

Welcome and introduction

- 1. Share insights on how premium listed companies reported on the following in their 2019/20 annual report and accounts (ARAs):
 - ▶ First year of implementing the 2018 Code and related regulation (Miscellaneous Reporting Regulations or MRR)
 - ► Reporting under COVID-19
 - Moving from intent to action.
- 2. Ideas for enhancing your 2020/21 reporting
- 3. Questions and discussion



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Annual reporting in 2019/20: from intent to action

- Observations covering:
 - 1. Meaningful reporting
 - 2. Purpose
 - 3. Culture
 - 4. Managing risk and viability
 - 5. Climate change and the UN Sustainable Development Goals
 - 6. Stakeholder engagement and Section 172 (s172)
 - 7. Workforce engagement and diversity
- Features include:
 - ► Acid test updated for COVID-19 considerations
 - Overview of new requirements
 - Insights on underlying governance processes and leading practice examples
 - Viewpoints from investors
 - Recommendations on how to move 'from intent to action'



Based on a review of over 100 FTSE 350 ARAs with December 2019 to March 2020 year ends.



Setting the scene

- The ARA is a key mechanism by which investors and significant stakeholders hold directors to account
- Increasing recognition of broader stakeholder accountability, driving focus on narrative disclosure and non-financial metrics
- COVID-19 has brought stakeholder and corporate governance issues to the fore
- Changes in governance and reporting are likely to be a constant for some years to come

Stewardship

The safe investment of capital to create sustainable value for the long-term

Trust in business relies upon an effective accountability framework

Governance

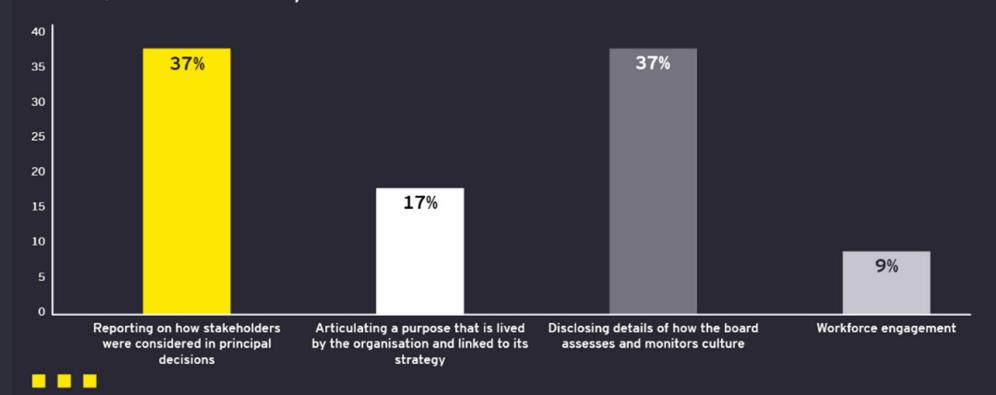
The system by which companies are directed and controlled

Reporting

Officially promoted and documented communication from companies intended to provide a comprehensive picture of their performance and position to interested external parties



Poll: Given the extent of new reporting requirements introduced by the 2018 UK Corporate Governance Code and related secondary legislation (Miscellaneous Reporting Regulations), we asked preparers what aspects of these changes presented them with the greatest challenge in their 2019/20 annual reports:

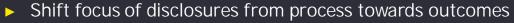


Find out more ey.com/corporategovernance #FromIntentToAction



What do we mean by 'intent to action'?

Meaningful reporting



▶ Challenge whether the ARA is fair, balanced and understandable

Purpose and culture

Explain the alignment between purpose and strategy

 Disclose the metrics used to assess culture and the actions that need to be taken to close the identified gap

Managing risk, viability and climate change

Articulate how risk management processes were changed to identify emerging risks

Disclose the changes made to viability scenarios in light of COVID-19

▶ Explain how climate change and the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) impact strategy

Stakeholder engagement and s172

Explain how the board engaged with key stakeholders, on what topics and the decisions taken in response to feedback received

▶ Set out the principal decisions and explain how s172 matters were considered in making them

Workforce engagement and diversity

Discuss feedback received from the workforce and how it is considered in the boardroom

 Set targets for gender and ethnicity representation at Board and leadership level and disclose the mechanisms in place to achieve these

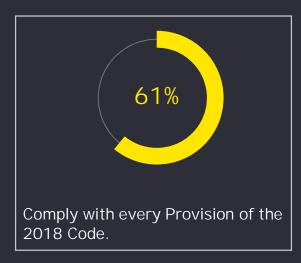


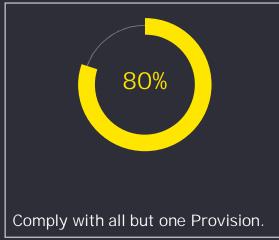


Meaningful reporting

Overall findings

- 2018 Code and MRR have led to improvements in reporting particularly KPIs
- Areas of Code non-compliance relate primarily to new 2018
 Code Provisions, but compliance is still (surprisingly) high
- ► There is little evidence of how companies applied the Principles of the Code





COVID-19 considerations

Provide an open account of the impact of COVID-19 on the company:

- Was the pandemic a blind spot that the board had not considered?
- Did the pandemic manifest in a way that the board had previously discussed when modelling black swan events?

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Full strict compliance has never been the aim, nor has it reflected the spirit, of the 2018 Code due to the 'comply or explain' approach on the Provisions. Detailed and comprehensive explanations offer the reader a greater insight into how the company operates.

Annual review of the UK Corporate Governance Code, Financial Reporting Council (FRC), January 2020



Barclays: Innovative reporting: KPIs (2019 ARA, p18-19)



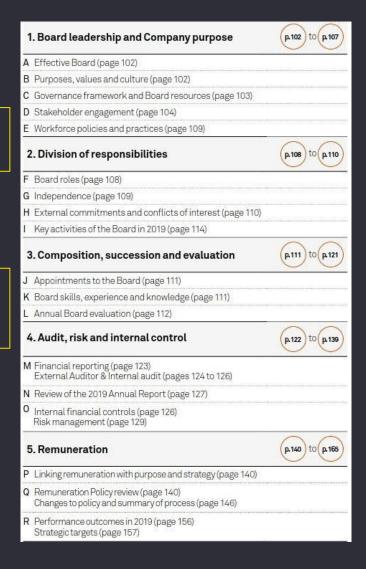
KPIs presented by stakeholder group. Wide range of internal and external financial and non-financial measures to assess performance.



Derwent London: Application of the Principles (2019 ARA, p102)

Uses the 2018 Code to structure the governance section.

Links the 2018 Code Principles to the relevant parts of the governance section.



BOARD LEADERSHIP AND COMPANY PURPOSE

Effective Board

Our Board is composed of highly skilled professionals who bring a range of skills, perspectives and corporate experience to our boardroom (see pages 98, 99 and 111). In accordance with the Code, the role of the Board is to promote the long-term sustainable success of the Company, generate value for shareholders and contribute to wider society.

On an annual basis, the Board conducts a detailed annual review of our strategy (including our purpose, and strategic objectives). This year's review took place on 21 June 2019 and included high-level exploratory discussions to challenge whether the strategy remains fit for purpose and responsive enough to our ever-changing environment.

Through its review, the Board is able to assess and identify changing or emerging risks that could impact on the Group in the short and medium term (further information on our emerging risks is on page 45). As we generate value through the core activities identified in our business model (see page 20), the flexibility of the business model is also assessed by the Board to ensure it remains 'future ready'.

Some of the key aspects discussed by the Board during its strategy discussions included:

- changes to the London office market and investment market (see pages 12 to 15);
- our development pipeline in respect to its replenishment and future potential (see pages 28 to 29);
- review of the five-year plan;
- our employees, their wellbeing and developing our talent pipeline (see pages 84 to 85);
- emerging occupier trends;
- responsibility matters including our net zero carbon emissions strategy (see pages 80 to 83); and
- investor relations and corporate communications.

Further detail on how the Principles of the 2018 Code were fulfilled with links to the Strategic Report as well as Governance Report.





Purpose and culture

Overall findings

- ► There's a growing recognition of the importance of a purpose that benefits all key stakeholders
- Culture features much more prominently across ARAs. The majority of companies disclose their values but not many disclose how they monitor culture (as required)



Of companies disclose a purpose statement ...

... but only a few articulate clearly how purpose links to strategy and culture.

COVID-19 considerations

- ► How has the stated purpose withstood the pandemic?
- ► How has the board adapted its culture monitoring given widespread remote working?

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The studies find that ... it is purpose that leads to profit, rather than profit allowing a company to pursue purpose.

Alex Edmans,

Professor of Finance, London Business School CITY A.M. interview, 27 March 2020



Anglo American plc: Purpose and KPIs (2019 ARA, p14)



Clear link between purpose and strategy.



Anglo American plc: Purpose and KPIs (2019 ARA, p14) (cont'd)

OUR VALUES

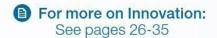
Anglo American's Values and behaviours are at the heart of everything we do. Guided by our Purpose and our Values we enable high performance and purposeful action. Our Values and the way in which we, as individuals, are expected to behave are the foundation of our Code of Conduct.



Innovation

Across every aspect of our business, we are thinking innovatively about how we ensure the safety of our people, enhance our sustainability performance, and deliver enduring value for all our stakeholders.

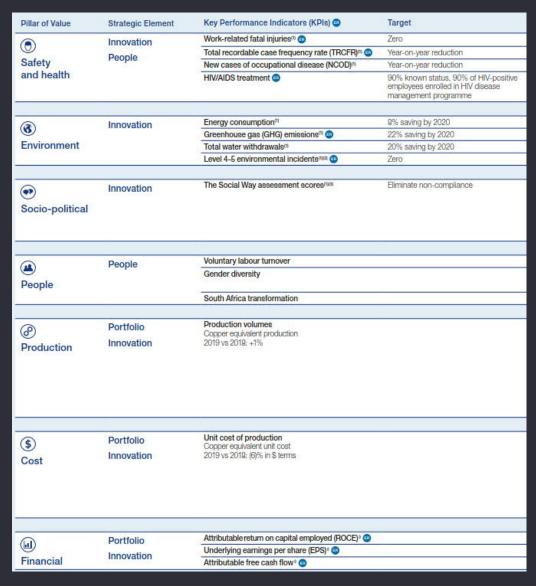
From exploration to delivering our products to our customers, FutureSmart Mining™ is our innovation-led pathway to sustainable mining. Coupled with the best-in-class operational improvements being delivered from our unique Operating Model and P101 programme, we are fundamentally changing the way we extract, process and market our products, and will provide the next step-change in operating and financial performance.



Clear link between the innovation value and the innovation aspect of the strategy.



Anglo American plc: Purpose and KPIs (2019 ARA, p50)



KPIs are based on the seven value pillars, which are clearly mapped to the strategic elements; clear targets are set.



Taylor Wimpey: Culture monitoring (2019 ARA, p71)

External data points are considered.

Survey data challenged and supplemented by metrics.

Clear identification of culture metrics.

Link made to compliance initiatives.



Employee survey

The Employee Survey is conducted every two years and the results for 2019, in which over two-thirds of employees participated, showed over 90% considered that:

- Their work gave them active engagement in the Group's performance and prospects.
- They understood, supported and actively promoted the Group's strategy.
- They understood, supported and actively promoted in their day to day work the key strategic direction of improved attention to customers' needs.



Glassdoor list of best places to work

The results of the Employee Survey (above) are further borne out by the annual Glassdoor list of best places to work which is an independent survey across UK businesses of employees' perception of the Company for which they work.

The 2019 list, ranking the best places to work during 2020, showed the Company had maintained its top fifty ranking for the third successive year and continued to be the highest-ranked of the major UK Housebuilding companies.



Employee retention

The Board receives an update on HR matters at each meeting.

Our employees offer one of our greatest competitive advantages and retaining their services is a key element of our strategy. Voluntary employee turnover of 12.9% is lower than for 2018 and is aligned to a strong level of engagement with the Company's strategy.



Health and safety

The Company maintains an absolute, non-negotiable commitment to maintaining a healthy and safe place of work for all stakeholders, as described elsewhere in this Annual Report on pages 15, 23 and 28. The Employee Survey described above found that 97% of employees understood their role in advancing this commitment in their day to day work.



Compliance

The Group has robust policies, regularly reviewed, concerning key governance areas including anti-bribery; anti-corruption; anti-money laundering; and anti-slavery and human trafficking. These policies are actively promoted through online training; checks for successful completion of initial and updated training and guidance; and annual sign-offs by senior management across the business.

These processes and checks are underpinned by a robust Internal Audit Department, whose work is monitored by the Audit Committee as described on pages 103-104, and an independent whistleblowing process monitored by the Board as described on page 75.



Taylor Wimpey: Culture monitoring (2019 ARA, p69)

The Company's approach is described in more detail on page 71. The Board is led in these respects by the Chair, who ensures the Board operates correctly, setting its own culture and, by extension, that of the Company in its operations and its dealings with all stakeholders. The observance of that culture throughout business operations is led by the Chief Executive with the assistance of the other Executive Directors and the Group Management Team.

During the course of 2019 and into 2020, the Board actively reviewed and monitored several key areas that it considers are important indicators of the Company culture, including health, safety and environmental matters (as set out on pages 28 and 37), customer service, land, risk strategy, and diversity and inclusivity.

The Board took a number of actions designed to address the findings of these cultural indicators:

- Initiatives commenced in response to the outcome of the 2019 Employee Survey are described on page 135.
- Actions taken in response to employee consultation are set out on page 78.
- The NEF was consulted on proposals introduced during 2019 in the areas of agile working and the revised induction process for new starters.
- The roll-out of new information technology was discussed with the NEF.
- Wider use was made of social media to inform employees.

The Board will keep all of these areas under regular review.

Clarity on initiatives to be undertaken to address findings.





Managing risk and viability

Overall findings

- Some companies have meaningfully explained the changes made to their risk assessment process to identify emerging risks
- Not many disclose what the emerging risks are.
- Where disclosed, environmental and technology are the most commonly identified emerging risks

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Given the company specific nature of Covid-19, we expect companies to consider the specific resources, assets and relationships that are most under threat and the steps being taken to protect them when setting out their principal risks and uncertainties.

Covid-19 Thematic Review: Review of financial reporting effects of Covid-19, FRC, July 2020

COVID-19 considerations

- How has the board's assessment of principal risks considered COVID-19? Has this resulted in a new principal risk(s) or have existing principal risks been updated, or both?
- Has the board's risk appetite for certain principal risks reduced? If so, what additional mitigating measures are you taking?
- How have the viability scenarios from previous years changed to reflect COVID-19? Is the statement clear on the assumptions and caveats for example, around expected operational restrictions, ability to meet debt covenants or assumed duration of COVID-19 crisis, etc.?



Balfour Beatty plc: Emerging risks (2019 ARA, p75)

Emerging risks

As part of the July 2018 update to the UK Corporate Governance Code listed companies are required to identify the procedures they have in place to identify emerging risks faced by the business and an explanation of how these are being managed or mitigated.

This requirement has been adopted and embedded within the Group's risk management reporting process and, in parallel with the day-to-day management of risk, each Strategic Business Unit (SBU) and Enabling Function (EF) includes specific reference to its emerging risks in its half year and full year risk submission. These risks form part of the discussion between the Group and the SBU or EF and relevant emerging risks are escalated to the Executive Risk Steering Group for further analysis and validation.

Within Balfour Beatty, emerging risks are considered in the context of longer-term impact and shorter-term risk velocity and are viewed in context with its Viability statement. The Group has therefore defined emerging risks as those risks captured on a risk register that:

- > are likely to be of significant scale beyond a three-year timeframe; or
- have the velocity to significantly increase in severity within the three-year period.

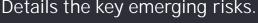
Provides a definition of emerging risks.

Clarity on how they have adopted the requirement.



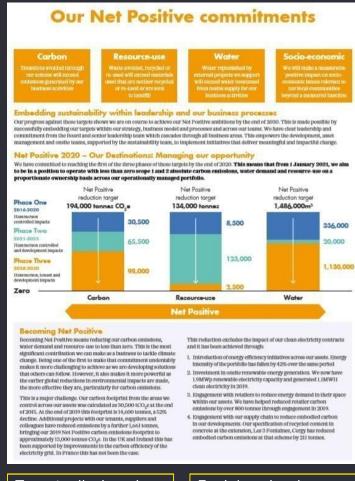
Balfour Beatty plc: Emerging risks (2019 ARA, p75) (cont'd)

RISK EVENT	IMPACT	CONTROLS	TIMESCALE
Climate change Failure to adapt to climate change pressures, regulatory change (i.e. Task Force for Climate Related Financial Disclosures) and client expectations.	 Exposure to fines, defects, project delays and reputational harm amongst stakeholders. Climate change also presents several opportunities to the Group (flood defences, improving utility infrastructure, etc). 	 Climate change clauses built in to contracts, ongoing review of reporting and operational regulations and use of up-to-date weather data in project planning. The Group is actively working with its customer base to showcase its infrastructure capabilities. 	>3 YEARS
Net Zero Carbon Failure to adapt to increased social awareness and client expectations.	➤ Reduction in future work including including with strategic clients and within frameworks.	 The Group maintains strong relationships with its customer base to understand expectations and share potential limitations. The Group has demonstrable capability in delivering innovative and sustainable solutions. 	<3 YEARS
Uptake of new technologies Failure to embrace innovative technologies to deliver efficiencies to the Group and its customers.	➤ Inability to deliver better for less resulting in a loss of competitive advantage within the marketplace and an inability to secure further work.	➤ The Group continues to drive innovation through adoption of improved project management tools such as Field360 and is working with industry-leading external advisers to embed creative thinking. This is reinforced by the appointment of a Chief Technology Officer to lead the accelerated delivery of change and innovation.	<3 YEARS





Hammerson Plc: Climate change targets (2019 ARA, p34-35)



Targets disclosed with different phases.

Explains clearly what 'Becoming Net Positive' means.

UNSDGs supported by our Carbon targets







2019 Achievements

Our consistent approach to energy management and engagement with key stakeholder groups has delivered a 32% year on year reduction in our Net Positive carbon footprint (5,632 tonnes of ${\rm CO}_3{\rm e}$).

Key energy efficiency projects that have driven this in 2019 have included:

- Using smart sub-metering to monitor utility consumption every 24 hours
- LED lighting installations at nine assets
- Using carbon monoxide sensors to reduce fan running times in car parks
- These and other initiatives reduced energy demand by 10% across our total managed assets

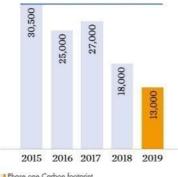
2020 Carbon key initiatives

- Maintaining our focus on energy efficiency
- Investment in further efficiency technologies
- Expansion of our renewable energy generation capacity
- A procurement approach that brings additional renewable energy to the market
- Further work with retailers to reduce emissions from their spaces within our assets

Our analysis forecasts that by the end of 2020 these measures will reduce our carbon emissions to an estimated 8700 tonnes $\mathrm{CO}_2\mathrm{e}$. Over the course of the year we will identify appropriate offset projects to address our remaining emissions. Offsetting is always the last option in our carbon strategy but is necessary. A comprehensive statement on our approach to offsetting is set out in our Sustainability Report.

Chart 10

Net Positive carbon emissions (Tonnes CO,e)



Phase one Carbon footprint

– 2015 Baseline

Explains how they will reach the target





Stakeholder engagement and s172

Overall findings

- Most companies discuss their stakeholders and how they engaged with them
- Increased disclosures on how stakeholder interests are considered on board decisions compared to last year, in line with new requirements

The average number of principal decisions/ case studies disclosed is between three and four.



Of companies do not disclose principal decisions/case studies to demonstrate how directors considered s172.

COVID-19 considerations

- How has the board adapted stakeholder engagement in light of the crisis?
- How has the board considered s172 when making tough decisions?

11

The pandemic could reveal which companies truly embodied the stakeholder model, and which only paid lip service to it.

Klaus Schwab

The World Economic Forum



Pennon Group plc: stakeholder outcomes (2019 ARA, p26-28)

Quality services and satisfied customers



South West Water's customer satisfaction

target: year on year increase in customer satisfaction scores

Pennon Water Service's customer satisfaction

target: year on year increase in customer satisfaction scores

of customers have trust and confidence in South West Water and Bournemouth Water

Viridor's customer satisfaction

target: year on year increase in customer satisfaction scores

WaterShare customer panel meets quarterly

Skills, diversity and development



LTIFR 0.90 is down

from 2018/19. Target of 0.50 by 2025. which would make Pennon a health & safety sector leader in water and waste

Engagement score

Eight STEM partnerships delivered up from 2018/19

education programme

long-term target to increase the

reach of our STEM and community

maintaining our strong 2018/19 score

Trust Index score

+1pt on 2018/19. Target is to be Great Place to Work accredited

Female representation at

Board level has increased to

from 33.3% in 2018/19: ahead of our 2020 30% Club target

£6.4m

and benefit

community investment

across Pennon including £5.3 million to Viridor credits

Community investment

98.7%

of bathing water classified as 'sufficient' or better

maintaining last year's excellent performance. Our long-term target is

visitors to South West Water's reservoirs

in line with 2018/19

beach cleans

held through our BeachCare partnership removing 11.3 tonnes of waste

visitors to Viridor's 11 educational centres last year

Stakeholder outcomes disclosed for each key stakeholder group



National Express Group plc: s172 (2019 ARA, p66 and 68)

In making decisions, the Company's Directors are cognisant of all their legal duties, including their duty under Section 172(1) of the Companies Act 2006 to act in the way that is most likely to promote the success of the Company for the benefit of its members as a whole and to have regard (among other matters) to the factors set out in Section 172(1)(a) to (f) of the Companies Act 2006. Examples of some of the principal decisions taken by the Board during the year and an explanation of which factors the Directors had regard to when reaching such decisions, including those set out in Section 172(1)(a) to (f) of the Companies Act 2006, are set out in the table below:

Key of factors considered

£ Financial impact

(3) Reputation

(A)

Acting fairly between members

Long-term impact

Employees

Community & environment

Fostering business relationships

Refinancing of c.£650 million of maturing Euro notes, Sterling bonds and other debt facilities through the Company's debut US private placement of notes and the issue of notes under

the Company's EMTN

programme



 The refinancing would secure the liquidity required for the Company to execute its long-term strategic plans over the 7-12 year blended tenor of the new debt



 The new debt would be secured on very favourable financial terms, both as regards coupon and having regard to delayed draw features (reducing double cost of carry)



 The refinancing would enable the Company to develop lending relationships with certain debt investors that were new to the Group, and build on those with debt investors that already lend to the Group



 The decision to secure debt rather than equity funding would help to ensure that shareholders, including small shareholders who may not be able to take up their rights in a rights issue, would benefit equally from the delivery of the Company's strategy funded by debt

Specific detail on how directors considered s172 factors (including those beyond stakeholders) in respect of principal decisions.





Workforce engagement and diversity

Overall findings

- ► The designated non-executive director (NED) is the most popular approach, though this has often been implemented in conjunction with existing mechanisms, e.g., employee forums
- Increased evidence of reporting on what specific diversity initiatives are in place



whilst more companies are recognising and communicating wider on the challenges of increasing diversity, only 12% of companies are reporting on the ethnic diversity of their board.

COVID-19 considerations

- ► How is the board using virtual platforms to engage with the workforce in light of increased remote working?
- Given the extensive changes to the ways of working how does your board get insight into culture?



A <u>summary of insights</u> from our designated NEDs roundtables on workforce engagement following the first cycle of applying the 2018 Code and in light of COVID-19



Elementis Plc: Workforce engagement (ARA 2019, p63)

Purpose of the role

In line with the requirements of the UK Corporate Governance Code 2018 (Code), the role of Designated Non-Executive Director (DNED) exists to ensure that the views and concerns of the workforce are brought to the Board and taken into account and are consistent with the Company's values and support its long term sustainable success.

During the year, Sandra Boss was appointed as the DNED and is expected to:

- Understand the concerns of the workforce
- Articulate those views and concerns in Board meetings
- Ensure the Board takes appropriate steps to evaluate the impact of proposals and developments on the workforce and consider what steps should be taken to mitigate any adverse impact
- Feedback to the workforce on steps taken to address concerns or explain why particular steps have not been taken

Responsibilities:

- To review and monitor insight driven by the engagement survey or other qualitative data (quarterly updates) with the support of the CHRO, Group Company Secretary and SVP, Global Supply Chain and Manufacturing (together the DNED Sub Committee)
- To actively participate in a programme of workforce engagement which may include a variety of engagement mechanisms/ channels such as focus groups and townhalls
- As a standing agenda item at the Board, the DNED is expected to report on the programme of engagement activity and workforce concerns
- The DNED is expected to feedback any concerns regarding remuneration directly to the Remuneration Committee
- Supported by the DNED Sub Committee, the DNED is expected to prepare appropriate responses to address workforce concerns
- Supported by the DNED Sub Committee, the DNED is expected to explain how the Code provisions relating to workforce engagement have been met

Activities carried out in 2019

- Communicated the appointment of Sandra Boss (DNED) to the wider workforce
- Developed workforce engagement plan for 2019-2020
- Launch of engagement survey
- China focus group following Board site visit to China. The purpose of this activity was to understand sentiment based on local management changes, organisational review and other Values based questions

Activities planned for 2020

- Focus groups facilitated across selected sites
- Physical attendance by DNED as part of the Board's site visit programme to Castle Hayne and New Jersey
- Review of engagement survey data at regular intervals
- Workforce engagement reports at Board meetings
- DNED communications to workforce in response to insight gained from focus groups and site visits

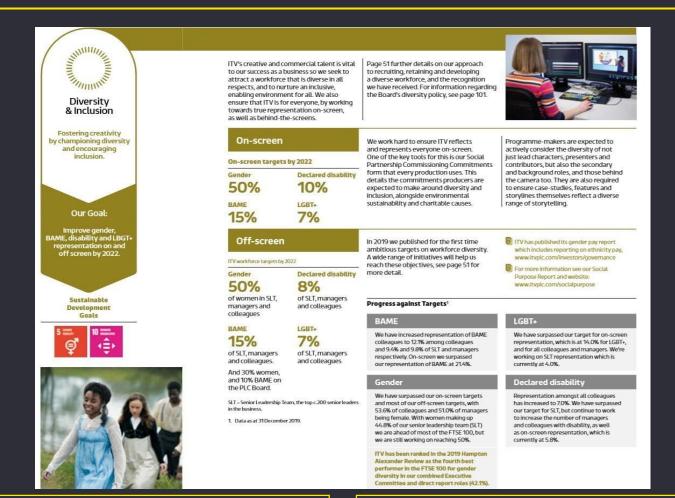
Further information on workforce engagement can be found on pages 34, 36, 67 and 69.

Clarity on the purpose and responsibilities of the designated NED.

A clear focus on actions taken in the year and those planned for the following year.



ITV plc: Diversity (ARA 2019, p48-49)



Good cross-referencing to further related information on talent recruitment and retention as well as the actual policies in place on diversity.

ITV has set clear targets with a specified timeline on a range of diversity issues. Progress has been reported on all of these.



Poll: Given that preparers are thinking ahead to their 2nd cycle of reporting against the 2018 UK Corporate Governance Code and the Miscellaneous Reporting Regulations in very volatile and uncertain times, we asked them what their main areas of focus would be in their 2020/21 (i.e. next) annual report:



Find out more ey.com/corporategovernance #FromIntentToAction



Key messages

- Start early reflect on the first cycle of applying the 2018 Code and MRR to consider areas for development/enhancement
- ► Turn intent into action balanced, transparent and outcomeoriented reporting helps create accountability and, in time, trust
- Keep abreast of upcoming developments and help shape/influence them as they progress



Feelings waste themselves in words; they ought all to be distilled into actions which bring results.

Florence Nightingale



About EY's Corporate Governance team

- We provide practical guidance and thought leadership on governance and narrative reporting matters
- We contribute to wider discussions on good governance, based on our research and engagement with investors, boards and regulators









Our services include:

- Bespoke reviews of narrative reporting including gap analysis
- Governance diagnostics
- ▶ Board/management training for FTSE 350 and large private companies

To access our thought leadership or subscribe to our monthly e-bulletin Governance Spotlight visit https://www.ey.com/corporategovernance or email corporategovernance@uk.ey.com.



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ED None

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