

Method 3: Using *Learning to Fly* to review your governance arrangements

Exercise Using *Learning to Fly*

This exercise is designed for organisations that want to implement the detail of the Code but find much of the Code's detailed statements inappropriate for their circumstances. You may be a small community group, keen to review your governance arrangements but finding the Code's detail unsuitable for your own needs.

Instead of using the main Code, the exercise uses the Code's companion publication, *Learning to Fly*. *Learning to Fly* accompanies the Code but instead sets out the main principles of governance for how they generally relate to community organisations.



A version of *Learning to Fly* has been specially formatted for use with this method. This assessment version is available to **download** from the Governance Hub website.



How to:

1. **Distribute copies of *Learning to Fly* to board members** and ask people to read it before the meeting.
2. **At the meeting**, divide the eight areas in *Learning to Fly* between board members and break into pairs or small groups, each taking two areas each.
3. **In groups**, review the area and its individual statements and next to the individual statements identify where
 - we do this well (and have evidence)
 - we probably do this (but can't identify evidence)
 - we do not do this or need to improve

Use the assessment version of *Learning to Fly*.

4. **Report back** and discuss the findings as a group.
5. **Agree a priority list of action points** (you could "vote" using sticky labels).
6. **Ask for volunteers to form a small group** to take forward the findings.

Make sure you identify people who have the time to commit to the group and are able to take forward recommendations.

Illustration:

Read the flight manuals

Item	We do this well (and have evidence)	We probably do this (but no evidence)	We do not do this / need to improve	Notes
Follow your own rules: Committee members have a copy of the governing document and understand it		✓	Do all members have copy? I don't understand all aspects of the governing document.	