Organisation: Institute of Chartered Accountants in England & Wales (ICAEW)

Role: Board Chair

Advert Reference Number: 2304-066L

This is an exceptional opportunity to lead the Board of an organisation which was formed in the UK in 1880 by Royal Charter, but is now at the forefront of the global accountancy profession.

Our current strategy reflects not just our roots, but also the world in which we now live and the future we face. Our strategic foundations speak to the enduring role of ICAEW in the education and training of accountants; in looking after our members; and in building our reputation and ability to influence.

Our strategic themes are what set out our relevance for today and for the future. The themes highlight that ICAEW recognises its key role in a sustainable future and what changes are needed to ensure continued relevance. In brief, they cover trust in the profession, helping to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals, supporting the transformation of trade and the economy, mastering technology and data and strengthening the profession by attracting talent and building diversity.

ICAEW has recently undertaken a review of its governance and is in the process of defining and implementing actions to ensure best practice for a member-based organisation with a public interest responsibility. The position of Chair, as now defined, is a new role, with the Board previously chaired by each President for a single year. It is recognised that the role of the Chair may develop as the role becomes established and to reflect other governance initiatives. The individual appointed as Chair will therefore need to be both sympathetic to this position and a contributor to ensure that our aspiration of best practice governance is achieved.

The Chair has an important role in ensuring adherence to ICAEW's Charter objectives and as a role model for ICAEW's culture, values, standards, ethics and reputation, in particular the ICAEW's public interest responsibility, as well as its commitment to diversity and inclusion. This is a role with challenge and the opportunity to further enhance the existing effectiveness of the Board.

The successful candidate will be an experienced leader and have excellent strategic and communication skills. They will be accustomed to situations of complex governance and possess the analytical capability to navigate complex issues, bringing together a broad range of stakeholders. They will balance a natural low-ego approach with resilience in driving collaboration and moving the Board agenda forward decisively.

ICAEW has retained Russell Reynolds Associates to advise on this appointment. For further information about the position and additional details on qualifications, requirements, terms and conditions of service and how to apply, please visit: www.rraresponses.com. The closing date for applications is 23:59 on Friday 2 June 2023.

