

Public Sector Governance Partner

AUDIT & GOVERNANCE SERVICES



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Welcome Message



Kevin Watkins - Senior Consultant

The public sector is facing the biggest challenge in its history as it seeks to balance rising demand with what is, in real terms, reduced funding. In responding to this challenge, the public sector must work together in implementing programmes of wholesale service transformation. It is vital that organisations ensure that effective governance and assurance arrangements are in place over these joint programmes.

AGS provides a range of governance services that can support you and your management team as you respond to the significant change agenda which lies ahead.

Why Choose AGS

“The services provided by AGS are of high quality, being responsive to client needs and showing an excellent understanding of challenges faced in the NHS today. ”

Heidi Scott-Smith
Chief Nurse, NHS CCG

We offer a range of services that can support your organisation in implementing the governance arrangements that are required for working in partnership, delivering numerous transformation projects and more generally in managing the current challenges facing the public sector.

Our decades of experience of working in the public sector, coupled with our competitive rates and qualifications, make us the number one choice for governance, training and assurance services.



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PROJECT & PROGRAMME ASSURANCE

Project Assurance is a role required by PRINCE2, the de facto standard of project management methodology used by the UK government. Yet, in our experience, the role is rarely utilised, despite the public sector's poor record of project implementation.

AGS offers a full Project and Programme Assurance service, supporting Project Boards and Project Managers in monitoring and reporting on delivery of project controls. We've helped numerous organisations to deliver successful projects through the delivery of this vital role.

Contact us for further details on how we deliver the role to see how it can support project delivery in your organisation.

"AGS' Senior Consultant's delivery of Project Assurance roles between 2014 and 2017 for the CCG provided Project Boards with valuable independent insight into the projects' implementation. His reports made effective and pragmatic recommendations to improve controls."

NHS CCG Chief Finance Officer



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PUBLIC SECTOR INTERNAL AUDITING

We can undertake any reviews that appear in internal audit plans for NHS and local government organisations, drawing on our experience of working in the public sector for over 30 years.

Our staff have many years of experience working at a senior management level within internal audit, so you can rely on us to review and supervise work of more junior staff, ensuring that it meets minimum Public Sector Internal Audit Standards.

We have participated in successful tendering exercises for internal audit contracts and can support your organisation in the preparation of tender bids.

We've been facilitating workshops with Boards for over 15 years on a wide variety of governance subjects – so if this is a service you provide your customers, you can rely on AGS to support you in this too. Visit our website for more details on the workshops and interactive training we provide.

<http://www.publicsectorgovernance.com>



'AGS provide an effective internal audit support service. They can be relied upon to undertake complex reviews across all areas within an Internal Audit Plan with minimum supervision and produce reports of an exceptionally high standard.' -

Deputy Director,
Internal Audit Consortium -
NHS & local government



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PROJECT GOVERNANCE REVIEWS

All major projects require an effective governance structure and supporting documentation – get these right and the chances of a successful project implementation increase significantly. But there can be a big difference between having a structure and documentation in place and the actual application of the controls contained within them. And with so many projects being implemented simultaneously, it's easy to lose track of whether project controls are being applied effectively.

AGS has years of experience of conducting reviews of Programme Management Office (PMO) arrangements and of specific projects' performance. Our qualified staff use PRINCE2 as the basis on which to evaluate the adequacy of project controls and on wider PMO structures. We provide reports with practical recommendations that improve control without over-burdening staff with unnecessary requirements.

'Workshops presented by AGS are engaging and effective. They facilitate effective discussion and involve all attendees through use of interactive software. Outputs produced following workshops are appropriately detailed and useful in ensuring that actions identified during the session are subsequently implemented.'

NHS CCG Director of Quality





BOARD GOVERNANCE WORKSHOPS

We develop and facilitate bespoke, interactive workshops which ensure the involvement of all attendees in finding solutions to the governance and assurance challenges presented by the current organisational change agenda.

Following the workshop, we'll provide you with an output from it which summarises the actions you need to take in response to the issues raised during the facilitated session.

Contact us now for a discussion about how we could develop a workshop for you which meets your needs.

'AGS' Senior Consultant's delivery of an interactive workshop on developing an Assurance Framework engaged all members of our Governing Body, including GPs and Lay Members. He made the potentially dry subject of risk management relevant to all present and the output from the session enabled the organisation to progress its assurance agenda successfully.'

Mark Smith, NHS Chief Finance Officer



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RISK MANAGEMENT TRAINING

Organisational change and relentlessly increasing demands on public services both breed risk in worryingly large amounts. There has never been a greater need for all managers in the public sector to have a detailed understanding of what risk management really is and how it should be applied in the current environment

AGS has over 15 years of experience of delivering workshops and training on risk management in the public sector environment. We'll meet with you to discuss your specific needs, basing our training on your Risk Management Strategy and processes to ensure its relevance to you. Subjects we provide training on include:

1. How to identify and properly describe risk;
2. Assessing risk at department and corporate levels;
3. Understanding the '3 levels of defence' of risk management;
4. The importance of Risk Appetite and how to implement it;
5. Documenting risks in Risk Registers and Assurance Frameworks;

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'In 20 years of being an Audit Committee Chair for a variety of different public bodies, AGS' Senior Consultant is one of the best auditors I have worked with. He establishes an excellent rapport with Audit Committees he works with and provides the right balance of independent challenge and understanding of the issues faced by public sector organisations. I have no hesitation in recommending the services of AGS.'

Peter Clay
NHS CCG Audit Committee Chair



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PROJECT GOVERNANCE WORKSHOPS

More and more staff who work in front line services are finding themselves members of Project Teams with responsibility for implementing service transformation. But how many have received any training in the basic principles of project management? And how can so many staff receive the training they need at an affordable cost?

AGS has the answer. We've used our years of experience of providing Project Assurance roles in the public sector to develop an interactive 1 hour workshop that focuses on the potential areas of weakness in project delivery. Join us at one of our breakfast workshops to receive some basic training in PRINCE2 project management techniques and find out how to avoid the most common pitfalls in implementing projects. The cost of this workshop is just £35 per delegate.

Contact us to register your interest for attending one of the workshops.



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Contact AGS

If you have any questions around our services or wish to arrange a no obligation consultation please call us on **01332 916144** or complete the contact form on our website: <http://www.publicsectorgovernance.com>

Customer Support



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