

Governance Transparency Scale for organisations in receipt of recurring Arts Council funding

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 its credibility.

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

The Arts Council has adapted the Boardmatch Ireland Governance Transparency Scale, which ranks the level of transparency, as in the level of corporate information that is placed on an organisation's website.

The Council now requires all organisations that it funds on a recurring basis (Annual Funding, Annual Programming Grants) to comply with the standards set out as follows.

Organisation	Information to be provided on the website
<i>For organisations in receipt of recurring funding of €100,000 or above per annum</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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 Financial Statements • A commitment to comply with the recommended guidelines for financial reporting • The disclosure in bands of €10k of senior staff remuneration packages <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ A commitment to comply with the Governance Code or explain why you are unable to comply • A commitment to comply with the principles of good fundraising • A list of Members • The Articles and Memorandum of Association (or Constitution)
<i>For organisations in receipt of recurring funding of less than €100,000 per annum</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The names of all the current board members • A biography of each of the board members • A copy of most recent Financial Statements • A commitment to comply with the recommended guidelines for financial reporting • A commitment to comply with the Governance Code or explain why you are unable to comply

Note: Organisations should submit an annual letter, from the Chairman, confirming compliance. The final 10% of funding will not be released until this letter has been received.