



Governance Forum

Programme 2019

**Promoting Good Governance
in the Public Interest**

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The Governance Forum at the Institute of Public Administration provides advice, training, information and a range of supports on good governance, with a particular emphasis on state, public interest and public benefit organisations. The member organisations of the Forum include state bodies and agencies, regulatory bodies, higher education institutions, government departments, local authorities and not-for-profit organisations.

The Forum programme for 2019 is designed, once again, to give enhanced value to the membership. The benefits for each Forum member include invitations for Board and Committee members, senior executives and staff to a series of highly relevant briefing events, conferences and roundtable discussions. In 2019, we are also launching a Chairpersons' Network and a Board Secretaries' Network as new features of Forum membership. Members can also receive customised in-house governance advice, Board and committee training, related consultancy services and access to advice and support from the IPA Governance Team.



Since its establishment in 2007, the Forum's services have grown and evolved in response to the needs of the members and in response to governance developments over the years. Recent topics addressed have included governance and culture, risk appetite, Board effectiveness, strategy implementation, reputation management and the implications of the Code of Practice for the Governance of State Bodies (2016).

The programme is kept under constant review to ensure topicality and relevance and member feedback is always welcomed. We are particularly pleased with the positive feedback and engagement of members at the 2018 events and we are also indebted to the many expert speakers who shared their high levels of practical knowledge, experience and important lessons learnt at the events. The governance training events have been expanded to include a separate full day training session on Board members' roles and responsibilities, and a half-day training session on Finance and Reporting for Board members.

New Chairpersons' and Board Secretaries' Networks

In light of feedback from members and the shared benefits of such networks, we are pleased to launch a new Chairpersons' Network and a Board Secretaries' Network as new features of Governance Forum membership. These networks will allow for periodic roundtable events relevant to both Chairpersons and Secretaries, respectively, on topics of importance to these specialist positions. It will also enable a useful peer network for members and the promulgation of good practices and approaches. Our annual Audit & Risk Committee Chairpersons' round table will also take place once again in 2019.



**Chairpersons' Network @
Governance
Forum**

**Board Secretaries' Network @
Governance
Forum**



Governance Team Services

The Governance team at the IPA provides a range of value-add services to state, public interest and public benefit organisations. A selection of these services are outlined below and the Governance Team is available to discuss how we can assist you and your organisation during the forthcoming year.

- Board Evaluation – during 2018 the team undertook Board and Committee evaluations and effectiveness reviews for a range of state bodies, government departments, higher education institutions, and not-for-profit organisations. We provide a genuine value-add service, comprising, for example, a review of material, meeting observation, survey of members, one-on-one interviews and a Board workshop on the findings and next steps.
- Governance Reviews – the team supports organisations in assessing the adequacy and effectiveness of their governance frameworks, including structures, reporting lines, manuals, policies and documentation.

- Risk Management – our specialists support organisations through external evaluations of their risk management frameworks and processes, the development of risk registers and consideration of risk appetite.
- Strategy Development and Review – our team supports organisations in the development of new strategic plans and reviewing the effectiveness of their implementation.
- Board, Committee and Member Training – during 2018 we supported numerous Boards, Committees and senior teams with bespoke training, from coverage of governance roles and responsibilities, risk management, audit and assurance, oversight of aegis bodies and implications of respective codes of governance and new member induction.

Our other services include control effectiveness and assurance reviews, providing professional advice and support to Board committees, and governance gap analysis exercises. We also provide, as necessary, confidential advice and support for boards and those in key governance and leadership roles.



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