

# Introduction to Governance

Governance Manual

<b>Version Control</b>	
Title:	Introduction to Governance
Version Number:	1.0
Author:	Paul Ashton
Date:	11 December 2008
Review by:	11 December 2009
Owner:	Company Secretary

Riverside Christian Centre is an organisation that exists to serve Jesus Christ and does so by ensuring that the Bible; the inspired word of God is fundamental to and evidenced in all that we do.

Good Governance is a priority for all 'public benefit' organisations and there is a growing stakeholder expectation that organisations are able to demonstrate how business affairs are managed and delivered to acceptable standards.

Governance has been described as;

*"The systems and processes concerned with ensuring the overall direction, effectiveness, supervision and accountability of an organisation".*

Riverside Church has a growing reputation for providing a Spirit-filled family environment in which all sections of the community are able to explore and develop their Christian faith in a manner that is contemporary and relevant in today's society. With this reputation comes significant responsibility for good stewardship and efficient management of the affairs of the Riverside Christian Centre (the Charity).

The Board of Trustees (Board) is the governing body of the Charity and therefore has the overall responsibility for ensuring that all charitable and/or business matters are conducted in a professional and ethically appropriate manner. The Board are also the guardians of the Charity's Christian Ethos which is what makes the work of the Charity unique.

This document lays out the Board's approach to ensuring good governance and forms the basis for how matters are undertaken across the rest of the organisation.

It is our desire to see the Charity (and therefore the Church) prosper and grow and to do so in such a way that it is honouring to God and well respected by our stakeholders. We believe this approach to governance forms part of a process of continuous improvement in the way the Charity is managed and run.

*Paul Ashton*

Chairman

*Aran Richardson*

Senior Pastor/Chief Executive Officer

*"But everything should be done in a fitting and orderly way"*

*(1 Cor 14 v 40)*