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Dear Duncan,

**Changes to ICAEW Governance, reporting line of ICAEW Regulatory Board (IRB) and resignation of the IRB Chair**

Thank you for your letter dated 2 June 2023 explaining ICAEW governance changes. We are grateful for the overview of the changes to the ICAEW Board which are helpful. We note that the letter states that the ICAEW Regulatory Board (IRB) will in future report to the ICAEW Board instead of the ICAEW Council. Our view is that the proposed changes look sensible.

We note that the planned changes are a change to the governance arrangements that ICAEW made to comply with the [Internal Governance Rules 2019](#). The LSB [approved](#) these governance arrangements in 2020. As such the LSB will need to approve the changes to the IRB reporting line proposed in your letter. We agree that the most proportionate way to do so is as an exemption direction under the [Applications To Alter Regulatory Arrangements Rules 2021](#). Steve Violet or Vibeke Bjornfors from the LSB statutory decisions team would be happy to talk to ICAEW officials about this if that would be helpful.

Thank you also for your email dated 16 June 2023 informing the LSB that the Chair of the IRB Mr Philip Nicol-Gent has resigned. The LSB wishes Philip well in his future endeavours. We note that the IRB is exploring opportunities to further reinforce the integrity and independence of the Regulatory Board's work, after which the ICAEW will move ahead with the recruitment and appointment of a new Chair. We look forward to working with the present Vice-Chair, Parjinder Basra, in his new role as Chair until the arrival of a successor to Philip.

Please can you clarify whether Parjinder is lay under the Legal Services Act and so able to chair IRB discussions on legal services matters or whether the current alternate chair Anthony Pygram will continue in his role? Once we have clarity on this matter, the LSB will set up introductory meetings with the new LSB Chair Alan Kershaw.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R Orpin', written in a cursive style.

Richard Orpin

Director, Regulation & Policy

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