

Shaping Governance - Newsletter

Dear Colleagues,

Welcome to Shaping Governance's February Newsletter!

As we move further into 2025, we remain committed to supporting governors, trustees, and councillors in strengthening governance and making a lasting impact. This month, we continue our mission to change the conversation around governance—focusing on what works, building on strengths through appreciative techniques, and fostering meaningful decision-making.

2025 also marks an important milestone in our reflections on governance: the 25th anniversary of the Local Government Act 2000. Throughout the year, we'll bring you a special series reflecting on its legacy, exploring how it has shaped governance practices, and discussing what the next 25 years might hold.

Stay tuned for insights, resources, and stories to empower you in your governing role. Let's keep shaping governance together!

Warmest regards,

The Shaping Governance Team

Newsletter signup

Remembering Professor Chris James, who sadly passed away on the 17th January 2025

Shaping Governance's thoughts are with Chris's family, friends, and colleagues as they come together to celebrate his life today.

Chris, a highly respected expert in governance, leaves a lasting legacy that continues to shape governance today. Su had the privilege of working with Chris over the years and deeply valued their conversations on governance and stakeholder voice, which were always insightful and inspiring.



Interesting Governance news from across the sectors

Ofsted is consulting on changes to how they will monitor schools and the use of new report cards...
Access the consultation here, which closes on the 28th April 2025.

Ofsted should include Pupil Wellbeing in inspections according to The Education Policy Institute. Plans to include wellbeing as a data point for school performance and monitoring children's mental health were put forward. You can read more here.

The Funding Gap.
A £700 Million funding gap means that most schools face making cuts next year according to the School Cuts Coalition. A recent article has outlined that leaders have been instructed to find 'efficiencies' to meet pay rise costs.

SEND Inclusion Panel.
The government has now appointed a team of experts to evaluate how to make mainstream schools more inclusive. Click here to find out who will join Tom Rees on the advisory group, and also for more details on the new neurodivergence task and finish group.

The Local Government Act 2000: Reflections and Legacy - a series of blogs from Shaping Governance



2025 marks a significant milestone in the history of UK local government—the 25th anniversary of the Local Government Act 2000. This transformative legislation, which received Royal Assent in July of that year, reshaped the way councils operate, communities engage, and partnerships thrive. At the heart of these changes was a vision to empower local authorities, enhance accountability, and involve citizens more directly in decisions that affect their lives.

To commemorate this landmark anniversary, Shaping Governance, a trusted expert

in governance and scrutiny, is proud to present a special blog series. With contributions from politicians, council officers, community sector leaders, and our own CEO, this series will reflect on the Act's enduring legacy, its impact on governance and community involvement, and the lessons we can carry forward into the next 25 years. Keep an eye out in future newsletters.

CLIENT TESTIMONIAL

External Review of Governance - Autumn 2024

We would like to express our sincere gratitude for the insightful and timely review you conducted. Your comprehensive approach, attention to detail, and thoughtful analysis have provided clarity and direction for the Federation Governing Board. The way you balanced an in-depth examination of governance processes with practical and actionable recommendations has given us a strong foundation from which to move forward...Thank you for your dedication, professionalism in supporting us through this review process in such a timely manner.

Click the button below to read the full testimonial, which describes our work

Federation of Westminster Special Schools

Pam Jones, Associate Executive Headteacher
November 2024



Join our Team as a Governance Professional (Clerk) - a great career choice!

There are approximately 24,000 schools in England. All of which have a governing board or academy committee, and all of which need a Governance Professional (Clerk). Strong governance support and clerking is a key component to ensuring that a governing board is efficient.

We have openings for Self-Employed Associates in Cheshire and the surrounding areas, plus online opportunities. With payments of £150 - £200 per meeting it's a great flexible career choice.

Check out our vacancies

Shaping Governance - here to help

Interested in finding out more about how we can help you improve your governance - get in touch using the button below

Contact us

You are either a customer or subscribed to received updates. If you no longer wish to be notified, unsubscribe here.
Shaping Governance

Sent to:su@shapinggovernance.co.uk

Unsubscribe

Shaping Governance, Stapeley House London Road, Nantwich, CW5 7JW, United Kingdom