

Southampton Solent University

Board of Governors

Minutes of the meeting on Tuesday 5 May 2026 at 17:00hrs

In Silver Birch Suite, Spark Building, East Park Terrace, Southampton

Present

Philip de Klerk, Independent Governor (Teams)
Mohammad Galib, Student Governor
Mike Gaston, Independent Governor
Adam Golton, Independent Governor
Dr Francesca Gwynne, Staff Governor (Academic)
Sharon Harrison-Barker, Independent Governor
Don Iro, Independent Governor and Vice Chair
Professor James Knowles, Vice-Chancellor and Governor ex officio
Professor Dame Julie Lydon DBE, Independent Governor (Teams)
Sharath Ranjan, Independent Governor
Lisa-Jane Risk, Independent Governor
Sanidhya Shetty, Student Governor
Richard Smith, Independent Governor & Chair of Board
Beth Topazio, Staff Governor (Professional Services)
Professor Allan Youp OBE, Independent Governor

In attendance

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
Helen Jones, Chief People and Culture Officer
Professor Sarah Jones, Pro Vice-Chancellor, Education
Bridget Woolven, Clerk to the Governors

26/51 Welcome and Apologies

1. The Chair welcomed Sharon Harrison-Barker to her first board meeting.
2. There were apologies from Fay Quayle and Aileen Thompson, Independent Governor.
3. The meeting was quorate throughout.

26/52 Conflicts of Interest

Confidential

26/53 Minutes

Decision

1. The minutes of the meetings held on 4 March and 24 March 2026 were approved as an accurate record.

26/54 Matters Arising

**Paper 26/BG/29
Confidential Unreserved**

26/55 Chair's report

**Oral Report
Confidential Unreserved**

26/56 Any other urgent business	Oral Report Confidential Unreserved
Strategic Discussion Matters.	
26/57 Staff Governors' report	Paper 26/BG/31 Restricted
26/58 Student Governors' report	Paper 26/BG/32 Restricted
26/59 Vice-Chancellor's report	Paper 26/BG/30 Confidential Unreserved
26/60 Weekend delivery update	Paper 26/BG/33 Confidential Unreserved
26/61 Three year strategic plan one (3YSP1) report	Paper 26/BG/34 Confidential Unreserved
26/62 Partnership proposal: Exeed College	Paper 26/BG/35 Confidential Reserved
26/63 Pensions strategy phase 2 report	Oral report Confidential Reserved
Finance and Risk	
26/64 Management accounts update	Paper 26/BG/36 Confidential Unreserved
26/65 Club Revolving Credit Facility (RCF) update	Oral report Confidential Unreserved
26/66 Student recruitment update	Paper 26/BG/37 Confidential Unreserved
26/67 PG Tuition Fees 2027/28	Paper 26/BG/38 Confidential Unreserved
26/68 Audit Committee Chair's report	Oral report Confidential Unreserved
26/69 Finance and Resources Committee Chair's report	Oral report Confidential Unreserved
Governance Matters	
26/70 Compliance with condition E10	Paper 26/BG/39 Restricted

26/71 Reportable event update	Oral report Confidential Unreserved
26/72 Board recruitment 2025/26 report	Paper 26/BG/40 Confidential Unreserved
26/73 Governance effectiveness review update	Oral report Confidential Unreserved
26/74 Senior Independent Governor (SIG)	Paper 26/BG/41 Confidential Unreserved
26/75 Chair's address	Confidential Unreserved
End of Part 1	
Part 2: Items for approval and information	
26/76 Code of conduct of the Board of Governors	Paper 26/BG/42 Confidential Unreserved
1. Approved.	
26/77 Honorary degrees report	Paper 26/BG/43 Confidential Unreserved
26/78 Membership of the Board and its Committees 2025/26	Paper 26/BG/44 Confidential Unreserved
26/79 People and Culture Committee 19 March 2026	Confidential Unreserved
Minutes noted.	
26/80 Audit Committee 23 March 2026	Confidential Unreserved
Minutes noted.	
26/81 Governance Committee 27 April 2026	Confidential Unreserved
Minutes noted.	
26/82 Finance and Resources Committee 29 April 2026	Confidential Unreserved
Minutes to follow.	
26/83 Board resolution 30 April 2026	Confidential Unreserved
26/84 Affixing of the seal	Confidential Unreserved

26/86 Reportable events

Confidential Unreserved

26/87 Next meetings in 2025/26

Tuesday 16 June 2026 at 17:00hrs – Teams

Tuesday 28 July 2026 at 17:00hrs – Silver Birch Suite, Spark Building. Preceded by pre-meet at 16:00hrs.

The meeting closed at 19:40 hrs.