

1 July 2025

8.30 Registration and exhibition hall open

9.30 Conference begins

9.35 Welcome address

Sara Drake, Chief Executive, Chartered Governance Institute UK and Ireland

09:45 Keynote address - Does growth trump governance

In an era marked by rapid geopolitical shifts and economic uncertainties, the balance between growth and governance has never been more critical. This session will explore the complex dynamics of global political risks and their practical impacts on businesses and policymakers.

10:20 Looking ahead: Corporate governance reform

The Chartered Governance Institute UKI's Policy & Research Director, Peter Swabey FCG will discuss the latest developments in corporate governance and other significant changes afoot.

11.00 Refreshment break

11:30 Navigating governance risk

This session will delve into the critical aspects of governance risk, focusing on how organisations can effectively manage and mitigate risks through robust governance

frameworks. Governance risk encompasses the potential threats to an organisation's ability to achieve its objectives due to inadequate or failed governance structures, policies, and processes.

12:10 Be prepared: Ensuring stability in the face of cyber and global risks

Cyber-attacks are the most frequently cited risks among leaders operating in the UK and Ireland. This session sets out how geopolitical threats – both financial and operational – present risks to stability and will highlight the importance of resilience, diagnosis, and preparedness.

12.45 Luchtime lowdown

A five-minute recap on this morning sessions

12.50 Lunch break

14.00 Breakout sessions

1 - Strategic thinking skills	Learn to think strategically, spot opportunities, and tackle challenges head-on. This session will enable you to sharpen your skills, improve your confidence and elevate your professional standing.
2 - All change at Companies House	The Economic Crime and Corporate Transparency Act will radically change the way that Companies House works. This session will explain how recent changes to UK company law will affect your organisation.
3 - Sponsor session	

14.35 Movement break

14.40 Breakout sessions

1 - Optimising board behavioural dynamics	<p>Board behavioural dynamics is the board's ability to come together effectively as a collective decision-making body. Together University of Exeter Business School and Henley Business School have conducted research and in this breakout session will discuss and share their findings and how you can enable the board to act as a collective body.</p> <p>Loretto Leavy FCG, Company Secretary, Henley Business School</p> <p>Ruth Sealy, Professor of Leadership, Henley Business School & Honorary Professor, University of Exeter Business School</p>
2 - Effective board comms	<p>This session will provide tips and insights to help your executive board understand and enhance board papers, agenda setting, board induction packs and manage the expectations of the board.</p>
3 - Sponsor session	

15.15 Tea and coffee break

15.45 Breakout sessions

1 - Ignite passion and inspire growth: Crafting company	<p>Leeds Beckett University and the Worshipful Company of Chartered Secretaries and Administrators have conducted research into the 'Value of Culture in Governance'.</p>
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values that shape your culture	
2 - AI business models: How to translate the ideas into reality	AI has evolved from a futuristic concept to a crucial aspect of modern technology. Businesses across various industries harness AI's power to enhance processes, make informed decisions, and create innovative products and services. However, the journey from an AI idea to its successful implementation is complex and multifaceted. Michaela Johnson ACG , Assistant Company, Secretary, IG Group
3 - Sponsor session	

16.20 Movement break

16.25 Motivational session

Kat Thorne, The Morning Game Changer

16.55 Conference close

17.00 Drinks reception

2 July 2025

8.30 Registration and exhibition hall open

9.30 Conference begins

9.40 AI and regulation: Shaping the future

As AI continues to advance at an unprecedented pace, the need for robust and adaptive regulatory measures becomes increasingly critical. This opening address will look at AI development, ethics, law, and policy and discuss the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead.

10.20 Integrating culture after crisis

Over the last year we ran a series of in-depth workshops exploring trustworthiness. This session shares the findings, and how those in corporate governance can assist in fostering a culture of trustworthiness and purpose.

10.55 Tea and coffee break

11.25 Doing good, whilst doing business: The future of ESG

With new regulatory and legislative updates coming into action in 2025, criticism surrounding ESG initiatives and reporting continues to be a prevalent topic amongst governance professionals.

This session will discuss the challenges and ongoing debate surrounding the implementation and effectiveness of ESG policy, such as a lack of standardisation, complexity and achievability, and greenwashing.

12.05 Generational diversity and workplace dynamics

Our workplaces are more diverse than before, with up to five generations types, working alongside one another each with their own nuances, which can leave us scratching our heads and wondering, how we can work better together by embracing these differences.

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1 - Preparing your framework: Internal controls and risk management	<p>From 1 January 2026, companies will have to provide significantly more information about their internal controls, in order to comply with the new Provision 29, in the Corporate Governance Code.</p> <p>This session looks at the changes that companies will need to understand. should report on and what that means in practice for boards and their organisations.</p> <p>Maureen Beresford, FRC</p>
2 - The new Charity Governance Code: What's changed and why it matters	<p>Several significant developments are expected to impact the charity sector in 2025. This session explores the proposed and forthcoming changes to the Charity Governance Code and will also look at reporting.</p> <p>Radojka Miljevic, Campbell Tickel</p>
3 - Sponsor session	

14.15 Movement break

14.20 Breakout sessions

<p>1 - The Chartered Secretaries' Charitable Trust</p>	<p>The Chartered Secretaries' Charitable Trust was established for the benefit of current and former members, graduates, students and employees of The Chartered Governance Institute UK & Ireland and for the promotion of good governance.</p> <p>More details on the session from the Trust and their trustees will be announced soon.</p>
<p>2 - Building and cultivating a culture prepared for AI</p>	<p>Incorporating AI into core operations has become imperative for organisations navigating the ever-evolving business and technology landscape. Adopting new technologies is not the only aspect of an AI-first culture. It involves completely changing the organisation's mindset, procedures, and tactics to fully capitalise on AI's amazing potential. It requires an effective AI strategy, and this session explores how.</p> <p>Keti Khukhunashvili ACG, Company Secretary, Schrodgers</p>
<p>3 - Social Media Governance - Harnessing your social media risk and opportunity</p>	<p>Social media has become an essential business tool. Most organisations have strong controls in place for email, but few apply the same rigour to new methods such as enterprise social networks and social media. This session explores what good looks like.</p>

14.55 Tea and coffee break

15.25 Breakout sessions

<p>1 - Sustainability and Beyond: Non-Financial Reporting</p>	<p>There is an increased interest in nonfinancial reporting on the part of investment professionals, with environmental, social and governance (ESG) disclosures contributing more to decision-making.</p>
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	Join this session to learn more and plan your next steps. Lucy Glover , Deputy Company Secretary Smiths
2 - Encouraging challenge in the boardroom	This session looks at giving individuals the tools and confidence to speak up, deal with difficult board members and how to be more impactful in board meetings.
3 - Sponsor session	

16.00 Movement break

16.05 Closing Keynote - Mastering the art of negotiating with difficult people

In this closing motivational talk learn proven and practical strategies on how to better navigate difficult people and situations so you can successfully relate to others using non-defensive communication strategies.

16.40 Closing remarks