



## Update on meeting with encampment representatives

5 June 2024

Dear students,

Late yesterday afternoon the Provost and Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Professor Annamarie Jagose, and I again met with representatives from the protest encampment to further discuss the offer we made last week.

We have clarified [details of our offer \(PDF, 119 KB\)](#) and a copy is available online.

Our top priority is the safety of our students, staff and visitors. We support the right to protest, but all our shared spaces should be welcoming and inclusive for all members of our community.

We have been steadfast in our commitment to the principles of academic freedom and free speech. The University will therefore continue to support the right of our academics and students to do research, partner with industry and collaborate with people from around the world. Like other Group of Eight universities, we have been clear that we will not meet demands to restrict student exchanges, academic partnerships or institutional relationships.

Recognising that many in our community would welcome greater transparency, however, we have agreed to disclose our defence and security related research activities and our investment in these industries. In doing so, we take seriously the privacy and safety of our researchers, and we will comply with our legal and regulatory obligations including national security requirements.

We have also committed to establish a working group to review the position of defence and security industries in our Investment Policy and our Integrated Ethical and Social Governance Framework.

In recent weeks, I've met with many groups who have strong and strongly contrasting views on the tragic conflict in the Middle East. Now more than ever, it is vital that we strive to listen to each other as we work through our differences together.

Kind regards,  
Mark

**Professor Mark Scott**  
**Vice-Chancellor and President**

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