

Southampton Solent University

Audit Committee

Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 23 March 2026 at 17:20hrs on Teams

Present

Philip de Klerk, Independent Governor & Committee Chair

Philip Ouma, External Committee Member

Fay Quayle, Independent Governor

In attendance

Professor Cathy Barnes, Pro Vice-Chancellor Research, Academic Strategy & Planning

Kerrie Clark, Director of Finance

Jim Irving, Pro Vice-Chancellor Students and Governance

Eran Kochlany, Chief Financial & Operating Officer

Bridget Woolven, Clerk to the Governors

Kushal Chowan, PwC, internal audit (Up to 26/17)

Ben Connor, PwC, internal audit (Up to 26/17)

David I'Anson, BDO, external audit (Up to 26/17)

26/01 Welcome and Apologies

1. The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.
2. There were apologies from Mike Gaston and Don Iro.
3. The meeting was quorate.

26/02 Conflicts of Interest

1. There were no conflicts of interest.

26/03 Minutes

Decision

1. The minutes of the meeting held on 1 December 2025 were approved as an accurate record.

26/04 Matters Arising

**Paper 26/AC/01
Confidential Unreserved**

26/05 Report of pre-meeting Presented by Audit Chair

**Oral report
Confidential Unreserved**

26/06 Annual financial statements (AFS) 2024/25

**Paper 26/AC/02
Confidential Unreserved**

26/07 Audit Committee's annual report to the Board

**Paper 26/AC/03
Confidential Unreserved**

26/08 Internal Audit

**Paper 26/AC/04
Confidential Unreserved**

1. **Progress Report**

2. **Student Number Planning**

3. **UK Visas and Immigration (UKVI)**

26/09 Risk Management Group report & risk register

Paper 26/AC/05
Confidential Unreserved

26/10 Financial Sustainability

Presentation
Confidential Unreserved

26/11 International Student Recruitment

Presentation
Confidential Unreserved

26/12 Nursing and Midwifery Council (NMC) Accreditation

Presentation
Confidential Unreserved

End of Part 1

Part 2: for noting or taken as approved

26/13 Statutory data returns annual report

Paper 26/AC/06
Confidential Unreserved

26/14 Public Information Disclosure Act and the University's Fraud policy

Confidential Unreserved

26/15 Reports from the National Audit Office (NAO) or Office for Students (OfS)

Open

Links to these had been provided to members.

26/16 Serious and reportable incidents

Confidential Unreserved

26/17 Whistleblowing report

Confidential Unreserved

End of Part 2

(Internal and External Auditors left the meeting at this point.)

Part 3:

26/18 Internal auditor evaluations

Paper 26/AC/07
Confidential Unreserved

26/19 Next meeting in 2025/26

Monday 15 June 2025 17:00hrs – On campus: Silver Birch Suite, Spark Building

The meeting closed at 19:15 hrs.