



PRESS RELEASE

For immediate use

ORKNEY'S KAREN SCHOLES APPOINTED TO ICAS VICE PRESIDENCY ROLE

Orkney accountant Karen Scholes has been appointed as Vice President of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Scotland (ICAS), it was announced this week.

Karen, who is a senior partner and director at the Kirkwall headquartered Scholes CA, said she was delighted to accept such a prestigious role.

“Having trained and passed through ICAS and worked closely with the organisation throughout my accountancy career, to be nominated as its new Vice President is a massive honour,” she said. “The role gives me the opportunity to give back to ICAS and help ensure it’s well placed to deal with the challenges of the post-pandemic, post-Brexit, business climate.”

Karen has held a number of roles within ICAS over the years, chairing its Members in Practice Advisory Board (MiPAB) and serving as Convener of the ICAS Authorisation Committee. She has also been a member of the ICAS Council, and ICAS Regulation Board.

“I believe a key priority for ICAS, as the trend for the consolidation of accounting businesses continues alongside the increase in regulation, is how to best support the many small to medium firms out there, ensuring their voices are heard,” she said.

Karen is also particularly keen to use her new ICAS role to encourage fresh talent into the finance sector, building on her many years of work supporting young people in business.

“There’s a need for ICAS to be at the vanguard of efforts to attract and retain the next generation of accountants, from as wide a range of backgrounds as possible,” she said. “I believe the ICAS Foundation, which offers bursary and mentoring support to accountancy and finance students, will play a vital role in this drive to safeguard the future of the industry.

“I’d also like to explore how to boost inclusivity within ICAS, ensuring its membership and services fully reflect the diversity in the industry.”

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The ICAS President for the coming year is Clive Bellingham, with Alison Cornwell serving as Deputy President for 2023/24.

An image of Karen Scholes accompanies this release.

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