What can governing bodies do to reduce corruption?

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What can governing bodies do to reduce corruption?

1. The governing body should work as a role model
2. It should establish a culture of transparency, accountability and integrity in the organization
3. Be as open as possible about all the decisions, actions, plans, resource use, forecasts, outputs, and outcomes
4. Provide clear reasoning for the decisions
5. Reward objectivity, selflessness, and honesty
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6. Establish code of conduct for governing body members and staff
7. Establish a conflict of interest policy and follow it
8. Establish whistleblower protection policy
9. Employees should know what to do and who to report if they suspect misconduct, fraud, or corruption
10. Seek stakeholder feedback on leadership, ethics, and culture in the organization
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11. Engage the public and service users to ensure that the services provided are contributing to the achievement of intended outcomes

12. Establish social accountability mechanisms
   - Community scorecards and citizen report cards
   - Public hearings
   - Participatory budgeting and public expenditure tracking
   - Citizen charters
   - Community radio
13. Establish culture of accountability in the organization by making sure that

- information flows freely internally in the organization,
- goals and tasks are clear to all employees,
- managers and staff have sufficient resources to succeed,
- performance and targets achieved are monitored in a transparent manner, and
- there are consequences for nonperformance or underperformance as well as rewards for excellent performance.
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14. Establish robust internal control and financial management in the organization

15. Approve long-range and annual capital and financial plans, and monitor results achieved against those plans

16. The budget will be your key barometer. Follow up on each big approval item to see how the project turned out a year or two later. Look over the annual budget carefully before you approve it.

17. Demand regular reports that compare the year so far to the budget, and ask management about the differences between what is happening and what was planned.

18. Work out financial targets with your management: What level of cash and surplus do you expect? How much liquidity does the organization need?

19. Establish audit committee whose primary responsibility is to oversee internal controls and external financial reporting.