



## *Kathryn Britten BSc BFP FCA*

**Business Appointment:** Partner, Managing Director, AlixPartners

### **Personal introduction**

I am a Chartered Accountant and a Forensic Accountant. Having trained as an auditor and worked for several years as an audit partner, I also have nearly 30 years' experience of advising clients and their counsel in commercial disputes and supporting them in the resolution of disputes in litigation, arbitration and ADR, including mediation and expert determination.

My career has spanned large and small accountancy firms. I trained with Deloitte Haskins & Sells, one of the predecessor firms of PwC, was a manager for several years in a six-partner firm and subsequently became a partner in BDO and then KPMG. I am currently a partner at AlixPartners, a global consultancy firm.

I have carried out many accounting investigations, have provided Expert Witness testimony in the UK High Court and in International Arbitration and have written hundreds of Expert Witness reports. My experience includes cases in Europe, the Middle East, India, Africa, Russia and the Far East. I have particular experience in cases concerning accountants and auditors, particularly those arising from insolvencies and regulatory investigations.

My personal interests include family, travel, theatre, art and keeping fit.

### **Your involvement with ICAEW**

I have been an elected member of the ICAEW Council, representing members in London, since 2013 and I wish to continue to serve on Council in that capacity.

My involvement with the ICAEW includes: Past Chair of the South West London Area Society (part of the London District Society); Past member of various committees including Women in Accountancy; Chair of Opportunity 2000 (later Opportunity Now), Chair, and now a member, of the Forensic and Expert Witness Group; member of Narrowing the GAP (a gender diversity initiative), past member and Vice Chair of the Commercial Board and past Chair of the ICAEW's Audit Committee.

Following the ICAEW Council conference in October 2020 I was invited to chair the "ICAEW Council: Governance Working Group" with a remit to further develop governance proposals for Council. This group has an important and far-reaching role in recommending a future governance structure for the ICAEW.

## **Motivation and ability to be a member of Council**

I am very proud of my qualification and membership of the ICAEW. I am the first generation of a line of Chartered Accountants, being married to another Fellow of the ICAEW and with a son and daughter-in-law who are also members. The future of the profession is very close to my heart.

I have been delighted to see an increase in the diversity of Council members since joining in 2013, including many international members and women. I am a strong supporter of women in business and throughout my career I have mentored a number of successful women in various professions, led thought leadership initiatives about flexible working in the professions and been interviewed by the FT and others about the importance of women reaching their full potential. In this respect, I was awarded the Women in the City - Jaguar Woman of Achievement award for Accountancy in 2008. I am keen to ensure that women remain well represented on Council.

I am passionate about using my skills and contributing towards enhancing trust in the profession and promoting the ICAEW brand.

## **Strategic focus**

Issues affecting the accountancy profession at large, ICAEW members and members in London include the risk of erosion of public trust in the profession arising, inter alia, from high profile corporate collapses, perceived or real audit failures, Brexit, and the unstable economic environment caused by the Covid-19 pandemic. The ICAEW has a strategic plan which addresses these and many other issues facing the profession and society more widely.

By continuing to give my time and contribute my skills as a leader, and a driver of change; and by bringing my experience of two previous recessions and their impact on businesses, together with my experience as an expert witness, I can support ICAEW members, particularly those in London, and help the ICAEW achieve its strategic goals.

## **Communication with members in your constituency**

As a member of the London Society of Chartered accountants, and being based in London, I will continue to interact with members of the LSCA on a daily basis. I have a particular interest in helping members with issues arising as a consequence of the Covid-19 pandemic, in particular disputes which may impact businesses for many years to come.

I encourage members in my constituency to contact me with any issues they may have.

## **Nominators**

Laura Dymott  
Helen Brennan  
Angela Caldara  
Malcolm Bacchus  
Christopher Britten

# *Declaration of interests which are relevant to the business of ICAEW*

Membership of, or interests in, formal bodies or groups, including other professional bodies <sup>i</sup> :	Member of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators Fellow of the Academy of Experts Certified Fraud Examiner
Membership of ICAEW Council, ICAEW Boards and other ICAEW committees:	Chair ICAEW Council: Governance Working Group (2020-21)
Partnerships, Directorships or beneficial interests in companies:	Partner, AlixPartners LLP Director, London Chamber of Arbitration and Mediation
Professional or social relationships with individuals who have business relationships or who compete with the ICAEW:	None
Any other matters you feel should be identified:	None

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<sup>i</sup> This includes employment by a professional body.