

Southampton Solent University

Governance Committee

Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 4 November 2025 at 16:00hrs at East Park Terrace, Southampton and on Teams

Present

Don Iro, Independent Governor and Committee Chair (Teams)
Professor James Knowles, Vice-Chancellor
Sharath Ranjan, Independent Governor (Teams)
Richard Smith, Independent Governor and Chair of the Board (Teams)

In attendance

Jim Irving, Pro Vice-Chancellor Students and Governance
Bridget Woolven, Clerk to the Governors
Tania Deitch, Association of Higher Education Professionals (AHEP)
Jackie Labbe, Association of Higher Education Professionals (AHEP)

25/25 Welcome and Apologies

1. There were apologies from Dr Francesca Gwynne and the meeting was quorate.
2. The Chair welcomed Tania Deitch and Professor Jackie Labbe to the meeting.
3. They would be observing the meeting as part of the governance effectiveness review.

25/26 Conflicts of Interest

Confidential Unreserved

25/27 Minutes

Decision

1. The minutes of the meeting held on 10 June 2025 were approved as an accurate record.

25/28 Matters Arising

**Paper 25/GC/20
Confidential Unreserved**

25/29 Chair's report

**Oral Report
Confidential Unreserved**

25/30 Membership of the Board 2025/26

**Paper 25/GC/21
Confidential Unreserved**

25/31 Board Recruitment for 2025/26

**Paper 25/GC/22
Confidential Unreserved**

25/32 Governance Effectiveness Review 2025

**Paper 25/GC/23
Restricted**

25/33 Training and Induction annual report 2024/25

**Paper 25/GC/24
Confidential Unreserved**

25/34 Standing orders of the Board and its Committees

**Paper 25/GC/25
Confidential Restricted**

25/35 Chancellor recruitment

**Paper 25/GC/26
Confidential Unreserved**

PART 2: Taken as noted.

25/36 Committee's terms of reference

**Paper 25/GC/27
Open**

Decision

1. The Committee noted its terms of reference.

25/37 Orders of business of the Board and its Committees

**Paper 25/GC/28
Open**

Decision

1. The Committee noted the work done to review these for 2025/26.

25/38 Public Office Accountability Bill

**Paper 25/GC/29
Open**

Decision

1. The Committee noted the update and that the Pro Vice-Chancellor Students and Governance would inform the Committee of any additional burden arising from the Bill once it is passed.

25/39 Meetings in 2025/26

Tuesday 17 March 2026 at 16:00hrs. Teams.

Tuesday 16 June 2026 at 16:00hrs. Teams.

The meeting closed at 17:00 hrs.