

Expression of Interest: External Member of the Audit & Risk Committee

Audit & Risk Committee (ARC)

We are seeking Expressions of Interest from suitably qualified individuals to serve as an External Member of the HPRA Audit & Risk Committee (ARC).

This is an opportunity to contribute independent oversight, strategic insight and constructive challenge to support strong governance, effective risk management, and robust assurance processes in a complex regulatory environment.

In addition to governance, audit and risk experience, the successful applicant will bring demonstrated expertise in information technology, cybersecurity and digital transformation within a complex multidisciplinary environment, together with an understanding of governance in a state body context.

About the Role

As an External Member of the ARC, you will contribute independent advice and strategic insight to the Committee, and contribute to the Committee's constructive challenge of, and support to, the Authority and its management.

The role is advisory and non-executive, supporting the Committee's oversight of governance, risk management, internal control, audit and assurance arrangements, including financial and other reporting, internal controls, risk management frameworks and compliance obligations.

Given the increasing importance of digital risk, this role will bring increased specialist insight into digital and technology-related risks, including cyber resilience, data and information governance, and digital transformation related risk.

Key responsibilities include:

- Providing independent advice and insight to assist the Committee in supporting and, where appropriate, constructively challenging the Authority and its management;
- Contributing, as a Committee Member, to the Committee's oversight of enterprise risk management, including risk appetite and the identification, assessment, mitigation and monitoring of digital and technology-related risks;
- Reviewing internal and external audit findings and the Authority's implementation of audit recommendations;
- Assessing and commenting upon the effectiveness of internal controls, compliance frameworks, and governance processes;
- Advising on digital transformation related risk, including the appropriateness of the Authority's IT strategy, digital transformation opportunities and initiatives, and the effective management of associated risks; and
- Participating as a Committee Member in horizon scanning to identify emerging risks (threats and opportunities) including the evolution of cyber threats and regulatory developments and helping ensure that they are appropriately considered by the Committee and Authority management.

Essential Criteria

Candidates must be able to demonstrate:

- Significant senior leadership experience in a complex organisation of material scale, preferably with substantial budgetary, operational, regulatory or technology-related responsibilities, together with experience in at least two of the following:
 - information technology;
 - cybersecurity,
 - digital transformation; and/or
 - technology risk management
- Strong understanding of, and experience in, the implementation of governance arrangements, including risk management frameworks, internal controls and associated reporting;
- Proven ability to operate at a strategic level, with sound judgement and analytical capability;
- Independence, integrity, and the ability to provide objective and constructive challenge;
- Excellent communication skills, with the ability to engage effectively with senior stakeholders; and
- An understanding of regulatory, compliance, and assurance environments

Desirable Skills and Experience

The following would be advantageous:

- Experience in a senior leadership, Board, Committee, non-executive or equivalent governance role;
- Knowledge of, and familiarity with, current and evolving cybersecurity related standards (legislative and other), risks and frameworks;
- Experience overseeing and/or delivering large-scale digital transformation programmes;
- Familiarity with public-sector or large-scale private-sector governance processes, including internal and external audit processes, financial and other controls, and regulated procurement; and/or
- Senior experience within statutorily regulated sectors and/or complex organisational environments

Time Commitment

The ARC formally meets four times per year, with additional time required for meeting preparation, review of materials, and occasional ad hoc meetings where necessary.

Appointment Terms

The appointment is for an initial term of three years, with the possibility of renewal for a further term in accordance with Authority governance arrangements.

Remuneration – A nominal fee will be paid in line with the standard rate set by the Minister for Public Expenditure for such committees. Reasonable expenses associated with attendance and participation will also be covered.

How to Apply

To express your interest, please submit the following by [time] on [date]:

- A current CV;

- A short supporting statement outlining your relevant experience and qualifications, and motivation for being considered for appointment.

Your CV should, as a minimum, address the essential criteria and, if relevant, the desirable criteria.

Applications should be sent to: secretary@hpra.ie

Candidates must be able to demonstrate independence of judgement and are required to declare any actual, potential or perceived conflicts of interest as part of the appointment process. As a minimum, applicants are required to specifically address this point within their supporting statement.

The Authority may make an appointment based on the information submitted in the CV and supporting statement. The Authority may also invite applicants who appear to meet the essential criteria, and where relevant the desirable criteria, to attend for interview at the Authority's offices in Dublin on a date and time to be arranged. In such circumstances, the Authority will provide no less than 10 working days' notice of the interview date.

Equality and Diversity

The Authority is committed to equality, diversity and inclusion and welcomes expressions of interest from candidates with a broad range of backgrounds, experience and perspectives.