Boardmatch Ireland
inspiring leadership and good governance

Boardmatch Transparency Scale

The need for additional transparency is becoming increasingly evident. Transparency, whilst linked to Governance is a separate function. An organisation could have exemplary governance, but if that isn't transparent it undermines the credibility of the charity.

This is especially true at present when public confidence needs to be rebuilt in the charity sector. Therefore rather than relying on current company law to present governance information to the public, it is important that key information about the organisation is presented through the website.

Boardmatch is therefore promoting the Governance Transparency Scale, which ranks the level of transparency, as in the level of corporate information that is placed on the organisations website.

Boardmatch Transparency Scale

A Standard This is the top award and it would mean that the charity and the website discloses all the relevant information regarding the governance and finances of the organisation. Compliance with this standard is especially important for organisations who have classified themselves as a B or C within the Governance Code Structure.	• The names of all the current board members • The date the board members were appointed • A Biography of each of the board members • A Copy of most recent accounts • A commitment to comply with the charity SORP (this would include the disclosure in bands of €10k of senior staff salaries) • A commitment to comply or implement the Code of Governance • A Commitment to comply with the Principles of Good Fundraising • An explanation or list of members • The Articles and Memorandum of Association
B Standard This is an acceptable level of disclosure	• The names of all the current board members • A Biography of each of the Board members • A Copy of most recent Accounts • A commitment to comply with the Charity SORP • A commitment to comply or implement the Code of Governance • A Commitment to comply with the Principles of Good Fundraising
C Standard This is a very minimal standard and efforts should be taken as a matter of urgency to improve the level of disclosure on the website	• The names of all the current board members • A Biography of each of the Board members
D Standard This is an unacceptable level of public disclosure.	• No governance information available through the website

Implementation

Boards and Senior Staff should as part of their on-going governance review look at what level of disclosure the organisation currently administers. Use the checklist to determine at what level you are at and then take incremental measures to achieve the A standard.

If you need any clarification or support please don't hesitate to contact us.

Review

This Transparency Scale is a new addition to the sector and Boardmatch will review it in light of developments within the sector and external drovers that may impact or require change.

About Boardmatch

Boardmatch Ireland supports the development of the community and voluntary sector (the not-for-profit sector) by strengthening boards and management committees.

Boardmatch does this primarily through:

- Building links between corporate, public and not-for-profit sectors, by encouraging people from corporate and public sectors to sit on not-for-profit boards.
- Enhancing skills sets on not-for-profit boards.
- Developing and providing training packages and other supports for boards and board members.
- Building the governance capacity of not-for-profit boards.

Boardmatch Ireland provides a web-based matching service where people can register their interest in volunteering on not-for-profit boards. These candidates are then matched, based on location, skills and preferred area of interest, to not-for-profit organisations who have also registered their board opportunities.

Boardmatch Ireland also provides bespoke supports to boards of not-for-profit organisations through its Training and Executive Search services.

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