

Southampton Solent University

Board of Governors

Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 19 August 2025 at 17:00hrs
In Silver Birch Suite, Spark Building, East Park Terrace, Southampton

Present

Philip de Klerk, Independent Governor (via Teams)
Mike Gaston, Co-opted Governor (FE)
Adam Golton, Independent Governor
Dr Francesca Gwynne, Staff Governor (Academic)
Neil Hayward, Independent Governor
Don Iro, Independent Governor and Vice Chair (via Teams)
Professor James Knowles, Vice-Chancellor and Governor ex officio
Fay Quayle, Independent Governor
Sharath Ranjan, Independent Governor
Lisa-Jane Risk, Independent Governor
Richard Smith, Independent Governor & Chair of Board
Beth Topazio, Staff Governor (Professional Services)
Dr Alan Whitehead CBE, Independent Governor
Professor Allan Youp OBE, Independent Governor

In attendance

Andrew Bird, Chief Marketing Officer
Professor Cathy Barnes, Pro Vice-Chancellor Research, Academic Strategy and Planning
Jim Irving, Pro Vice-Chancellor Students and Governance
Eran Kochlany, Chief Financial and Operating Officer (via Teams)
Helen Jones, Chief People and Culture Officer
Professor Sarah Jones, Pro Vice-Chancellor, Education
Bridget Woolven, Clerk to the Governors

Agenda Part 1

25/55 Welcome and Apologies

1. The Chair welcomed everyone to the board meeting.
2. There were apologies from Professor Dame Julie Lydon, Mohammad Galib and Sanidhya Shetty.
3. The meeting was quorate throughout.

25/55 Conflicts of Interest

1. No new declarations of interest were declared.

25/56 Minutes of 6 May 2025 and 25 July 2025

Decision

1. The minutes of the meeting held on 6 May 2025 were approved as an accurate record.
2. The minutes of 25 July were approved subject to the inclusion of revisions to Minutes 25/59 and 25/60 which were read out at the meeting.

25/57 Matters Arising & Chair's Actions	Paper 25/BG/31 Confidential Unreserved
25/58 Chair's report	Oral Report Confidential Unreserved
25/59 Other urgent business	Oral report Confidential Unreserved
Strategic Discussion Matters	
25/60 Vice-Chancellor's report	Paper 25/BG/32 Confidential Unreserved
25/61 3 Year Strategic Plan 1	Paper 25/BG/33 Confidential Unreserved
25/62 Budget 2025/26	Paper 25/BG/34 Confidential Unreserved
Performance Matters	
25/63 Management Accounts	Paper 25/BG/35 Confidential Unreserved
25/64 Pensions Strategy	Paper 25/BG/36 Confidential Reserved
25/65 Student Recruitment update	Paper 25/BG/37 Confidential Unreserved
25/66 Finance & Resources Committee Chair's report	Oral Report Confidential Unreserved
25/67 Audit Committee Chair's report	Oral Report Confidential Unreserved
25/68 Apprenticeships report	Paper 25/BG/38 Confidential Unreserved
25/69 Student Governors' report	Paper 25/BG/39 Restricted
25/70 Academic Board Chair's report	Oral Report Confidential Unreserved
25/71 Staff Governors' report	Paper 25/BG/40 Restricted
25/72 People & Culture Committee Chair's report	Oral Report Confidential Unreserved

25/73 Remuneration Committees Chair's report	Oral Report
Governance Matters	Confidential Unreserved
25/74 Board Recruitment for 2025/26	Paper 25/BG/41
Decision	Confidential Unreserved
25/75 Governance Effectiveness Review 2025	Paper 25/BG/42
End of Agenda Part 1	Confidential Unreserved
Agenda Part 2	
Items for Approval	
25/76 Membership of the Board and its Committees	Paper 25/BG/43
	Confidential Unreserved
25/77 Committees terms of reference review 2025	Paper 25/BG/44
	Confidential Unreserved
25/77 Scheme of Delegation	Paper 25/BG/45
Decision	Confidential Unreserved
Items for Update	
25/78 Order of Business 2025/26	Paper 25/BG/46
Decision	Open
1. Noted.	
25/79 Annual report of university companies	Paper 25/BG/47
	Confidential Unreserved
25/80 Governance Committee 10 June 2025	Minutes
	Confidential Unreserved
25/81 People & Culture Committee 19 June 2025	Minutes
	Confidential Unreserved
25/82 Audit Committee 23 June 2025	Minutes
	Confidential Unreserved
25/83 Finance & Resources Committee 23 July 2025	Minutes
	Confidential Unreserved
25/84 Affixing of the seal	Confidential Unreserved
	Confidential Unreserved
25/85 Reportable events	

Confidential Unreserved

25/86 Appeal panels

Confidential Unreserved

25/87 Next meetings in 2025

Wednesday 29 October 2025 09:15hrs – 16:00hrs, TS215 Silver Birch Suite.

Tuesday 9 December 2025 at 1700hrs - TS215, Silver Birch Suite, preceded by a pre-meeting of members at 16:30hrs.

The meeting closed at 19:30 hrs.