

PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE

Open Minutes of the Meeting held
Tuesday 24th February 2026 commencing at 1pm
at the Public Accounts Committee Office, Reflections Building, Dean Street

Present: Bernie Goodwin (BG) PAC Chair
Sacha Cleminson (SC) Deputy Chair
Stacy Bragger MLA (SB) MLA Member
Dot Gould MLA (DG) MLA Member

Minutes: Nancy Locke (NL) PAC Secretary

Apologies: None

In attendance: Katharyn Daniels Penguin News
Traighana Smith Falklands Radio
David Astill FITV
Ronnie McLannan Baird Researcher

1. Welcome and Apologies

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting, there were no apologies.

2. Declarations of Interest

Item 6 Falkland Conservation – SC
Item 9 Media Trust - SB

3. Minutes of the previous Meeting

The Open Minutes of the meeting held on 15th September 2025 were signed as an accurate record by the Chair.

4. Matters Arising

None.

5. Response from Legislative Assembly to PAC recommendations on Falkland Islands Government Financial Statements 2024

The Chair explained the response from Legislative Assembly to the PAC recommendations on the FIG Financial Statements 2024 and noted that FIG were continuously improving the budget process. The committee were content.

6. Falkland Conservation Financial Statements 2025

Sacha Cleminson left the room. The committee discussed the Financial Statements and were content.

7. Falkland Island Government (FIG) Financial Statements 2025 including Retirement Pensions Equalisation Fund, Pensions (Old) Scheme Fund, Insurance Fund, Currency Fund and the Capital Equalisation Fund

The PAC members reviewed the Financial Statements including the subsidiary accounts for 2025 and were content.

8. Falkland Island Museum and National Trust Financial Statements 2025

The Financial Statements for the Falkland Islands Museum and National Trust were reviewed, the Chair noted Item 16 in the Notes to the Financial Statements ‘Post Balance Sheet Event’ relating to the recent court case concerning fraud but, in line with the auditors, the committee were content.

9. Media Trust Financial Statements 2025

The PAC reviewed the Financial Statements for the Media Trust and noted the precarious nature of the ‘going concern’ issue. It was noted that the FIG subvention to Falklands Radio had remained static for five years whilst cost of living awards were made to salaries causing a larger deficit to be recorded. Similarly, it was noted that Penguin News were operating within a tight margin and controlling costs well but would continue to require a small amount of financial support by way of subvention from FIG on an annual basis.

The PAC applaud the both the Penguin News and Falklands Radio for the importance of their work, the value of local media services in radio and print to the community are well known and respected. The PAC recognises that both outlets perform a great service on tight budgets.

10. Proposed dates for 2026 meetings

29th April 2026 am
4th June 2026 pm

10. Authority for documents from this meeting to be published

Members of the Public would be advised that documents from this meeting would be published on the PAC’s website www.pac.org.fk.

The Chair requested that members of the public leave the room for the consideration of the following items in accordance with the Public Accounts Committee Ordinance as amended by the Part 9 of the Committees (Public Access) Ordinance 2012.

I confirm that these minutes are an accurate record of the meeting:

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(Chairperson)

.....
(Date)