Helping company boards to define their priorities and add value to the organisation

Life is getting tough in the nation’s boardrooms.

Boards struggle to seize control of their agendas, fulfil their compliance obligations, oversee strategy and risk and satisfy stakeholder expectations. They seek a more strategic and systematic approach to their responsibilities. They want a better alignment between governance standards and corporate performance. They battle to make sense of increasing quantities of information, but wonder how accurate and relevant it all is and whether critical intelligence is failing to reach the boardroom.

Directors are working harder, but, in many instances, achieving less.

To get on top of the situation, boards need to recognise that corporate governance is neither a passing fad, nor primarily an exercise in regulatory compliance. Rather, it is a means of sorting out priorities, imposing an effective system of strategic oversight, linking risk to value and driving superior performance.

KPMG’s Board Advisory Services works with boards to help improve governance standards.

How we can help

Board Advisory Services assists directors and boards to understand their corporate governance responsibilities and their effectiveness in discharging them. Boards draw on one or more of our four main service offerings to address key performance and accountability issues.

Board evaluations

Board evaluations involve a facilitated board performance review, incorporating board and board committee self-assessment, documentation reviews, interviews, workshops and roadmaps for implementation. The service utilises world leading governance tools, access to governance better practice and advice (including global corporate governance authority Dr. Richard Leblanc).

Audit committee evaluations

As the responsibilities of board audit committees expand, it is vital that committee performance fulfils the expectations of the full board, investors and other key stakeholders. Our evaluations are based on self-assessment processes and in-depth interviews with audit committee members, management, auditors and other key providers. We consider the quality of the information being provided to audit committees and their compliance performance.
Board reporting
The quality, relevance and timeliness of the information going to the board represents a fundamental governance issue. We consider the quality of existing board and committee reporting processes and advise on how these may be improved and streamlined. We look for systemic and behavioural factors that could impair the quality of reporting to the board.

Governance review
In conducting a governance review, we draw on relevant legislation, codes of good governance, industry guidance notes and global good practice to provide an overview of your existing governance standards. We undertake an analysis to reveal where your organisation meets reasonable expectations and where there are gaps.

Why select us?
Our work with boards is leveraged from KPMG’s extensive experience of advising listed and unlisted companies, government entities and not-for-profit organisations. Our professionals are dealing with boards, board committees and individual directors on a daily basis.

Our Audit Committee Institute is also an important repository of information on the operation of board audit committees, control systems and relevant management issues.

Our client boards enjoy access to KPMG’s global resources, keeping them informed of the latest international developments concerning governance and board performance. We conduct research into relevant issues and collaborate with leading governance authorities and academics.

Locally we complement this with our detailed understanding of contemporary governance, regulatory compliance, strategy, risk, external and internal audit and commercial issues, to produce advice that is relevant, practical and timely.

Contact us

Melbourne
Mark Jones
Partner
+61 3 9288 5790
markjones@kpmg.com.au

Christina McGrath
Associate Director
+61 3 9288 5025
cmccgrath@kpmg.com.au

Michael Rich
Associate Director
+61 3 9288 5126
michaelrich@kpmg.com.au

Richard Stone
Associate Director
+61 3 9288 6412
rstone@kpmg.com.au

Sydney
Robert Taggart
Executive Associate
+61 2 9335 7092
rtaggart@kpmg.com.au