



ICAEW Regulatory and Conduct Strategy 2023 – 2025

STATUS

1. Open.
2. For agreement prior to oversight regulator consultation.

PROGRESS UPDATE

3. Following feedback at the March 2023 ICAEW Regulatory Board (IRB) meeting, members of the 'Task and Finish Group' refined the Regulatory and Conduct Strategy (2023 – 2025). The strategy was then issued, by the IRB Chair, for consultation with ICAEW executive stakeholders and to chairs of the regulatory and conduct committees.
4. Feedback was received from the ICAEW President and the chairs of committees. The clarity and succinctness of the strategy was commented upon positively by consultees. The following common points, along with minor textual change suggestions, were raised and have been incorporated into the draft strategy (Appendix 1):
 - The 'Mission' and 'Our Regulatory and Conduct Roles' sections were felt to be repetitive, especially regarding the references to enabling, enforcing and evaluating. In response page 2 of the strategy has been refined and reordered.
 - Greater emphasis was required on the independence of decision-making and the role of regulatory and conduct committees. This included the need to include the independent appointment process to committees, the role of lay chairs and the training / development in place. The first paragraph under 'Our Regulatory and Conduct Roles' has been amended to reflect this and a new paragraph has been inserted at the top of 'Our Governance' on page 4 to draw attention to these important points.
 - On page 3 ('Strategy for 2023 – 2025) it was felt that language could be more accessible for a wider audience and that the points could be refined, plus repetition (e.g. two points relating to the review of sanctions) removed. Page 3 has therefore been amended to reflect this and at the same time it retains the outcomes previously agreed by the IRB.
 - The previous 'Our People and Use of Resources' on page 4 implied the Professional Standards Department was under the direct control of the IRB. The section has been retitled 'Professional Standards Department' and the content reframed to ensure a clearer distinction.
 - It was noted that the committee structure chart on page 4 would need to be updated to reflect their new names for bodies. The chart will be updated when the strategy moves over to the design agency.

DRAFT STRATEGY – NEXT STEPS

5. Once IRB members have considered the updated strategy at its May 2023 meeting, it will move to the design agency for production and will then be issued to oversight regulators for their consultation.
6. The strategy will now be utilised by the Board Secretary to incorporate into the 'Forward Look' for the IRB agenda to ensure any new actions progress during the interim period. The IRB Risk Management Subcommittee will now begin the process of repositioning the Risk Register to align it to the strategy. This will ensure progress continues as the strategy goes through the final phase of oversight regulator consultation. Any final changes will be brought back to the July 2023 IRB meeting, prior to publication.

RECOMMENDATION

7. The IRB is asked to approve the next steps for the draft 'ICAEW Regulatory and Conduct Strategy 2023 – 2025', including its readiness for oversight regulator consultation.

APPENDICES

- a) Appendix 1: Draft 'ICAEW Regulatory and Conduct Strategy 2023 – 2025'

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