendations from ESA are operational and do not require consultation with the independent Panel (LRRP) appointed to assist with the Licensing Rules Review.

**Action:** Seek offline Committee endorsement for the *Schedule A- edu of the .au Domain Administration Rules: Licensing* recommendations tabled from ESA for the auDA Board to approve [CoSec, March 2026]

No further comments or questions were noted.

## 8. What's happening across Education Sector?

The Chair invited the Committee to provide an update on what is happening across the Education Sector, confirming no update from CAUDIT to be shared.

Michael O'Leary informed the Committee that quarterly advisory group meetings are held with EDAG each year, further noting the impact Artificial Intelligence (AI) is having on the edu.au with naming conventions (e.g. edu.au/ai) suggested for consideration.

The Committee also discussed how the edu.au framework can support quality assurance, noting *quantum computing* is also expected to impact.

auDA's CEO suggested a return to historical edu.au domain name registrations, which was discussed.

Sandra Hook shared her industry observations regarding trust and credibility challenges, noting the threat to the edu.au brand.

The Committee noted a *watching brief* at future Committee meetings on AI with Edu.au domain names, with legitimacy and future proof considerations on ed.au domain names to be further explored.

## 9. Committee Review

The Chair spoke to the effectiveness of the Committee, following recent internal discussions held with auDA and ESA.

The Chair acknowledged the history and governance arrangement of the Committee, noting a review of its composition is key, as a quorum is imperative for meetings to be duly convened and constituted.

The Chair noted a review of the Committee Terms of Reference would be progressed, coupled with a proposed Workplan to assist the Committee explore key areas such as AI and Cyber Security, with subject matter guest speakers.

The Chair further noted a discussion with ESA on the Committee composition to assist its effectiveness will also be undertaken.

Michael O'Leary suggested elements from the National Workplan may be of value to assist the Committee workplan.

**Action:** Discuss Committee Effectiveness with ESA [Chair & CoSec, March 2026]

**Action:** Review the Committee ToR and develop a Workplan [CoSec & ESA, April 2026]

## 10. Any Other Business

Peter Elford suggested the Committee explore broader stakeholder considerations e.g. end-user for Digital Services to better understand their needs, with Michael O'Leary suggesting URL portability for student records would be an interesting future topic for the Committee.

No other business was noted.

## 11. Meeting Close

The Meeting closed at 11.46am

It was noted the next meeting is scheduled **Monday 11 May 2026 @ 11:00am – 12:00pm.**

Signed as a true and correct record.

**Andrew J. Smith**  
Committee Chair

Date: