



# *Matthew Stroh PhD BA(Hons)FCA*

**Business Appointment:** Head of Audit Technical Grant Thornton

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## **Personal introduction**

My career started with a period as a Leeds University Geography Lecturer, but I quickly realised that I wanted a role that was more commercial and applied in nature and so re-trained as a Chartered Accountant. After qualifying in 2003 with Grant Thornton in Leeds, I undertook a secondment to the firm's technical department, before returning to a full-time audit role in our Yorkshire business unit, which has offices in Leeds and Sheffield. I have worked with a range of businesses across the region, both privately-owned and listed and in a variety of sectors, and now am head of the firm's national Audit Professional Standards team, whilst continuing to lead a number of audit engagements in Yorkshire.

I live in the Yorkshire Dales near Settle, North Yorkshire, and during the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic have continue to seek ways to connect with members of the District through virtual meetings. I intend to continue seeking the views and hearing first-hand the concerns of members across the District, and intend to build on the programme of meetings (whether virtual or in person) that were started last year, but which have obviously been impacted by recent events.

In what spare time I have aside from work and the family, with two very time-consuming teenage boys and a step-daughter who has brought us the joy of two young grandsons, I am chairman of the Keighley & Worth Valley Railway, am an avid photographer (particularly of the stunning scenery in Yorkshire) and very much enjoy walking our three dogs in the Yorkshire Dales.

[https://www.instagram.com/matt\\_stroh](https://www.instagram.com/matt_stroh)

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/matthewjstroh/>

<https://twitter.com/DrMattStroh>

## **Your involvement with ICAEW**

With my role leading Grant Thornton's Audit Professional Standards team, I sit on the ICAEW Audit & Assurance Faculty's "Technical and Practical Auditing Committee". In 2019, I was appointed Deputy Chair of the ICAEW's Learning & Professional Development Board. I was privileged to be elected to President of the West Yorkshire & York District Society, a role I held for two terms in 2015/16, and continue to be heavily involved in the District Society Committee's work.

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

Through my involvement with ICAEW as a former District Society President and through the work of the technical committee in the Audit & Assurance Faculty, I can see the strength of the Institute and the impact we can have in shaping the future of the profession. Our members' have a crucial role to play in setting the agenda for what will likely become a very different business environment in months and years to come and I am very keen to help shape the ICAEW's involvement in that future direction, especially as we live and work in such challenging times. We represent the best of trust and integrity, but the profession is under increasing scrutiny and challenge, as is the role of the ICAEW itself. We need to build on these foundation principles to reinforce and support our members' importance and influence in the economy of the future.

Through my role member of Council since 2019, and as a member of TPAC, I am privileged to be at the heart of the debate about the future of the bedrock of the profession's role in audit and assurance, and through the LPD Board am looking forward to helping to shape the future ACA qualification that is core to the ICAEW's strength. We live and work through challenging times, and I am relishing the opportunity to continue to work to support the ICAEW's role in this arena.

## **Strategic focus**

Change is most definitely the new norm as we work and live in turbulent and challenging times. I am seeking re-appointment after my initial two-year term on Council to play my part in the ICAEW's governance to support our leadership as they focus on developing innovative ways to further enhance and secure the impact of our profession. We need our members, both current and future, to be equipped and prepared to respond to new ways of working, both for our people and for the business our members advise, audit and work in.

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

I intend to continue to draw on my network of clients and contacts developed through my nearly two decades of working in the Yorkshire business community, as well as building on my role as a member of the ICAEW West Yorkshire & York District Society to use their events and connections to retain links to the membership in the constituency.

## **Nominators**

Anna Pickup  
Amy Jennison  
Rachel Davis  
Thomas Bell  
Victoria McLoughlin

# ***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> :	<b>None</b>
Membership of ICAEW Council, ICAEW Boards and other ICAEW committees:	<b>ICAEW Council member (2019-21), West Yorkshire &amp; York</b> <b>Deputy chair: Learning &amp; Professional Development Board</b> <b>Committee member: Technical &amp; Practical Auditing Committee, Audit &amp; Assurance Faculty ICAEW</b>
Partnerships, Directorships or beneficial interests in companies:	<b>Director/Chairman of Keighley &amp; Worth Valley Railway Preservation Society Limited, Company No. 07135945, Charity registration No. 1136853</b>
Professional or social relationships with individuals who have business relationships or who compete with the ICAEW:	<b>None</b>
Any other matters you feel should be identified:	<b>None</b>

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