Solent University For Publication

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF AUDIT COMMITTEE ON MONDAY 25 MARCH 2024 AT 17:00HRS ON TEAMS

Present

Philip de Klerk Independent Governor & Audit Chair

Don Iro Independent Governor

In attendance

Andrew Bird Chief Marketing Officer
Kerrie Clark Director of Finance

Jim Irving Pro Vice-Chancellor Students & Governance

Professor James Knowles Vice-Chancellor

Eran Kochlany Chief Financial & Operating Officer
Ben Connor Internal Auditor, PwC (from 24/05)

Bridget Woolven Clerk to the Committee

Gareth Roberts Director of Digital Transformation

24/01 Welcome & Apologies

i. The Chair welcomed Andrew Bird, Chief Marketing Officer to the meeting.

- ii. Apologies: Philip Ouma, Noreen Biddle Shah and David I'Anson (BDO).
- iii. The Committee was **inquorate**, however Philip Ouma had submitted his comments on the papers in writing to the Committee Chair.
- iv. Any approvals given would be ratified at the June meeting.
- v. There was no pre-meeting and it was noted there would not be pre-meetings prior to future Audit Committee meetings.
- vi. Members noted that the meeting would be conducted in a manner consistent with the University's statement of commitment to Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion (EDI).

24/02 Conflict of Interests

No conflicts of interest in items relating to this meeting were declared.

24/03 Minutes of the Audit Committee meeting on 20 November 2023

Confidential Unreserved

Approved.

24/04 Matters Arising

Confidential Unreserved

24/05 Report on pre-meeting discussion and private meeting with Auditors Confidential

PART 1:

24/06 Risk Management Group Report & Risk Register Presented by: Eran Kochlany, **Chief Financial & Operating Officer**

Paper 24/AC/03 Confidential Unreserved

(Ben Connor of PwC joined the meeting.)

24/07 Internal Audit Reports

Paper 24/AC/02

Presented by: Ben Connor, PwC

Confidential Unreserved

24/08 Cyber Security Report

Paper 24/AC/04

Presented by: Gareth Roberts, Director of Digital Transformation

Confidential

24/09 Insurance Report

Paper 24/AC/05

Presented by: Eran Kochlany

Confidential Unreserved

24/10 Complaints received under the Public Information Disclosure Act and the **University's Fraud Policy**

24/11 National Audit Office reports

The Committee noted that since the last meeting, no relevant reports had been received from the National Audit Office (NAO), the Office for Students and other organisations.

24/12 Office for Students (OfS) Reportable Incidents

Confidential

24/13 Whistle Blowing

24/14 Next Meeting Date:

Monday 3 June 2024. ON CAMPUS MEETING. Meeting will commence at 17:00 hrs. There will be no pre-meeting.

(The internal auditor left the meeting at this point.)

PART 2:

24/15 Annual Evaluation of External & Internal Auditors

Paper 24/AC/06 **Confidential Reserved**

Presented by: Jim Irving & Eran Kochlany

24/16 Internal Audit Contract

Presented by: Jim Irving,

Confidential Reserved

Paper 24/AC/07

Pro Vice-Chancellor Students and Governance

24/17 External Audit Tender

Paper 24/AC/08

Presented by: Kerrie Clark,

Director of Finance

Confidential Reserved

The meeting ended at 18:05 hrs.