

Business Member Support Overview

UPDATES FOR APRIL 2023

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

1. Key insights topics

Read the latest **ICAEW Member Insights** where members highlight concerns, including uncertainty on energy bills and skills and labour issues, as they respond to announcements made in the Spring Budget.

Economy

- **UK Business Confidence Monitor Q1 2023:** Business confidence is now in positive territory following the political turmoil in Q4 2022, but the level is still low as companies are concerned over their future sales with high inflation and interest rates.
- **Inflation:** The impact of inflation on people, businesses, accountancy and the wider economy, with recent articles on **flatlining UK economy continues to flirt with recession** and **easing inflation may force interest rate voting split**.



Energy

- Our **energy crisis hub** includes **full details of the Energy Bills Discount Scheme** and **why businesses are going off the grid**.

Sustainability

- Recent articles include the **business case for natural capital investment** and **what do successful ESG leaders look like?**
- **ICAEW Sustainability Certificate:** Gain practical knowledge and skills to integrate sustainability reporting into your organisations.

Incentives, allowances and support

- The Department for Business and Trade (DBT) launches a new centralised website, **Help to Grow**, to support the UK's 5.5 million businesses in upskilling, business growth and boosting profits.

Look out for our upcoming **ICAEW Insights podcast: How can SMEs be encouraged to invest** which will identify the obstacles to SMEs increasing investment in capital projects and discuss the solutions that SMEs would like to see.

All the above are published on ICAEW's Insights Hub, www.icaew.com/insights. Receive concise updates on these issues and many more in ICAEW's **Daily, Weekly** and **Monthly** emails. Keep your **preferences updated here**.

2. Events, webinars and roundtables

Upcoming events

A history tour of Chartered Accountants' Hall - 5 June 2023

Take a tour of Chartered Accountants' Hall and learn about the history that it holds.

Webinars

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

Date	Title
15/05/23	Positive personal impact for professional success
16/05/23	Networking, networking, networking
18/05/23	What the future holds for debt in deals
25/05/23	Financial modelling and scenario planning: mastering effective decision-making
31/05/23	Governance challenges in family business
06/06/23	How to access finance to fuel expansion overseas

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 policy makers. 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*.

- Working with colleagues in R&I on **Payment Practices and Performance Regulations 2017** (former BEIS consultation) - deadline 28 April 2023.
- Stakeholder briefing session involving the Small Business Commissioner, Department for Business and Trade, British Business Bank, UK Infrastructure Bank and the Bank of England to discuss ICAEW's quarterly Q1 Business Confidence Monitor (BCM).
- Call with Ministry of Justice and ICAEW's Corporate Finance Faculty to discuss alternative dispute resolution.
- Small Business Regulation: The Business Team are supporting this project to gather member views on what regulation should look like for small businesses. A number of interviews with members are taking place, with a few articles already released:
 - [Regulation is fine; costs are the problem | ICAEW](#)
 - [SMEs need consistency and communication | ICAEW](#)
 - [The impact of supply chain rules | ICAEW](#)
 - [Why regulations must keep pace with technology | ICAEW](#)

A roundtable has been planned for 31 May to further discussions.

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](#).