Overview
Secretaries and Clerks are pivotal to board success. This event provides those new and continuing in the role an opportunity to work together on issues critical for their own professional contribution and that of their governors.

Governing bodies and senior management teams depend on professional staff, including Clerks and Secretaries to manage the changes required to meet the needs of an evolving operating environment. The meeting of the national network of governance professionals brings together these individuals, who are often expected to inform and advise governing bodies on changes affecting their roles and responsibilities.

This annual networking event is organised in partnership with the Association of Heads of University Administration (AHUA). The event will consist of presentations from leading figures in governance and breakout sessions which are designed to enable discussion and the sharing of emerging practice on key areas of change in institutional governance.

Aims and outcomes
The event will also explore a range of other topics such as:
- Issues of higher education governance that have emerged over the last 12 months and remain challenging, and scenarios for the future shape of the higher education sector.
- Lessons to be learned from what has happened in governance in other sectors over the last year.
- Lessons from effectiveness reviews.
- Approaches to supporting the induction and professional development of governing body members.
- Keeping abreast of new developments and responsibilities for governing bodies (including academic governance)
- Managing relationships, both on the governing body and in the institution.

Programme
09.30  Arrival: registration and refreshments
10.00  Welcome and introductions
       Aaron Porter, Associate Director Governance, Advance HE
10.15  The regulatory framework, registration & ongoing provider engagement
       Dr Camilla Briault, Strategic Business Manager, Office for Students
11.00  The composition of governing bodies - a changing skills mix
       Alison Wheaton, Associate, Advance HE & PhD candidate in higher education governance, UCL Institute of Education
11.45  Refreshment break
12.00  The Data Agenda
       Alison Aldden, Governor, Northumbria University & Trustee, Regents University & Former CEO, Higher Education Statistics Agency; Dr Adam Dawkins, Head of Governance and Assurance at University of York
13.00  Lunch

14.00  Preview of the results of a survey of governance professionals across the HE sector on their opinions of sector governance effectiveness and the regulatory environment, Aaron Porter, Associate Director (Governance), Advance HE

14.45  Views on governance from HE and beyond
Professor Andrew Kakabadse, Professor in Corporate Governance, Cranfield University Business School

15.30  Closing remarks