



Principles for Independent Research Policy

This policy aims to ensure the continuing independence and objectivity of the Queensland Futures Institute's research, events, publications and other outputs. The policy has been developed as far as possible to mirror that of the very highly respected Royal Institute of International Affairs ([Chatham House](#)).

The Queensland Futures Institute is independently funded. It receives discretionary support from its membership and other individuals and receives funding for its research and other activities from governments, the private sector, and charitable foundations.

Principles

1. Mission and public benefit

The Queensland Futures Institute raises funds for the fulfilment of its mission to be a source of independent analysis, informed debate and influential ideas on how to build a sustainably secure, prosperous and just State. The institute undertakes work for the public benefit.

2. Integrity

The Queensland Futures Institute works to avoid any financial obligation which would undermine or contravene the pursuit of its mission and the principles laid out in this document. Sponsorship or financial support of research or events is not an indication of an endorsement of the past or present activities of the source of funding.

3. Independence and objectivity

The Queensland Futures Institute always retains independent control over its substantive outputs and public and private events, irrespective of the source of funding. The Queensland Futures Institute fosters objectivity in the research and events conducted under its name, including by pursuing an evidence-based approach to research and engaging a balance of diverse stakeholders in its meetings.

4. Openness and accountability

The Queensland Futures Institute applies a culture of openness regarding sources of funding. Anonymity may be granted to donors only in exceptional circumstances and according to specific guidelines. Confidential research and publications can be

commissioned from the institute only if this supports its mission and does not constitute more than a small part of its overall annual income.

5. Awareness and responsibility

The Queensland Futures Institute believes that there is no substitute for a culture of awareness among all staff and associates of the importance of these principles. This culture is based on personal responsibility and extends to detailed knowledge of sources of funding and close attention to ethical considerations and potential conflicts of interest.

The QFI's Management promote and support these overarching principles through leadership and by example. Formal processes are in place to ensure that these principles are upheld in all the QFI's activities.