

Getting Started: Realising your Board Potential workshop

This workshop is our signature workshop for anyone considering their first non-executive director board role to increase their strategic experience and broaden their networks.

The half-day workshop is a fast-paced tour through everything you need to know about directorship, how to do yourself justice as a candidate and strategies to combine board work with your executive career. It shares market intelligence on board roles, which boards you can realistically target at different stages in your career and how to apply.

Women on Boards believe that if you are ambitious, you are never too young to know what goes on in the boardroom.

Who should attend this workshop?

This workshop is **open to men and women**. It is suited to those:

- At mid or late-career stages;
- Considering board roles and wanting to build their understanding of what is involved;
- Who would benefit from strategic and practical advice on accessing board positions;
- Seeking to develop their career resilience - for example around career breaks.

Mixed-level groups of between 20 and 30 people work best for this workshop, as experiences and learning can be exchanged across ages and stages. We recommend a maximum of 40 attendees per workshop.

Workshop outline

1. Managing your career:

- The career benefits of directorship for the individual and employer;
- How to combine a non-executive role with a busy executive position;
- Board roles as a strategy for surviving a career break.

2. About Non-Executive Directorship:

- The role, duties and legal responsibilities of the board and the non-executives;
- Market-intelligence on board recruitment and how non-executives are selected;
- Tips and tricks for finding and applying for roles, and choosing your first role;

3. Doing yourself justice:

- How to identify and articulate your transferable skills;

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- The first steps to creating a non-executive Board CV;
- The importance of being a strong self-advocate;
- How Women on Boards can support you.

The workshop is practical, strategic and interactive and is presented by two experienced board directors. It runs for three and a half hours with a short break. Participants become part of a unique network of support and influence for women with board aspirations, wherever they are currently on their career journey.

Workshop Feedback – Getting Started

Debbie Febry, HR Manager, Wessex Water



“Whilst I have always been keen to progress in my career, I hadn’t given much thought to how I could obtain a board position, or that my HR experience could be useful to the board of another organisation.

I decided to apply for a Community Governor position after being inspired by Women on Boards. I am now a community Governor for two local schools close to where I live.

It is great to know that my employer is a supporter of Women on Boards and an advocate of more diversity in senior management positions.”

General Feedback

“Fantastic workshop - it increased my awareness of boards and understanding of what I need to do to get there. I’m only at the beginning of my journey, but I now see a path. Thank you.”

“Thank you for such an inspirational workshop. I came away with lots of practical ideas for improving my board profile, as well as the confidence to apply for the right kind of NED roles.”

“Great course, makes you think about how you add value to your company and about your own career development. Excellent Presenters, energetic, encouraging and practical. Thank you for spending useful time away from being just busy.”

“To anyone wondering if they should attend one of Women on Boards’ workshops: just do it!”

“Excellent presenters - very passionate. Excellent tips and areas to focus.”

“Very instructive and an eye opener for me.”

“One of the best workshops I have ever attended. Thank you.”

“It was the most excellent ...session I have ever attended. Definite 10. Excellent session.”

“It was a great workshop, very inspiring. It energised me to think about my next steps.”

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