



1. What is governance?

Governance is concerned with overseeing the responsible, legal, ethical, transparent and effective achievement of national or organisational goals. Governance deals with the formation and stewardship of the formal and informal rules, laws, regulations and policies that regulate delivery of services in the public and private sectors. Boards (e.g. of Directors, Governors) appointed or elected according to specified conditions usually exercise governance. Governance structures should be independent of executive structures - while including members of the executive - in order to represent the interests of the organisation's investors or stakeholders. Governance is usually exercised by distinguished 'elders', but also by stakeholder representatives.

Governance structures are those organisations, departments, bodies or councils specifically concerned with governance.

[Answer to FAQ 1, The NQF and Strategic Governance, the NQF Gateway]