

# Governance Forum

*Promoting Good Governance in the Public Interest*

Programme 2018



# Promoting Good Governance in the Public Interest

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 2018 is designed 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 addition, members can receive customised in-house governance advice, board and committee training, related consultancy services and access to advice and support from IPA governance specialists.

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 the implications of the Code of Practice for the Governance of State Bodies (2016), Board effectiveness, strategy development and execution, periodic critical reviews, reputation management and embedding effective risk management in organisations.

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 2017 events and we are also indebted to the many expert speakers who shared their high levels of practical knowledge, experience and lessons learnt. The governance training events have been expanded to include separate full day training sessions on board members' roles and responsibilities, and a half-day training session on finance and reporting for board members.

## Governance Team Services

The Governance Team at the IPA provides a range of value-added 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 2017 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-added service, comprising, in each case, a survey of members, one on one interviews and a board workshop on the findings and next steps.
- **Governance Reviews** – the team support organisations in assessing the adequacy and effectiveness of their governance frameworks, manuals, policies and documentation. We play a key role in identifying framework gaps and supporting organisations in their compliance with the relevant governance code and good governance practice.
- **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** – our team support organisations in the development of new strategic plans and reviewing the effectiveness of their implementation.
- **Board, Committee and Member Training** – during 2017 we supported numerous boards, committees and members with bespoke training, from coverage of governance roles and responsibilities, the contents 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.



# Draft Programme of Events 2018

In addition to briefings, the 2018 programme includes conferences, seminars, briefings, roundtables and training and development events. In response to demand we have increased the 2018 programme to 15 scheduled events but others may be added in response to demand.

DATE	TOPIC
Thursday, 25 January 2018	Key Governance Topics for 2018
Thursday, 22 February 2018	Board Effectiveness Reviews – people, process, dynamics and performance considerations
Friday, 23 March 2018	Assurance Frameworks – Sources of Assurance for Boards and Senior Executives
Friday, 27 April 2018	Department-Agency Relationships – implications for aegis bodies
Thursday, 3 May 2018	Charities, Non-Profits and Funders - Governance Culture, Values and Behaviour
Thursday, 24 May 2018	Board Member Roles and Responsibilities (One Day Training)
Thursday, 7 June 2018	Audit Committee Chair Roundtable
Thursday, 14 June 2018	Reputation Management and Media Relations
Thursday, 5 July 2018	Finance and Reporting for Board Members (Half Day Training)
Thursday, 6 September 2018	Board Secretary Roundtable
Thursday, 20 September 2018	Effective Strategy and Performance Reporting
Thursday, 4 October 2018	Board Member Roles and Responsibilities (One Day Training)
Thursday, 11 October 2018	Periodic Critical Reviews - experience and advice
Thursday, 8 November 2018	Risk Management – ensuring good practice
Thursday, 6 December 2018	Audit and Risk Committees - key issues



# The Governance Team at the IPA



(from left to right): Ariane Allex, Tom Ward, Aidan Horan, Nicolas Marcoux, Noreen Fahy and Kate O'Donnell.



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