

ACCA Ireland Conference

Date: 22 May 2025

Venue: Trinity College Business School

09.00 – 09.30	Registration, tea and coffee
09.30 – 09.40	Welcome, introductions and Minister's opening address Stephen Noonan, Head of ACCA Ireland
09.40 – 10.05	AI update Eoin O'Reilly, Head of AI & Data , EY Ireland (<i>Speaker</i>) Michelle Hourican, ACCA Global Council member (<i>Chair</i>)
10.05 – 10.20	Q&A session
10.20 – 10.45	Sustainability reporting – the first year of ESRS Sean O'Reilly, Assistant professor of Accountancy, UCD (<i>Speaker</i>) Michelle Hourican, ACCA Global Council member (<i>Chair</i>)
10.25 – 11.00	Q&A session
11.00 – 11.25	Tea and coffee
11.25 – 11.50	Building trust – accountants and Ireland's charity sector Madeleine Delaney, Chief Executive, Charities Regulator (<i>Speaker</i>) Gráinne Murphy, ACCA Global Council member (<i>Chair</i>)
11.50 – 12.05	Q&A session
12.05 – 12.30	The future of professional regulation Lisa Campbell, Head of Operations, IAASA (<i>Speaker</i>) Gráinne Murphy, ACCA Global Council member (<i>Chair</i>)
12.30 – 12.40	Q&A session
12:45 – 14:00	Lunch
14:00 – 14.40	Breakout sessions 1 The accountants' role in sustainability reporting and assurance Doreen Brennan, Director, Financial Services Climate Change and Sustainability Services, EY Ireland (<i>Speaker</i>) Philip Maher, ACCA Global Council member (<i>Chair</i>) 2 Tax planning for professional accountants Paul Murphy, Principal, Martin J. Kelly & Co. (<i>Speaker</i>) Cathal Cusack, ACCA Global Council member (<i>Chair</i>)
14.40 – 15:00	Tea and coffee

15:00 – 15:40	Breakout sessions 1 Double materiality Orla Carolan, Managing Director of Glas Consulting (<i>Speaker</i>) Philip Maher, ACCA Global Council member (<i>Chair</i>) 2 Lease accounting under FRS 102 Robert Kirk, Emeritus Professor of Financial Reporting (<i>Speaker</i>) Cathal Cusack, ACCA Global Council member (<i>Chair</i>)
15.40 – 15:45	Return to main session
15:45 – 16:10	Companies act David Hegarty, Director of Legal & Policy, CEA (<i>Speaker</i>) Joe O'Regan, Chair, ACCA Ireland
16:10 – 16:25	Q&A session
16:25 – 16:30	Final thoughts and take aways Joe O'Regan, Chair, ACCA Ireland

Speakers



EOIN O'REILLY HEAD OF AI & DATA, EY IRELAND

Eoin O'Reilly leads the AI & Data practice at EY Ireland, specialising in AI, analytics, technology platforms and data quality / governance. He leads a team of over 300 people who help clients across private and government sectors to apply AI and analytics to drive business outcomes such as growing revenues, driving efficiencies, improving cash flow and enhancing risk management.



SEÁN O'REILLY ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF ACCOUNTANCY AT UCD, ACADEMIC DIRECTOR OF THE MASTER OF ACCOUNTING PROGRAMME AT UCD MICHAEL SMURFIT GRADUATE BUSINESS SCHOOL

Seán is a chartered accountant having trained at PwC before beginning his journey in academia. Seán has extensive experience in executive education and is part of the FAE lecturing team at Chartered Accountants Ireland. Seán's PhD entitled *Essays in Entrepreneurial & Green Finance* examined the financing of early-stage Cleantech firms and environmental sustainability reporting practices in SMEs, focusing on the role of the accountant. He has published academic papers in highly ranked international peer-reviewed journals on sustainability reporting for SMEs



MEDELEINE DELANEY CHIEF EXECUTIVE, CHARITIES REGULATOR

Madeleine Delaney was appointed chief executive of the Charities Regulator in August 2024. She previously served as director of legal affairs and registration from 2021. Prior to joining the Charities Regulator, Madeleine was the head of legal at the Office of the Ombudsman and previously deputy head of compliance at the Pensions Authority. A solicitor, she is a graduate of University of Limerick and University College Cork.



LISA CAMPBELL HEAD OF OPERATIONS, IAASA

Lisa is responsible for the examination of the corporate reporting of certain listed companies, the quality assurance of public interest entity auditors, for the supervision of the regulatory activities of the six prescribed accountancy bodies in Ireland and will be responsible for regulation of CSRD reporting and assurance. Lisa is also the Chair of the Audit Committee of the National Council for Special Education. Lisa is a Fellow of Chartered Accountants Ireland and joined IAASA in 2015. Prior to this, Lisa spent 12 years with PwC providing audit services. Lisa also acted as examiner and moderator for Chartered Accountants Ireland for several years.



DOREEN BRENNAN DIRECTOR, FINANCIAL SERVICES CLIMATE CHANGE AND SUSTAINABILITY SERVICES, EY IRELAND

Doreen is a director in the EY Financial Services (FS) Climate change and Sustainability Services (CCaSS) in the Dublin office.

She has over 15 years of experience working with International Financial Services companies based in London and Dublin and has led many ESG reporting programmes for financial institutions to meet their European ESG reporting obligations.

Doreen holds a BA in International Business & Languages, is ACCA qualified, and holds accreditations in sustainable finance from Chartered Accountants of Ireland and INSEAD, and in climate risk with GARP.

Doreen is the Chair of the ACCA Financial Services Panel in Ireland for 2024–2025, with a particular focus on driving the sustainability agenda within financial services and accounting.



PAUL MURPHY PRINCIPAL, MARTIN J KELLY & CO

Paul Murphy is a taxation consultant and principal of Martin J. Kelly & Co. He is a corporation tax lecturer for the Irish Taxation Institute and is an associate of both the Irish Taxation Institute and ACCA. Paul is a co-author of the Irish Taxation Institute's annual publication, *Irish Taxation Law and Practice*.



ORLA CAROLAN MANAGING DIRECTOR, GLAS CONSULTING

Orla is a Chartered Certified Accountant (FCCA) and managing director of Glas Consulting, a consulting company that provides sustainability services including training, compliance and sustainability reporting advisory services to large organisations and SMEs.

Orla previously held senior roles at Future Planet, Grant Thornton and JPMorgan Hedge Fund Services in consulting, sustainability and financial and regulatory reporting.

During her time at Grant Thornton Orla worked with EFRAG on the development of the ESRS reporting standards under the CSRD.

Orla is a qualified trainer (QQI accredited) and lectures for CAI, TUD and other CPD and training bodies in sustainability and sustainability reporting.

Orla holds a B.A. in Business and Economics (TCD), is an ACCA member and a Certified Investment Fund Director (CIFD) and member of the IFDA working group on sustainability.



ROBERT KIRK EMERITUS PROFESSOR OF FINANCIAL REPORTING

Robert qualified in first place in 1975 as an Irish chartered accountant after graduating in economics from Queens University. He trained in practice with Price Waterhouse and later worked in industry with a subsidiary of Shell (UK). His teaching career started with Business and Accounting Training (now Griffith College) in Dublin where he taught mainly on the professional examination courses for ICAI, CPA, CIMA and ACCA in Belfast and Dublin. In 1984 he was appointed a full time lecturer in Queens University and later moved to Ulster University in 1992 as a senior lecturer. In 1994 he was appointed to the Chair in Financial Reporting at Ulster. He was made Emeritus Professor in September 2019.

Robert specialises in the teaching of and research into the development of accounting standards in the United Kingdom. He has published 18 books and numerous articles in both academic and professional journals.

His latest publication co authored with Stephen McNamee (May 2020) is the second edition of '*A practical guide to UK and Irish Gaap*' (552pp) published by the Institute of Chartered Accountants in Ireland.

He has lectured extensively within Ireland and Great Britain on the subject of accounting standards to such diverse organisations as British Gas Plc, GEC, Pilkington Glass, The Post Office, British Aerospace Plc, East Midlands Electricity, The Prison Service, the Department of Enterprise and Employment, Sheffield Teaching Hospital, NATO, Royal Bank of Scotland, Bank of Ireland, John Laing Plc, Barclays Bank, Deloitte & Touche (Dublin) and Reed International Plc and has become one of the main CPD speakers in that field over the last 20 years for The Institute of Chartered Accountants in Ireland (ICAI), The Chartered Institute of Management Accountants (CIMA) and the Institute of Certified Public Accountants in Ireland (CPA). He also lectured on several occasions for The Chartered Institute of Public and Finance Accountants (CIPFA) and The Association of Chartered Certified Accountants (ACCA). In the last few years he has lectured on international financial reporting standards to major companies in Cyprus, United States, Bahrain, South Africa, Zambia and Ghana.



DAVID HEGARTY DIRECTOR OF LEGAL & POLICY, CEA

David Hegarty is director of legal & policy. A barrister, he was formerly an enforcement portfolio manager with the CEA's predecessor organisation. He qualified as a solicitor in 2002 and transferred to the Bar in 2006, practising primarily in the area of criminal defence and advocacy. He was previously Advisory Counsel in the Office of the Parliamentary Legal Adviser advising the Houses of the Oireachtas Commission and Service and Parliamentary Committees on constitutional, parliamentary and administrative law matters.

He has also worked as a legal officer in the European Union Rule of Law Mission in Kosovo (EULEX) and at the Special Tribunal for Lebanon in The Hague, working in Judges' Chambers with international judges trying economic crime, corruption, abuse of public office, war crimes and conspiracy to commit terrorism cases.

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