



First Class Governance

19 April 2018

Broadway House, Westminster, London

Join us as we explore what first class governance really means in today's increasingly challenging environment for housing providers.

With the creation of the Regulator of Social Housing, the new proposal for the VFM Standard and an increasing emphasis on how organisations prioritise new build, investment in current assets and customer service, the need for strong governance is clear. Boards must demonstrate their understanding of the critical business issues, providing assurance and solid evidence to justify decisions to set and shape strategic direction.

Our seminar explores best practice from in and out of sector, addressing what good governance looks like now and into the future, within the context of changing regulation and an increasingly diverse sector.

Programme

09:30 **Registration and networking refreshments**

10:00 **Welcome and opening remarks**

Matthew Bailes, Chief Executive, Paradigm Housing

10:05 **First class governance in a changing world**

In this opening session Louise will explore the rapidly evolving issues around the world of corporate governance and what high performing sectors and organisations are doing to ensure they are fit for the future.

Louise Thomson, Head of Policy, Institute of Chartered Secretaries and Administrators (ICSA)

10:50 **Housing regulation and governance in a new age**

This joint session will set out the expectations from the sector's regulator around the following:

- How is the Regulator of Social Housing's approach to regulation evolving?
- Where are in depth assessments (IDAs) leading the regulator's focus?
- Are there common issues that give them cause for concern?
- How should organisations be tackling issues around approaches to risk and succession planning?
- What are the changing requirements for board chairs?
- How can board chairs work best with the executive?



Regulator of Social Housing (speaker to be confirmed) and
Aubrey Adams, Board Chair, L&Q

11:35 **Networking refreshment break**

11:55 **Lessons from another sector**

Boards must demonstrate their understanding of the critical business issues, providing assurance and solid evidence to justify decisions to set and shape strategic direction. In this session, Chris will draw on his specialism in risk governance in the financial services sector, in the UK and internationally, to explore what is effective board leadership and governance.

Chris previously worked for PricewaterhouseCoopers (PwC) where he was a partner in the Governance, Risk and Compliance practice.

Chris Barrett, Board member of Golden Lane Housing

12:40 **Networking lunch**

13:30 **Supporting strategic decision making - providing the right details, data and evidence to your board**

With the right staffing and committee structure, Tracy will discuss how you can support your board's work and clarify roles and responsibilities between your organisation's board members and executive staff. Along with how effective systems for delegation, audit, risk management and control helps provide the right details, data and evidence to your board.

Tracy Allison, Group Director of Transformation and Business Services and Deputy CEO, Hyde Housing

14:15 **Board diversity – what's the right balance?**

Along with a mixture of abilities, knowledge and experience, how do you get the right balance? Boards benefit from diversity of opinions, skills, ages, backgrounds, ethnicity and gender, to facilitate robust discussions and issues that arise. In this session you'll get to hear, along with a chance to discuss what an optimum mix of people is, behaviours boards should be aiming for and how to be sure that a change is for the better.

Formerly the National Director of Board Development in the NHS, Paul has worked with Boards in more than 150 public sector organisations.

Paul Stanton, Visiting Professor, Faculty of Health and Life Sciences, De Montfort University



15:00

Panel session

With all speakers

15:30

A practical plan for first class governance

In this closing session Mathew will pull together the key learning points from the day, setting out a practical plan for developing an organisation's own high-performance governance framework.

Matthew Bailes, Chief Executive, Paradigm Housing

15:55

Chair's closing comments

16:00

Close