

MOORE STEPHENS

A strong platform to boost performance

Corporate governance
Governance, risk & assurance

PRECISE. PROVEN. PERFORMANCE.

A strong platform to boost performance

Corporate governance means many things to many people. For Moore Stephens, it is all about success – helping boards and senior management to establish and maintain the frameworks and procedures necessary for a well-governed organisation.



Competitive advantage is the prime goal behind establishing a robust corporate governance framework, and this is achieved in a number of ways. Firstly, good corporate governance supports effective decision-making and efficient processes. It breathes life into corporate strategies, creating the right platform to support increased turnover, efficiency and profitability.

Secondly, by ensuring you have a corporate governance framework appropriate to your business and sector, you provide reassurance to key stakeholders – investors, customers, suppliers and employees – that your organisation is well run. Strong corporate reputations can generate access to funding, loyal customers, willing suppliers and committed employees.

Corporate governance isn't just about meeting legal or regulatory requirements for how your business should operate. Good corporate governance ensures that transparency, accountability and fairness are embedded in your processes:

- transparency over decision-making, including key appointments;
- accountability, so that roles and responsibilities are clearly set out and understood, with individuals knowing the extent of their authority and when they need to refer matters higher up the management chain;
- fairness in terms of an open and objective culture, where diversity is encouraged and individuals have equal opportunities to prove themselves and generate business value.

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Governance and assurance services

We appreciate that having the right “tone from the top” is an essential requirement of good corporate governance. We therefore work with your board and senior management team to help identify any weaknesses in your structures or policies, sharing our best practice insights.

We offer a range of services that can be tailored to suit your needs, offered as discrete projects or combined in a wider package of support.

Governance reviews

We can conduct a comprehensive review of your governance framework including the structure and role of the board, planning, monitoring processes and the appropriateness of policies and procedures and establishing corporate governance frameworks.

Board effectiveness

How does your board establish its objectives? Do directors have all the information they need, when they need it, for effective decision-making? We consider the role played by your board and the effectiveness of its contribution, based on best practice guidance and our industry experience. Alternatively, we can facilitate a performance self-assessment undertaken by the board itself.

Conflicts of interest

Board members will always have external interests, which can be key sources of value generation for your organisation. But conflicts can damage performance and reputation on a corporate and personal level. We review policies and procedures for identifying, managing and monitoring potential conflicts of interest.

Board structure

The structure of your board is central to effective decision-making. Is your board a workable size? Do you have an appropriate split between executive and non-executive directors? Do board members have the mix of skills and experience to perform their roles effectively? We can review how well equipped boards are to meet the demands made of them.

Audit committee assessment

The audit committee plays a key role in any business. Drawing on our deep experience and best practice guidance for the private and public sectors, we can review the effectiveness of your audit committee to ensure it applies appropriate scrutiny.

Governance training

We provide training on board roles and responsibilities in an effective governance framework. This can target particular issues, such as latest developments in corporate governance, application of the UK Corporate Governance Code as well as more specific areas such as how to manage potential conflicts of interest, thus helping to maximise board effectiveness.

Assurance framework

A reliable assurance framework is a critical element of any effective governance structure. We help to coordinate assurance across your business in key areas of risk, linking the process to identify the management of business risks and the achievement of objectives.

Statement on internal control

Reliable governance statements in your annual report and accounts demonstrate to stakeholders your commitment to transparent reporting and the achievement of highest standards. We can help to structure statements accordingly and ensure the assurance frameworks provide effective support.