



Kenneth Solomons FCA CTA

Business Appointment: None

Personal introduction

After qualifying with a London practice, I joined the retail operation of a major oil company, where I was Head Office Accountant, and then spent 20 years in the international oil and gas construction industry. Initially as financial controller and then as company secretary, I found my ACA qualification had given me an excellent grounding in dealing with the legal, contractual and commercial areas I had to cover. I then set up in practice in North London, specialising in tax and financial planning, and my experience in industry was of tremendous value in advising my business clients. Since retiring from practice, I have continued as an active member of the London and North London Societies and have been involved in volunteering work, including treasurer and independent examiner roles. I also served on the CABA Support Services Committee for six years.

Your involvement with ICAEW

I have had extensive involvement with ICAEW education and training at post-ACA level, including chairing a financial services examination board, acting as Post-Qualification Monitor and representing ICAEW on BSI and ISO technical committees. At local level, I am a member of the London Society Main Committee, where I have been its Treasurer, and its Regulation and Ethics Review Panel. I am also a committee member of the North London Society and am a past Chairman.

Motivation and ability to be a member of Council

I feel that it is essential for ICAEW members to give the benefit of their experience and thinking to the Institute and becoming a member of Council is a constructive way of doing this. My experience over the years in industry and in practising firms, large and small, allows me to understand the needs of members in all of these settings. As a long-serving member, I have seen tremendous changes in the professional and business world and can take a pragmatic approach to any new proposals. The long view can be useful in spotting where past mistakes are in danger of being repeated. Having retired from active practice, I have the time available to give full attention to Council work and to make every effort to look after the interests of London members.

Strategic focus

The Institute serves the public good and must also look after the interests of its members. The accountancy profession is under attack, largely as a result of high-profile audit failures, and this is not being addressed as rapidly and fundamentally as is necessary. This requires work on examination content, in-service training and interface with any new audit regulator. The District Societies are the lifeblood of the Institute and their future must be assured so that they can operate in a confident and consistent way as our trusted local representation. They have provided the space for members to become actively involved in the profession and progress to membership of Council and further. Of course, constant changes in the business environment, such as cloud accounting, Bitcoin, post-Brexit problems and so on, need to be fully accommodated in ongoing attention to training and examination requirements, regulation and ethical standards. On a broader front, ICAEW has to operate within agreed financial constraints and it is Council's responsibility to see that there is a realistic balance between this, subscription levels and the standard of services to members.

Communication with members in your constituency

As an active committee member of the London and North London Societies, I have the opportunity of regular contact with their members and I will ensure that they know that I am there to represent them and serve their interests. I have worked with the ICAEW London Region team for many years and can count on their support in this.

Nominators

Victoria Andrew
Mukundrai Kotecha
Constantinos Ioannou
Justin Silverman
Nigel Smeeton

Declaration of interests which are relevant to the business of ICAEW

Membership of, or interests in, formal bodies or groups, including other professional bodies ⁱ :	Associate of the Chartered Institute of Taxation Trustee and Treasurer of the Friends of the Iveagh Bequest, Kenwood (reg charity 273258) Life Member of the Society of Professional Accountants
Membership of ICAEW Council, ICAEW Boards and other ICAEW committees:	London Society of Chartered Accountants Main Committee and Regulation and Ethics Review Panel North London Society of Chartered Accountants Committee

Partnerships, Directorships or beneficial interests in companies:	None
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

ⁱ This includes employment by a professional body.