

## Solent University

### BOARD OF GOVERNORS

Minutes of the meeting of the Board of Governors held on  
Wednesday 26 July 2023 at 17:00hrs in Silver Birch Suite, Spark Building

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- Present
- Winston Alla, Student Governor
  - Louise Bennett, Staff Governor
  - Noreen Biddle Shah, Independent Governor (via Teams up to 23/66)
  - Stephen Bolton, Independent Governor and Deputy Chair (via Teams)
  - Dr Janet Bonar, Staff Governor
  - Phil Cotton, Independent Governor and Chair of the Board
  - Paul Cox, Co-opted Governor
  - Philip de Klerk, Independent Governor (via Teams)
  - Nigel Duncan OBE, External Co-opted Governor
  - Jennifer Glastonbury, Independent Governor
  - Neil Hayward, Independent Governor (via Teams up to 23/61)
  - Councillor Alex Houghton, Co-opted Governor
  - Don Iro, Independent Governor
  - Professor James Knowles, Vice Chancellor
  - Sharath Ranjan, Independent Governor (via Teams)
  - Philip Wake OBE, Independent Governor
- In attendance
- Professor Syamantak Bhattacharya, Provost
  - Jim Irving, Chief Student Officer & University Secretary
  - Eran Kochlany, Chief Financial Officer
  - Leigh Rengger, Chief Commercial & Marketing Officer
  - Andrea Thompson, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Resources)
  - Bridget Woolven, Clerk to the Governors

#### **23/54 Apologies & Welcome**

- i. Apologies had been received from Lisa-Jane Risk and Professor Dame Julie Lydon DBE.
- ii. The meeting was quorate throughout.

#### **23/55 Conflict of Interests**

- i. There were no conflicts of interest.

**23/56 Minutes of the meeting held on 3 May 2023 – Approved.** **Confidential**

**23/57 Matters Arising** **Confidential**

**PART 1:**

**23/58 Chair's Report** **Oral Report**  
**Presented by Phil Cotton, Chair of the Board** **Confidential**

The Board noted the report.

**23/59 Vice-Chancellor's Report** **Paper 23/BG/25**  
**Presented by Professor James Knowles** **Confidential**

The Board noted the report.

**23/60 Solent Future Ready (SFR)** **Paper 23/BG/26**  
**Andrea Thompson, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Resources)** **Confidential**

The Board noted the report.

**23/61 Student Recruitment** **Paper 23/BG/27**  
**Presented by: Leigh Rengger,** **Confidential**  
**Chief Marketing and Commercial Officer**

The Board noted the report.

*(Neil Hayward left the meeting.)*

**23/62 Budget 2023/24 & Financial KPIs** **Paper 23/BG/28**  
**Presented by Eran Kochlany,** **Confidential**  
**Chief Financial Officer**

**23/63 June Management Accounts** **Paper 23/BG/29**  
**Presented by Eran Kochlany** **Confidential**

Noted.

**23/64 Resources Committee Chair's Report** **Oral Report**  
**Presented by: Stephen Bolton** **Confidential**

Noted.

**23/65 Student Governor Report** **Paper 23/BG/30**  
**Presented by Winston Alla**

Noted.

**23/66 Staff Governors' Report** **Paper 23/BG/31**  
**Presented by Louise Bennett**

Noted.

*(Noreen Biddle Shah left the meeting.)*

**23/67 Election of Vice Chair of the Board** **Paper 23/BG/32**  
**Presented by Jim Irving,** **Confidential**  
**Chief Student Officer and University Secretary**

Approved.

**23/68 Appointment and Election of Chair of Board** **Paper 23/BG/33**  
**Presented by Jim Irving** **Confidential**

Approved.

**23/69 Remuneration of Chairs** **Paper 23/BG/34**  
**Presented by Jim Irving** **Confidential**

Noted.

**23/70 Committee Terms of Reference 2023/24** **Paper 23/BG/35**  
**Presented by Jim Irving** **Confidential**

Approved.

**23/71 Membership of the Board 2023/24** **Paper 23/BG/36**  
**Presented by Jim Irving** **Confidential**

**PART 2: (The following were taken as noted or approved as indicated.)**

**23/72 Position Statement on Generative Artificial Intelligence** **Paper 23/BG/37**  
**Presented by Professor Syamantak Bhattacharya,** **Confidential**  
**Provost**

Noted.

**23/73 Governance Effectiveness Review Progress Report** **Paper 23/BG/38**  
**Confidential**

Noted.

**23/74 Revision of Articles of Government and** **Paper 23/BG/39**  
**Standing Orders of the Board and its Committees**

Approved.

**23/75 Academic Board Report**

**Paper 23/BG/40**

Noted.

**23/76 Minutes of Governance Committee meeting  
held on 1 June 2023**

**Minutes  
Confidential**

Noted.

**23/77 Minutes of Audit Committee meeting & Risk Register  
held on 26 June 2023**

**Minutes  
Confidential**

Noted.

**23/78 Minutes of Resources Committee meeting  
held on 20 July 2023**

**Minutes to follow  
Confidential**

**23/79 Annual CMA Compliance Report**

**Paper 23/BG/41  
Confidential**

Noted.

**23/80 Scheme of Delegation**

**Paper 23/BG/42  
Confidential**

Approved.

**23/81 Students' Union – Changes to Articles of Association**

**Paper 23/BG/43  
Confidential**

Approved.

**23/82 Annual Report of University Companies**

**Paper 23/BG/44  
Confidential**

Noted.

**23/83 Order of Business 2023/24**

**Paper 23/BG/45  
Confidential**

Noted

**23/84 Appeal Panels convened in 2022/23: None**

**Confidential**

**23/85 Affixing of the seal**

**Confidential**

**23/86 Reportable Events**

**Confidential**

**23/87 Meeting dates 2023/24**

- i. The calendar of meetings had been published.
- ii. The next meetings in 2023 will be:
  - Joint Meeting with Academic Board: Tuesday 19 September 2023 16:30-18:30hrs – Silver Birch, followed by dinner at 19:00hrs on the Bridge;
  - Board Awayday: Wednesday 20 September 2023 09:00hrs, Silver Birch Suite;
  - Board Meeting: Wednesday 6 December 2023, Silver Birch Suite.

The meeting closed at 19.25hrs.