



Business Member Support Overview

UPDATES FOR FEBRUARY 2026

Find out more at www.icaew.com/business or get in touch at business@icaew.com

1. Key insights topics

Across the year, members navigated a challenging mix of rising employment costs, geopolitical tensions, tariff disruption, subdued consumer confidence and a persistent lack of policy certainty. Despite the negative economic headwinds this year, members consistently demonstrated resilience while calling for stability, clarity and a long-term strategy to support growth. Read our latest [ICAEW Member Insights](#).



ICAEW Business Confidence Monitor – Q4 2025

The latest national Business Confidence Monitor (BCM) shows that business sentiment slipped deeper into negative territory amid uncertainty about the Budget and rising concern about both the tax burden and regulations. However, companies are optimistic that domestic sales and exports growth will improve over the next 12 months.

[View our full national report, plus regional and sectoral reports](#)

Prepare for 2026

- Accountants face some significant challenges, but also some key opportunities in 2026. [Hear from ICAEW experts](#) on the important issues members need to think about over the next 12 months.

Economy

- The latest economic issues and trends including our recent article [2026: A difficult year ahead for the economy](#)
- Chart of the week: [A peak in the civil service?](#)

Technology

- Keeping you up to date with tech issues and developments including [Cyber roundup: Learnings from 2025](#) and [Building resilience: four essential steps](#).

ICAEW Podcast episodes

[A World Cup bump, an AI slump? 2026 predictions](#): In the first episode of 2026, our usual team of soothsayers David Williamson, Frances Haque and Iain Wright review the events of the past 12 months and look ahead to what we might expect in the coming year.

All the above are published on ICAEW's Insights Hub, www.icaew.com/insights. Receive concise updates on the latest issues in ICAEW's **Daily**, **Weekly** and **Monthly** emails. Keep your [preferences updated here](#).

2. Events, webinars and roundtables

Past events

Board Summit – 24 November 2025

A well-attended ICAEW and Board Intelligence event with insightful and informative discussions on the role of the CFO and boards in driving growth.



Inspiring Future Leaders' (IFL) celebratory dinner – 1 December 2025

IFL 2025 connected 51 'future leaders' with seven senior finance leaders to gain insight and experience through a series of four virtual roundtables. It has been another successful year with excellent feedback, and the celebratory dinner at Chartered Accountants' Hall was a wonderful way to end the programme.





Business Leaders' Drinks – 8 December 2025

A fantastic evening of drinks and networking with past Business Leaders' dinner attendees, speakers and volunteers. Our keynote speaker, Jo Olsen, Leadership Coach, spoke about *why being right isn't enough: the hidden rules of influence*, which led to plenty of interesting discussions over drinks.



Upcoming events

Business Leaders' Dinner – 16 March 2026

Following great feedback from our Business Leaders' Drinks, we have invited Jo back to talk about psychological safety in finance teams.

Webinars

All webinars can be found at [ICAEW's events page](#).

Date	Title
10/02/26	Storytelling – The R.E.A.L way
11/02/26	Retail economic outlook 2026
18/03/26	Transformation series: The human side of transformation – never forget about the people
25/03/26	Employment Rights Bill made simple: Your 2026 action plan
Various	ICAEW UK Regions: Economic updates
Various	ICAEW UK Regions: In conversation with the Bank of England

Local events and support

As well as webinars, ICAEW's regional team hosts [business member forums](#), at which you can network with your peers and feedback into ICAEW's discussions with policymakers. More about [regional activity here](#).

3. Consultations

Members' insights and suggestions are used to shape policy, support and inform government and other key external stakeholders. To contribute to these conversations, [get in touch](#) with us or attend your [local business member network](#).

4. Good to know - ongoing support from ICAEW

Technical support

- [ICAEW's helpsheets](#) - concise, practical guidance on emerging and longstanding issues.
- [Support members scheme](#) - free, confidential advice from your peers.
- [Member enquiries](#) and [ICAEW helplines](#) - open to any enquiry by email, webchat and phone.
- [Business Advisory Service \(BAS\)](#) - provides a free consultation to businesses seeking trusted business advice.

Career support

- [ICAEW jobs](#) - search for your next role or recruit talent for your finance team.
- [Coaching and mentoring programmes](#) - enhance your career in finance.

Mental health and wellbeing

- ICAEW works with CABA to promote the mental health of chartered accountants and their families, producing articles, guides, webinars, videos and events - [view our resources](#).