



Response to Code of Good Governance refresh Governance Code Steering Group consultation

Submitted: 24th November 2009

This is COVER's response to the Governance Code Steering Group's consultation on a new set of principles for the Code of Good Governance. COVER is a representative body for the Voluntary and Community Sector in the East of England. Our Vision is of a just and inclusive society for the region that recognises and supports the value, and values, of the community and voluntary sector. Our Mission is to increase voluntary and community sector regional influence, activity and recognition.

In order to compile a response to this consultation we emailed all of our members and partners asking them three questions:

1. Were you aware of the Code of Good Governance before this?
2. Do you think that the refreshed principles are an improvement on the original principles? Please briefly explain why or why not.
3. What improvements can you suggest to make the refreshed principles better?

We attached a summary document to the e-mail comparing the new principles with the old ones. We had several responses from our members which are summarized below.

Response

Most of our respondents were aware of the Code of Good Governance and had used it. All of them felt that the new principles were better in terms of clarity and accessibility, and most didn't have any improvements to add as they felt they were quite comprehensive.

Two specific comments were:

- In some places the new principles seem a bit 'thin' on content, and some important headings from the old code have been removed (particularly from ii. onwards)
- The current code works well alongside the Governance section of PQASSO which some organisations use to review effectiveness. So a suggestion for the new code would be to include a framework for measuring effectiveness within the document.

Any queries about this consultation response can be directed to:

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