

THE UNIVERSITY OF NEW ENGLAND
POLICY ON RISK ASSESSMENT AND AUDIT OF RELATED ENTITIES

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Scope and Rationale:

Under National Governance Protocol 11, Universities must assess the risk arising from its part ownership of any entity (including an associated company as defined in the Accounting Standards issued by the Australian Standards Board), partnership and joint venture. The governing body of the provider must, where appropriate in the light of the risk assessment, use its best endeavors to obtain an auditor's report (including audit certification and management letter) of the entity by a State, Territory or Commonwealth Auditor-General or by an external auditor.

This policy has been developed in response to this requirement.

Policy

1. The University of New England will assess the risks arising:
 - a from its part ownership of any entity (including an associated company as defined in the Accounting Standards issued by the Australian Accounting Board)
 - b from a partnership with any entity
 - c from a joint venture with any entity
 - d from the authorisation of the use of its names by any organisation for any reason
 - e from a potential perceived responsibility due to promotional and/or financial support provided by the university to any organization

2. Consistent with the University's Guidelines for Commercial Activities and Entrepreneurial Policy, all partnerships and joint ventures are risk assessed prior to involvement by the University in that partnership/joint venture. These relationships are subjected to reviews and reassessment of risks on an annual basis, with yearly reports being provided to the Audit and Compliance Committee of Council by the relevant Senior Executive). The reports and comments arising from them are provided to the University Council for information.
3. *The University will, where appropriate in light of the risk assessment, use its best endeavours to obtain auditor's reports (including audit certification and management letter) of each entity with which it has such a relationship by a State, Territory or Commonwealth Auditor-General or by an external auditor. These will be provided to the Audit and Compliance Committee and the University Council with advice from the University senior management on matters that require significant action on the University's part.*