



'Building the capacity of the Third Sector to engage in commissioning and tendering'

Governance

What is it?

Governance is the process by which a governing body ensures that an organisation is effectively and properly run.

The role of the Board - 'Trustees have and must accept ultimate responsibility for directing the affairs of their organisation, ensuring it is solvent, well-run, and delivering the outcomes for which it has been set up'

ACEVO; Charity Trustee Networks; ICSA, NCVO on behalf of The National Hub of Expertise in Governance, Good Governance, 2005:2

Is it for me?

All Third Sector organisations must have some form of governing body. The type of governing body and the governing documents depends on the legal structure of the organisation. (Please see legal structures document)

What does it do?

The legal structure of your organisation determines the governing document your organisation uses, however the main sections in any governing document could include:

- Objects - identifies the purpose of the charity
- Powers - to undertake work to meet the objects
- Appointment and removal of Trustees
- Arrangements for meetings
- Legal obligations e.g. under the Charities Act 2006
- Alterations to the governing document
- Dissolution

The governing document should include documents and procedures relevant to the organisation's areas of interest.

What are the benefits?

Good governance should provide the leadership, direction and regulation necessary for a successful organisation. By doing this as completely and as thoroughly as possible will help support the delivery of an organisation's objectives within a challenging and changing sector.

Delivered in partnership between

