

Terms of Reference for accountable authorities

An accountable authority is a senior executive or executive body, responsible and accountable for the security of people, information and assets to counter foreign interference. An accountable authority could be a:

- Deputy Vice-Chancellor
- Chief Information Security Officer
- Suitably senior university staff member
- Suitable senior university-level committee.

Note this description is provided as a sample only.

Outline of description	Example only [not an exhaustive list]
Purpose of the role	Provides advice to Deputy Vice Chancellor – Research or International or [others] and the Vice Chancellor on matters relating to foreign interference at the university. Provides oversight, advice and assurance to the university community on the management of foreign interference. Makes determinations on foreign collaborations or make recommendations to the Vice Chancellor. Assesses and endorses mitigation strategies.
Position that holds this role / Membership	Subject to each university's structure.
Responsibilities	Oversees or coordinates activities related to foreign interference. Provides advice on university activities to be prioritised for assessment for foreign interference risk. Provides advice on possible risks and recommended mitigations for projects at risk of foreign interference. Oversees for policies for risk, reporting and evaluation approach for university for foreign interference. Oversees for processes to review and endorse foreign collaborations. Oversees managing reports on foreign interference issues, resolutions and emerging risks. Oversees the sharing of information across the university. Engages with Australian and international universities on foreign interference risks, approaches, and incidents. Provides the point of contact for Government on foreign interference matters for the university.
Reporting	Oversees preparation of reports to university governing bodies as appropriate.