

# CEO PERFORMANCE APPRAISAL

### **PURPOSE**

To guide a structured approach to periodic performance reviews and provision of constructive feedback.

Performance reviews are intended to be constructive processes that allow the staff of an organisation to be appraised against the job descriptions that form part of their employment contracts. The review is a two-way process: most CEOs value feedback on their work, while the appraisal also allows the CEO the opportunity to identify ways in which the Board can help the CEO to be more effective.

Regular feedback and honest communication on issues of concern – especially between Chair and CEO – are essential to a healthy and productive working relationship. The formal, periodic performance review is not a substitute for this, but an opportunity to pause and reflect in more depth.

The CEO's performance review should remain confidential to the board and the CEO, with copies of the review retained by the Chair only, off-premises.

The terms of reference for the review, including criteria and measures against which performance is to be evaluated, are developed in consultation with the CEO and should have the approval of the full board. The terms of reference for the review are subject to company disciplinary procedures, including warning and dismissal procedures that are part of all employment contracts with the organisation. Criteria may be kept to a minimum to ensure the scope can be sufficiently broad to accommodate wide-ranging matters.

Reviews normally occur annually or as stated in the employment contract, conducted by a panel that should consist of the Chair and one or two other board members. Unless there are grounds for seeking input from outside sources, input would usually only be sought from the CEO and from the rest of the Board prior to meeting with the CEO.

A suggested process follows.

Step One: the CEO reviews his/her own work against the criteria agreed in the terms of reference, including key areas of responsibility and/or key elements of the Strategic Plan. This review would include the CEO's assessment of the adequacy of supervision and direction from the board, with suggestions for improvement. It would also include an assessment of any concerns or difficulties being experienced, as well as suggestions for training and/or changes for improvement.

**Step Two:** The panel undertakes the performance review based on the same criteria as those used by the CEO, together with an assessment of internal and external relations and of how he/she is realising the direction set in the strategic plan.

**Step Three:** Panel and CEO convene for a discussion of the review each has undertaken. The meeting will jointly develop appropriate objectives to address variances and performance measures. The results of this discussion will form the basis of the subsequent review.

There are two templates attached. The first focuses on the CEO's performance against KPIs associated with the Strategic Plan. (Only three are indicated in the template – more to be added as necessary.) The second allows a review across more general criteria.

SUGGESTED TEMPLATE 1				PERFORMANCE OBJECTIVES:				
Employer			Date of revi	Date of review:		Length of time in post:		
						Performance review schedule:		
Name:			Position:	Position:		iignature:		
Review conducted by:			Signatures:					
0	verall Performance	formance Deliverables:						
Development and delivery of Strategic Business Plan inclusive of operational, KPI and strategic objectives.								
N o.	Performance Objectives	Performance Deliverable	Timeframe	Performano Status	се	Comments		
1	Strategic Development Plan & Operational Plan: KPIs	Achieve 50% of all business plan targets across each programme area	By December 2020	Achieved		The delivery of KPIs in the strategic business plan has been achieved as reported to most recent Board meeting.		
2	Establishment of Staffing Structure		By December 2020	Part achiev	rt achieved  This has been achieved in part as: The organisation structure approved by the Board and recruitment for Development Manager achieved in October 2018.			
3	·		By December 2020	Part achieved				

SUGGESTED TEMPLATE 2		CEO APPRAISAL PLAN						
An appraisal involves a number of things, but first and foremost it is the process of identifying anything that might have gotten in the way of better performance and how board and CEO can work together in the future, to achieve optimum results.								
		Date of Appointment to current role:						
		Reviewers:						
Date:								

PERFORMANCE CRITERIA	DEFINITION/DESCRIPTION	CEO COMMENTS	DIRECTORS/ BOARD COMMENTS
Performance	Please describe some of your achievements over the past 6-12 months. Are there any areas in which you would like to improve your performance or make additional contributions?		
Workload and Time Management	Please describe how you feel about your overall workload and the balance between different areas of work		
Company direction	How well is the Company progressing in the direction set in the Strategic Plan? Is there anything that could assist achievement of Strategic Plan goals?		
Duty Statement	Currency of duty statement. Are there areas of your work not covered by the Duty Statement or areas which are in the duty statement which don't seem to form a part of the job?		
Board Communications	Effectiveness of communications with the Board. How do you feel about the level and nature of communications, as they affect your work?		
Long Term Aspirations	Are there particular areas of work where you would like to develop further? What are your longer term work aspirations?		
Short Term Work Goals	What are your short term goals in your work?		
Other Comments	Are there any broader comments you would like to make about your progress?		

In discussion with the Board, when is your next salary review:

#### REFERENCES

Fishel, D, The Book of the Board, Federation Press, Sydney, NSW (2003; 3rd edn. 2014)

## ABOUT POSITIVE SOLUTIONS

Positive Solutions offers a range of services to non-profit boards throughout Australia. Board development workshops and detailed board reviews can be tailored to the needs of each organisation. To find out more about how Positive Solutions can help you, contact:

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