



Australian Government



Australian
Charities and
Not-for-profits
Commission

GOOD GOVERNANCE AND HOW TO GROW IT

MELVILLE YATES

Director of Reporting, Red Tape Reduction and ACNC Corporate Services

March | 2022



The benefits of good governance



Good governance helps make sure that the day-to-day work of your charity aligns with and contributes towards achieving your charity's purpose.

It helps charities retain the public's trust and confidence.

In turn, this helps them to continue to carry out their charitable work effectively.

To keep the charity on track, board members need to ask themselves these questions regularly:



Why are we here?
(What is our purpose?)

What are we doing?
(Do our activities progress our purpose?)

How are we doing it?
(Can we do it better?)

Invest in growing good governance



- Invest time to set the charity up well by establishing good policies, procedures and processes covering charity operations.
- Invest time to properly train your charity's people (Responsible Persons, staff, volunteers) who will use/oversee/be subject to the policies, procedures and processes, to make sure they understand them.



Invest in growing good governance

- Pass on knowledge through essential resources, training and experiences (for example inductions, handovers, meetings, financial investment in courses on topics linked to governance).
 - Investing in staff and volunteers is an important aspect of good governance.
- Invest time in reviewing your charity and board's performance regularly.
 - Undertaking a board health check can help a charity board succeed in achieving their mission and goals.

