We help boards with their internal self-assessments

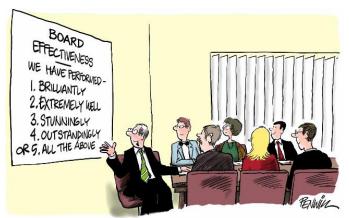


Internal reviews are about more than compliance. They help the Board to check its progress and continue to improve performance. And to surface issues that should be tackled.

- In addition to carrying out external reviews every three years, it is good practice for a Board to perform an annual self-assessment to check-in on its continuing effectiveness.
- The task of carrying out the Board's selfassessment often falls to the Company Secretary and their team. This can be a time-consuming exercise and can lack the challenge needed.
- That's where we can help. We offer a range of tools which help your board conduct a smooth, efficient and constructive internal review, creating a more engaging process. And, most importantly, use well-structured questions to really help the board think about how they work together and cover the oversight complexities.

Why choose Independent Audit's Thinking Board® to support your internal review

- As board reviewers, we have worked across a wide range of sectors and have seen the very best (and not so good!) boards.
- We have distilled 20+ years of experience in board reviews into our online governance platform Thinking Board®



"NEXT ITEM - CARRYING OUT OUR OBJECTIVE SELF-ASSESSMENT"

What clients say about Thinking Board®:

"The Thinking Board® questionnaire engaged our board and generated meaningful insights, helping us to steer a clear course of action." –

Company Secretary of a FTSE 100 company

The power of Thinking Board®

- Thinking Board® is a comprehensive board evaluation tool designed to provide actionable insights in a way that minimises time and stress for all involved.
- This powerful analytics platform delivers an evaluation that goes beyond compliance. It gives you a clear assessment of how your board is performing, prioritises opportunities for action, and tracks improvement over time.
- Through its unique question structure,
 Thinking Board® doesn't just ask questions
 looking for a score. It provokes thought and
 engages respondents in a way few other
 governance tools can. And gives much
 more insight into what is underlying a
 rating.
- Thinking Board® harnesses the power of our thousands of hours spent understanding boards to help you identify elements of your governance that might not be working as well as they should – as well as recognise what's working well.
- Intrigued by Thinking Board®? Contact us to arrange a demonstration, so we can show you how it gathers meaningful insights.

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How we can support your internal review

Quick, short, fully automated

You can use Thinking Board® Evaluator®, our fully-automated self-assessment tool.

- Questionnaires cover the board and main committees.
- A board-ready automated report highlights the main strengths and areas for improvement emerging from your responses.
- Very little time is needed from you and its cost effective.

Or more in-depth

Dig deeper with our original Thinking Board®. And possibly get us to help with the analysis.

- We can add on question adjustment and consultant support.
- We have a library of questionnaires, spanning a wide range of issues.
- We provide support from start to finish, facilitating the entire process.
- Thinking Board® allows for role-based analysis (eg NEDs vs Other), and year-onyear comparison.

- The summary report gives you a wellstructured basis for compiling your own report for the board and committees.
- Or you can ask us to help. That might mean a limited analysis of the results. Or we can produce a full report for you.
- Our report is simple and straightforward, providing practical suggestions.

Going a bit further?

- If you want to do more than a questionnaire, we can observe meetings of the Board, and review papers.
- Our library of questionnaires spans multiple committees. Either "high level" or more detailed for in-depth reviews.
- For non-standard committees (eg Sustainability, Investment, Technology ...) we have focused questionnaires.
- Thinking Board® can also help the Board assess whether it is doing enough around specific areas of oversight eg ESG, Cyber.
- Or help the Audit/Risk Committee meet their responsibilities to assess the effectiveness of risk management, internal audit and the external audit process.

Our experience

Over the years, we have supported boards across many sectors with their internal reviews:

- FTSE 100 and 250 listed companies
- Global banks and insurance companies
- Subsidiary regulated entities
- AIM and SmallCap companies
- Regulatory bodies
- Pension trusts
- Private companies
- Public Sector and Arms-Length Bodies
- Housing associations, charities and Not-forprofit organisations... and more

A lot of our clients are in the UK and Ireland, but we work globally.



It's all about finding an approach that suits you and meets your objectives.