

Southampton Solent University

Board of Governors

Minutes of the special meeting held on Tuesday 24 March 2026 at 16:30hrs
On Teams

Present

Philip de Klerk, Independent Governor (from Min 26/36)
Mohammad Galib, Student Governor
Mike Gaston, Independent Governor
Adam Golton, Independent Governor
Dr Francesca Gwynne, Staff Governor (Academic) (from Min 26/39)
Don Iro, Independent Governor & Vice Chair of Board
Professor James Knowles, Vice-Chancellor and Governor ex officio
Professor Dame Julie Lydon DBE, Independent Governor
Fay Quayle, Independent Governor
Lisa-Jane Risk, Independent Governor
Sanidhya Shetty, Student Governor
Richard Smith, Independent Governor & Chair of Board
Beth Topazio, Staff Governor

In attendance

Professor Cathy Barnes, Pro Vice-Chancellor Research Academic Strategy and Planning
Jim Irving, Pro Vice-Chancellor Students and Governance
Helen Jones, Chief People & Culture Officer
Professor Sarah Jones, Pro Vice-Chancellor Academic
Eran Kochlany, Chief Financial and Operating Officer
Bridget Woolven, Clerk to the Governors

AGENDA PART 1

26/31 Welcome and Apologies

1. The Chair welcomed everyone to the special meeting.
2. There were apologies from Sharath Ranjan, Aileen Thompson and Professor Allan Youp.
3. The meeting was quorate throughout.

26/32 Conflicts of Interest

26/33 Minutes of 4 March 2026

26/34 Matters Arising

Paper 26/BG/21
Confidential Unreserved

26/35 Chair's report

Oral report
Confidential Unreserved

26/36 Any other urgent business

Oral report
Confidential Unreserved

(Philip de Klerk joined the meeting.)

Strategic Discussion Matters

26/37 Loan Agreement

**Oral report
Confidential Reserved**

26/38 Annual financial statements 2024/45 and going concern

**Paper 26/BG/23
Confidential Unreserved**

(Dr Francesca Gwynne joined the meeting.)

26/39 Audit Committee's report to the Board

**Paper 26/BG/24
Confidential Unreserved**

26/40 Tuition Fees 2027/28

**Paper 26/BG/25
Restricted**

Performance Matters

26/41 Annual Financial Return (AFR)

**Paper 26/BG/26
Restricted**

26/42 Report of Finance and Resources Committee Chair

**Oral Report
Confidential Unreserved**

26/43 Report of Audit Committee Chair

**Oral Report
Confidential Unreserved**

26/44 Workforce Equality annual report

**Paper 26/BG/27
Confidential Unreserved**

26/45 Vice-Chancellor's Group updates

Confidential Unreserved

END OF AGENDA PART 1

PART 2: Items for Update

26/46 Management accounts update

**Paper 26/BG/28
Confidential Unreserved**

26/47 Minutes of Finance and Resources Committee 25 February 2026

**Minutes
Confidential Reserved**

26/48 Affixing of the Seal

Confidential Unreserved

26/49 Reportable events

Confidential Unreserved

26/50 Next meeting

Tuesday 5 May 2026 at 1700 to 1930hrs in TS215, Silver Birch Suite, preceded by a pre-meeting of members at 1600hrs, and followed by a buffet supper on the mezzanine.

There would be a private-meeting of members from 16:00-16:45hrs.

The special meeting closed at 17:50 hrs.