



## **Freedom of Speech and Academic Freedom**

### **Attestation Statement template approved at the UCC meeting on 4 August 2021**

The annual statement is intended to attest that the University Council is satisfied that the University:

1. has a policy that upholds freedom of speech and academic freedom as paramount values, as required under the Model Code
2. maintains an institutional environment in which freedom of speech and academic freedom are upheld and protected
3. addresses questions in relation to the management of freedom of speech and academic freedom issues promptly, actively and in good faith.

#### **The Statement will address the following matters:**

##### *Annually:*

- Identify the university's main policy or policies regarding freedom of speech and academic freedom
- Describe how, in the relevant year, the university has supported a culture committed to freedom of speech and academic freedom (i.e. what has been done to ensure questions of academic freedom and freedom of speech are actively addressed using the relevant policy or policies), including engagement with student representative bodies to promote their adoption of similar policies.
- Describe any issues of concern that have come to the attention of the governing body regarding freedom of speech and academic freedom in the relevant year, how the university addressed them using the relevant policy or policies and the outcomes.
- In association with other surveys conducted by the University on a regular basis, report student, staff and stakeholder responses to questions about management of freedom of speech and academic freedom on campus

##### *Year 1 Annual Statement (potentially one-off):*

- Explain what has been done to respond to Professor Walker's evaluation of the alignment of the university's policy or policies with the Model Code, which the department sent to Chancellors and Vice-Chancellors on 8 December 2020
- Outline what action has been taken to ensure that other institutional policies have been brought into alignment with the university's policy or policies on freedom of speech and academic freedom, any potential inconsistencies with the Model Code and why.