

Board Report Streamlining

Are you finding board meeting preparation challenging with voluminous board packs to contend with?

Board meeting packs with insightful performance information and trends derived from performance data relating to the implementation of strategy of the organisation make for effective and 'to-the-point' board meetings.

Board effectiveness is becoming increasingly important, due to the limited time that a Board is given to interface with an organisation in providing effective oversight. There are usually four scheduled board meetings per annum in a typical organisation. The effective operation of board sub-committees is also vitally important in providing the board with pertinent information for succinct decision-making.

Voluminous board packs, containing detailed reports and long agendas, are not conducive to effective board meetings. Reporting the right information at the right level of detail is the most critical attribute in ensuring that board meetings are effective.

It is also vital that appointed board members understand their roles in providing support and guidance to the organisation in terms of their oversight roles. This involves not only the interrogation of performance information relating to the strategy, but also ensuring that the strategic information disseminated is relevant to the changing environment within which the organisation operates. With multiple insights and inputs provided by the different board members, the organisation's strategic performance can be guided through an effective oversight process, thus ensuring its sustainability.

All too often, discussions on operational details within the organisation hinders the progress that needs to be made by boards in making strategic decisions and passing the necessary resolutions. To address this challenge, discussions need to be prepared by focussing on a robust organisational strategy that has validated targets and unambiguous performance measures. This will enable streamlined reporting to the board and its various sub-committees.


With the guidance and support of StratNovation's team of experts, board reporting can be streamlined. This is opposed to mere management reporting. The board can thus be confident in making informed decisions based on appropriate and accurate information, whilst developing or reviewing strategies that are guided and overseen by credible, knowledgeable and supportive board members.


A Board Report Streamlining and Board Effectiveness engagement typically includes:

- reviewing and analysing board pack information against the decisions that are made by the board;
- reviewing and analysing the quarterly performance reporting by the organisation's executive management team;
- reviewing any board governance solutions / software applications being utilised;
- establishing levels of information required by the board, and in what format,

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- for effective decision-making and the streamlining of agendas; and
- recommending a streamlined performance-based board reporting system; manual or virtual, utilising the most appropriate software solutions that enable reporting dashboards to be built.

The benefits of undertaking a Board Streamlining and Reporting Effectiveness intervention are to ensure:

- that efficient and effective meetings are held by board members, based only on appropriate and relevant performance information;
- deeper organisational insights to enable the information presented to the board to be reviewed and discussed objectively;
- resolutions taken are evidence-based, objective and in the best interests of ensuring a sustainable organisation;
- streamlined reporting, utilising charts and trend lines to depict performance information in board and sub-committee packs; and
- more efficient, effective, motivating and encouraging board meetings.


Using StratNovation's approach when refining board reporting will better enable the board to provide effective and insightful oversight, thus ensuring that performance is realised.

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