

Mā te kahukura ka rere te manu

Four-day Crown Entity Governance Course

Equipping Board members to lead modern Crown entities and purposeful Crown entity Boards.

Engage with highly skilled Crown entity governance practitioners about their knowledge and experience on issues relevant to contemporary and good Crown entity governance.


Iti Kōpara
PUBLIC GOVERNANCE AOTEAROA

About Iti Kōpara

Iti Kōpara – Public Governance Aotearoa is an independent registered charitable trust established by a group of experienced public sector directors, with support from Te Kawa Mataaho: Public Service Commission, New Zealand Government Ministries and agencies, and Te Herenga Waka Victoria University of Wellington.

Mā te kahukura ka rere te manu

Four-day Crown entity governance course

Rutherford House, Te Whanganui-a-Tara Wellington

July 2025

14, 15, 30, 31

Register your interest
for future courses

Our kaupapa

Our kaupapa is the pursuit of public governance excellence.

We develop and deliver competency development and refresher training for public sector governance Boards.

Course benefits

The **Mā te kahukura ka rere te manu** course is run by the Iti Kōpara Trust and is targeted at current Crown entity Board members (approximately 70% of all participants on every course).

While it is neither an induction nor refresher course, an essential part of the Iti Kōpara Trust's kaupapa is to continue building a diverse talent pool for Crown entity Boards. Therefore, a small number of course participants will be governance practitioners not yet appointed to a Crown entity Board together with a handful of aspiring directors.

- Equipping Board members to lead modern Crown entities and purposeful Crown entity Boards.
- Engage with highly skilled Crown entity governance practitioners about their knowledge and experience on issues relevant to contemporary and good Crown entity governance.

Mā te kahukura ka rere te manu

The course title refers to adorning the bird with contemporary governance knowledge and enabling it to fly to the highest peaks. Iti Kōpara aims to prepare our current and future leaders to aspire to Crown entity governance excellence that has the potential to uplift the mana, knowledge and wellbeing of all in Aotearoa New Zealand.



He iti kōpara pioi ana te tihi o te Kahikatea

A practitioners' course

This is a practitioners' course – its emphasis is on good Crown entity governance and will draw heavily on guest practitioners' experience of what has worked well – and not so well – in the real world.

There will also be daily opportunities to reflect on how you will adapt your performance as a Crown entity Board member.

Guest practitioners have included:

- Airways New Zealand Chair **Denise Church**
- Reserve Bank Board member **Rodger Finlay**
- Former Tourism NZ & EPA Chair **Dame Kerry Prendergast**
- Education NZ & NZQA Board member **Lyn Provost**
- DIA Deputy CE Māori, Strategy & Performance **Karen Vercoe**
- Former MP, Attorney General & Minister for Treaty Negotiations **Hon Christopher Finlayson KC**
- Te Whatu Ora & Taumata Arowai Chair **Dame Karen Poutasi**
- Former Pharmac & ACC Board Chair **Hon Steve Maharey**
- Controller and Auditor-General **John Ryan**
- Former MP & Chair of NZQA **Hon Tracey Martin**
- Chief Executive & Secretary for Transport **Audrey Sonerson**
- Former PWC Partner & Risk Assurance Leader **David Nalder**
- Toka Tū Ake NHC Chief Executive **Tina Mitchell**
- Sociologist, social change & demography expert **Prof Paul Spoonley**
- Secretary for the Environment **James Palmer**
- Former Prime Minister **Sir Bill English**

Apply for a 2025 course

More information at: itikopara.org.nz

Go to: [Application form](#)

What the course covers

The course has a specific focus on Crown entity governance, and the complexities which arise from the political context, the accountabilities within the broader machinery of government, and the particular functions, objectives and status of the broad range of Crown entities covered by the Crown Entities Act.

- Crown entity governance context and challenges
- Machinery of Government
- Board meetings: Culture and focus
- Me, the Board member
- Strategic leadership, including social licence
- Working with stakeholders
- Māori-Crown relationships
- Crown entity monitoring
- Organisational performance
- Issues and challenges facing Crown entities now and in the future



The course will be interactive and allow participants to personalise their learning with a strong focus on individual contribution, practicality and discussions with senior practitioners sharing their stories and experience of good Crown entity governance.

Course facilitators are experienced Crown entity Board members with additional experience from the wider Public Sector. The facilitators can be found on Iti Kōpara website.

Fees and EOI

The cost (excl GST) is \$5,000. There is a discretionary discount for individuals from civil society (non-government) roles who wish to become a Crown entity Board member. Some criteria apply for discount eligibility.

Visit our website itikopara.org.nz | Connect with us on [LinkedIn](#)