



# THE CASE FOR AMALGAMATION

## A VOTE FOR A STRONGER FUTURE

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The image features a central white diamond shape formed by the negative space between four triangular regions. Each of these four regions is filled with a dense pattern of parallel lines that radiate from a point at the corner of the triangle. The lines in the top-left and bottom-right triangles are a light yellow color, while the lines in the top-right and bottom-left triangles are a slightly darker orange. The lines are closely spaced and create a textured, woven appearance. In the center of the white diamond, the text "A VOTE FOR A STRONGER FUTURE" is printed in a clean, sans-serif, uppercase font.

A VOTE FOR A STRONGER FUTURE

## A VOTE FOR A STRONGER FUTURE

- » **Single Body, Stronger Voice**
  - A single Irish based body speaking with one voice will be able to better advocate on behalf of the membership.
- » **Largest Professional Body on the Island of Ireland**
  - A refreshed Chartered Accountants Ireland brand will combine the membership, prestige, and international reputations of both organisations. It will be a leading force within the profession and a powerful business voice.
- » **Strong Advocate for Accountancy Profession & Public Interest**
  - A strong confident single body will be best positioned to drive a sustainable future for accountancy while also serving the public interest by reinforcing commitments to regulations, the highest standards of independent client advice, and support for economic growth.
- » **Education and Qualification Opportunities**
  - Combining the recognition and strengths of CPA/FCPA and ACA/FCA will form a powerful qualification with dual designation, benefitting members and students at home and abroad.
- » **Stronger Financial Base**
  - Increased scale will provide a strong financial foundation and greater resilience for the future with members ultimately benefiting from lower subscription increases and improved services.

In February 2024, as members, you will have the opportunity to cast your vote to support a confident, empowered and progressive future for accountancy across the island of Ireland.



MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS IRELAND



Sinead Donovan

## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS IRELAND

Dear Members,

On behalf of the entire Council of Chartered Accountants Ireland, I want to bring to you the proposal that CPA Ireland will amalgamate with Chartered Accountants Ireland, creating the largest professional body on the island of Ireland and the only Irish-based accountancy body. It will be a leading force within the profession and a powerful voice to represent our members.

This document provides an overview of what voting yes to amalgamate with CPA Ireland will mean for you as a member of Chartered Accountants Ireland, our organisation, and for the accountancy profession in Ireland.

All professions are facing uncertain times and as the overall number of people entering the accountancy profession falls across the globe, accountancy bodies are consolidating to address this issue. The decisions taken by bodies representing the accountancy profession in Ireland over the next few years will have implications for decades to come and in Chartered Accountants Ireland we propose taking a leadership role with this amalgamation.

Over recent months, in a spirit of greater collaboration, Chartered Accountants Ireland has been engaging with CPA Ireland, discussing our shared goals, the strategic position of our profession and how to meet the challenges facing us both. Our individual visions, objectives, challenges and opportunities are so strikingly similar, as are our education and regulatory environments that an amalgamation became a clear objective to deliver the best possible collaboration. By taking this confident step, we will put our members and our Institute in the best position to meet those collective challenges and opportunities now and into the future.

The Councils and leadership teams of both Institutes have unanimously agreed that a future together will be more stable, smarter, and stronger than a future apart. This amalgamation is a once-in-a-generation chance to capitalise on a significant opportunity for our members in Ireland and abroad to build the largest professional body on the island of Ireland.

We now come to you, our members, and ask you to endorse the resolutions to be put to members and play a part in protecting and promoting the profession we all represent.

Over the weeks ahead I, along with our Council and senior leadership team, look forward to engaging further with you, our fellow members, to demonstrate how this amalgamation will benefit you and how it will better place our Institute to help you meet the significant challenges and opportunities we face.

Thank you so much for your time and attention and I look forward to speaking to as many of you as possible over the come weeks and answering any questions you may have.

Best regards,

**Sinead Donovan**

President, Chartered Accountants Ireland  
On behalf of the Council of Chartered  
Accountants Ireland





MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF CPA IRELAND

MARK GARGAN

## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF CPA IRELAND

Dear Members,

I write to you enthusiastically endorsing this proposal to bring together CPA Ireland and Chartered Accountants Ireland as a single Institute with a stronger voice to represent the accountancy profession in Ireland. This document serves to outline what voting yes to amalgamate with Chartered Accountants Ireland will mean for our organisation and for us, as members, and why we should embrace this opportunity.

Accountancy is facing uncertain times, both at home and abroad, with poor student uptake, continued outsourcing and developments in emerging technologies are leading to changes within the sector. In light of these shared challenges, it is my opinion, and that of our Council and leadership team that the two organisations should come together.

CPA Ireland and Chartered Accountants Ireland both have longstanding traditions of high-quality service and educational excellence and are both regulated by IAASA to ensure the highest standard of professionalism.

Amalgamation would bring together the best parts of our two organisations, pooling the resources and highly talented staff to benefit all members of a new single body. This organisation will speak with one voice, amplifying the needs of our profession to public representatives, Government, and the general public. As a unified Institute, we can best address the pressures that face our profession and our members.

Simply put, we are stronger together.

CPA Ireland has always been committed to ensuring that the public interest has been central to all our activities, this is a core aspect of our culture and will continue to be a focal part of the policy development following amalgamation.

CPA Ireland has built up a proud legacy of service to our members who can be assured that in an amalgamated body, the culture and heritage of CPA will be maintained and enhanced through increased resourcing. Additionally, members and students will have access to expanded continued professional development (CPD), a wider professional network, and a world-class accreditation with international access.

Thank you for taking the time to consider this proposal. I look forward to meeting members over the coming weeks and having the opportunity to speak to you and explain why I, and our Council, believe this amalgamation brings together the resources and reputations of both Irish-based accountancy organisations and is the right step for our members and for the accountancy profession in Ireland.

Best,

**Mark Gargan**

President, CPA Ireland

On Behalf of the Council of CPA Ireland



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THE ROAD TO A SHARED AND STRONGER FUTURE

## THE ROAD TO A SHARED AND STRONGER FUTURE

The accountancy profession is facing a generational challenge in terms of its attractiveness to new entrants, the rapid development of emerging technologies and increased engagement with regulators and other Government agencies.

In response to these developments, accountancy bodies across the globe have developed closer ties and, in many cases, amalgamated to strengthen the profession's strategic positioning and meet the shared challenges and opportunities of this ever-changing landscape.

Ireland, with numerous organisations seeking to represent accountants and be the voice of the profession, is increasingly out of step with the international movement towards consolidating membership into stronger bodies with louder voices.

Over the last number of months, Chartered Accountants Ireland and CPA Ireland have been exploring ways in which they can collaborate more strongly together in an effort to address the shared issues their members face.

As the only two Irish-based accountancy bodies representing the profession, it makes sense to ensure both organisations work closely together. As a result of these discussions and the efforts undertaken to identify areas of shared collaboration, where the influence of both organisations could be mobilised, it has becoming increasingly clear to the Councils of both organisations that amalgamation offers the best pathway forward for the future.

Both bodies have been regulated by IAASA in the Republic of Ireland for the best part of two decades and this has increasingly led to greater consistency across education, regulations and professional standards.

Following rigorous discussions and due diligence undertaken by the two Councils to explore the feasibility of an amalgamation, it has now been unanimously decided by both Councils to endorse this course of action and seek the approval, via separate votes, of the members of Chartered Accountants Ireland and CPA Ireland to support this.

The objectives of a proposed amalgamation are to:

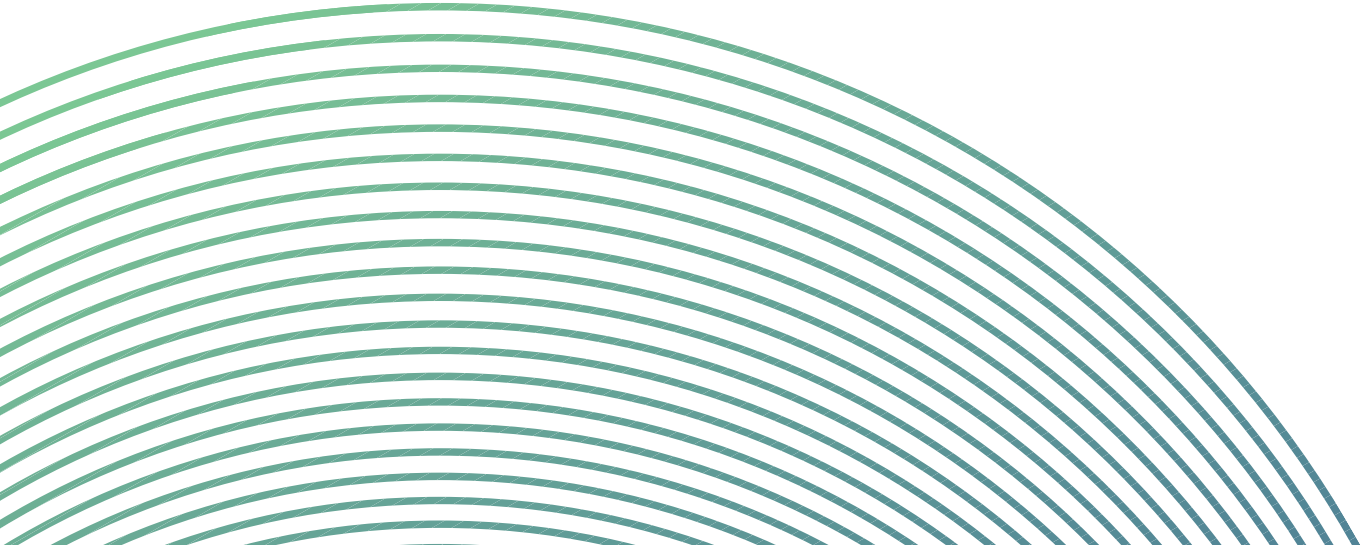
- Support the profession in Ireland more efficiently with combined scale and resources.
- Serve the public interest by ensuring the highest standards of regulation and independent professional advice.
- Simplify the accreditation and designation process for the accounting profession in Ireland.
- Increase the influence of the accounting profession in Ireland.
- Offer a more enhanced member proposition which would attract new candidates for the qualification and provide more contemporary and accessible service for existing members.

The image features a large, abstract geometric pattern composed of numerous overlapping, nested triangles. The pattern is divided into two main sections: a top section with triangles pointing downwards, colored in shades of blue and purple, and a bottom section with triangles pointing upwards, colored in shades of pink and purple. The triangles are arranged in a way that they appear to be receding into the distance, creating a strong sense of depth and perspective. The overall effect is a complex, layered visual structure.

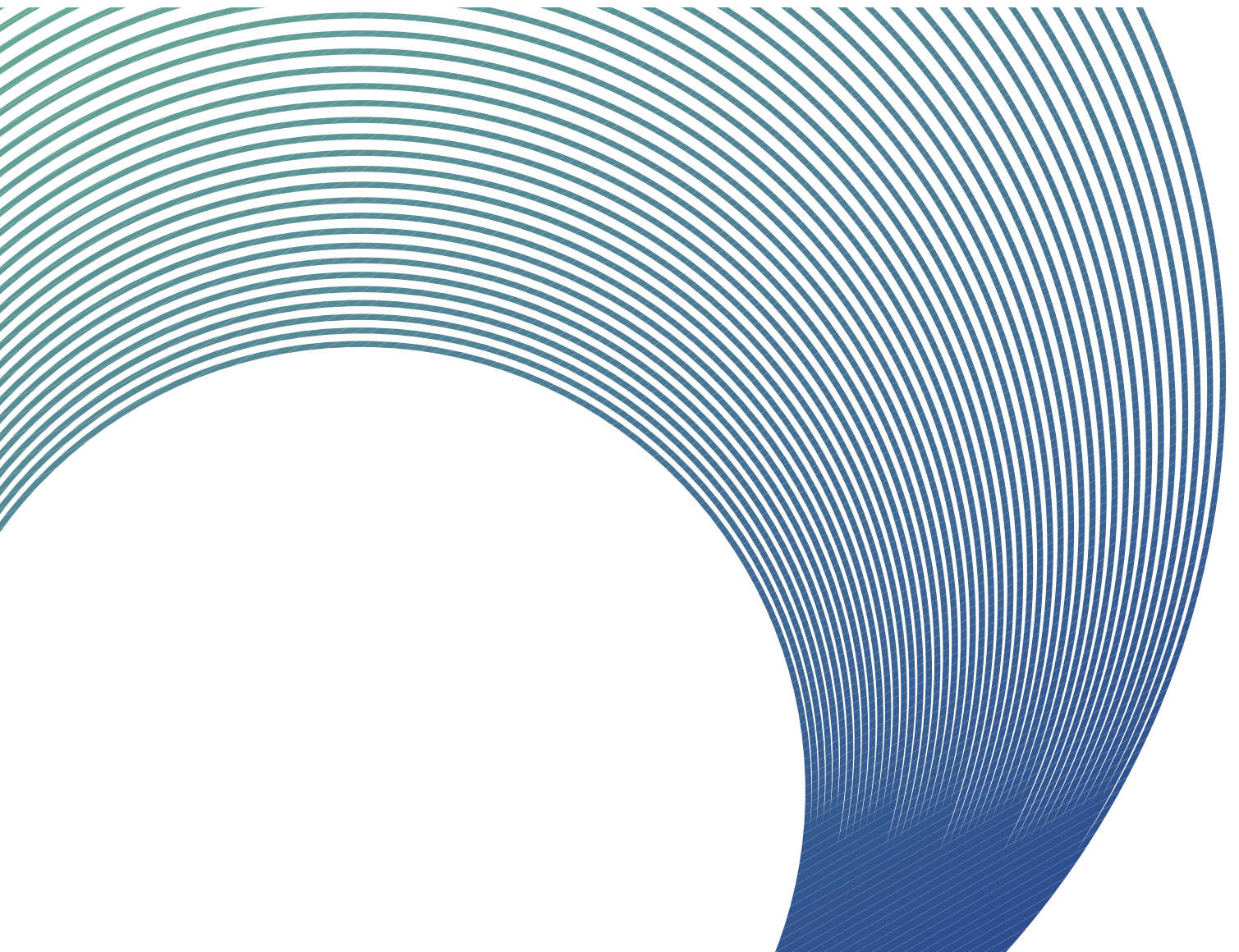
THE REASONS TO VOTE YES

## THE REASONS TO VOTE YES

- » 1. **Single Body, Stronger Voice**
  - One Institute combining the strengths of each organisation which are both regulated by IAASA and meet the same high regulatory, educational and professional standards.
  - One Institute with increased financial strength, a larger membership and an enhanced strategic position.
  - One Institute with greater influence advocating strongly for its members.
  
- » 2. **Largest Professional Body on the Island of Ireland**
  - Following amalgamation, the organisation will be called Chartered Accountants Ireland.
  - Combining the prestige and international reputation as well as the existing staff talent of both organisations will create a confident, forward-looking brand.
  - Establishing a leading force within the profession and a powerful voice on economic matters.
  
- » 3. **Strong Advocate for Accountancy Profession & Public Interest**
  - A single accountancy body is the most appropriate solution to meet the shared challenges of the future and advocate for the attractiveness of the profession to ensure we continue to attract the most talented entrants.
  - Delivering a purpose led profession with a commitment to the public interest at its core.
  - Ensuring members are supported in an ever-changing environment.
  
- » 4. **Education/Qualification**
  - Combining the recognition and strengths of CPA/FCPA and ACA/FCA creating a powerful qualification with dual designation, benefitting members and students.
  - The dual designation will offer wider market access for members building on mutual recognition agreements, to enhance the recognition of Irish accountancy qualifications abroad.
  - A single body will ensure one high standard of education for all trainees, enhancing skill level of all students completing professional accountancy exams in Ireland.
  
- » 5. **Strong Financial Base**
  - The proposed amalgamation has a strong financial foundation.
  - Chartered Accountants Ireland will see an increased membership base, growing the annual income significantly.
  - Pooling the resources of CPA Ireland and Chartered Accountants Ireland and utilising synergies will benefit members through improved services and keeping subscription increases low.



NEXT STEPS



## NEXT STEPS

On 21st February 2024, Chartered Accountants Ireland and CPA Ireland will convene general meetings of their respective members who will be asked to approve the amalgamation in principle and to authorise their respective Councils to negotiate and finalise the terms of the amalgamation.

### After 21st February 2024

Members' approval in principle will ensure that a process is put in motion under which, and subject to all necessary regulatory requests and the approval of the High Court:

- The members of CPA Ireland will become members of Chartered Accountants Ireland. Chartered Accountants Ireland will be the name of the organisation.
- Members will be entitled to use either or both the CPA/FCPA and ACA/FCA designations, and enjoy all rights and benefits associated with both.
- The CPA Ireland's legal entity (together with all its assets and liabilities) will be transferred to Chartered Accountants Ireland.

It is envisaged that Chartered Accountants Ireland and CPA Ireland will hold further meetings of their members later in the year. This will allow the members of Chartered Accountants Ireland to approve necessary bye-laws and members of CPA Ireland to approve the legal steps for effecting the amalgamation and certain changes to the constitution of CPA Ireland to facilitate the amalgamation.

### Changes To Bye-Laws And Regulations

It is expected that the principal changes to the Chartered Accountants Ireland bye-laws and regulations will deal with the following matters:

- To expand the Council of Chartered Accountants Ireland from 24 to 30 members so that 6 CPA Ireland members may join the Council. In 2030 the Council will revert to 24 members. The Chartered Accountants Ireland office holders at the time of the amalgamation will remain in office until the expiry of their terms.
- To provide for dual designation/accreditation (i.e. the right to use either or both CPA/FCPA and ACA/FCA designations).
- To provide for the continuation of any disciplinary proceedings affecting CPA Ireland members current at the time of the amalgamation.
- To provide for transitional arrangements for CPA Ireland students.

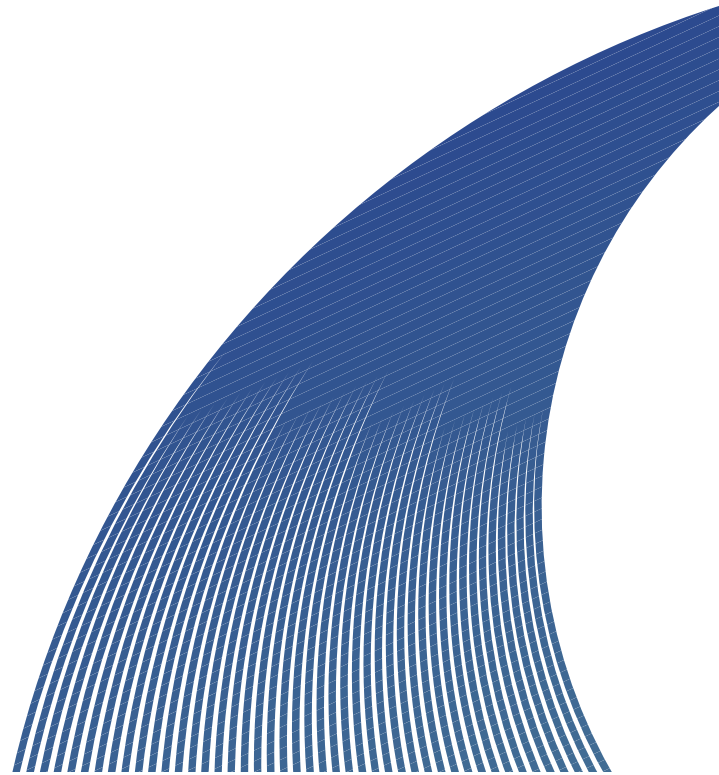
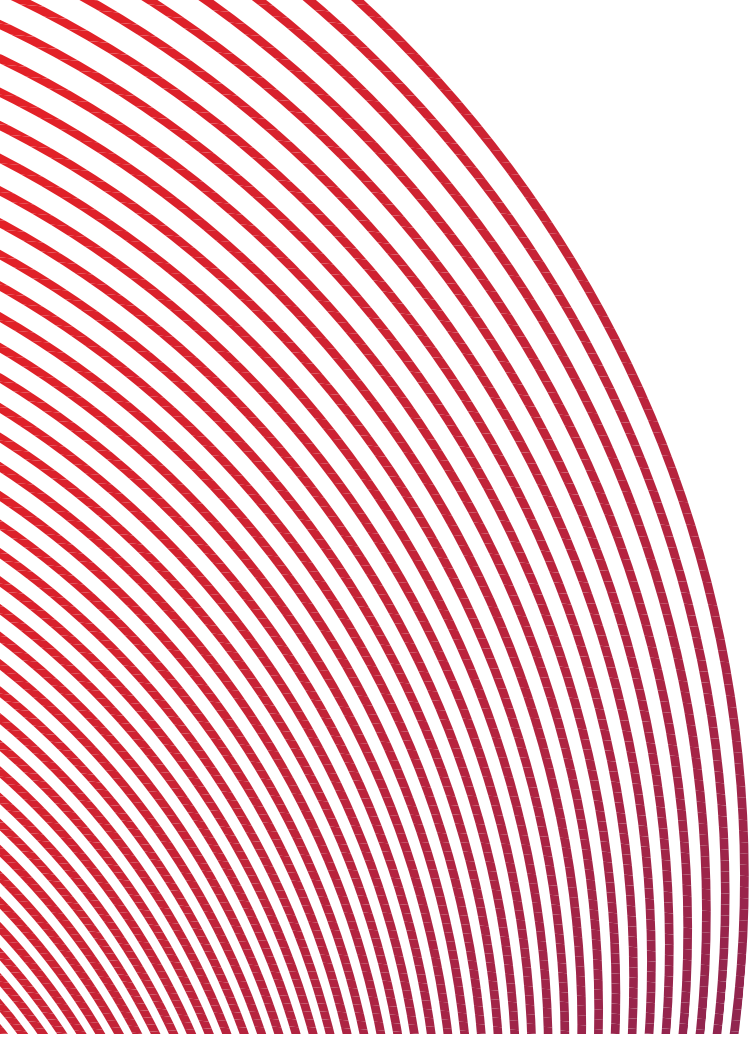
In addition, it will be necessary to make other incidental changes to the bye-laws and regulations in order to accommodate the amalgamation. These may include, for example, adaptations to the education and audit regulations.

### Regulatory Approval

Following approval from the members of Chartered Accountants Ireland and CPA Ireland, the necessary approvals of IAASA, the Department for the Economy of Northern Ireland and any other applicable regulatory body will be obtained for both the principal changes and the incidental changes to the bye-laws and regulations. Application will be made to the High Court asking it to sanction the amalgamation.

With the endorsement of the membership and following approval by the relevant regulator and High Court, the amalgamation process can be concluded creating the largest professional body on the island of Ireland, a single Irish based body with a strong voice to advocate for the accountancy profession and the public interest.





OVERVIEW OF EACH ORGANISATION



## About Chartered Accountants Ireland

Chartered Accountants Ireland is Ireland's leading professional accountancy body, representing almost 33,000 members in over 100 countries and educating 6,000 students. It has 494 statutory audit firms.

An all-island body established by Royal Charter in 1888, it works to create opportunities for members and students, and ethical, sustainable prosperity for society.

Chartered Accountants Ireland members provide leadership in businesses in every sector, the public service and professional practice, bringing experience, trusted expertise, and strict standards to their work.

In representing members, it engages with many stakeholders including governments, policy makers, regulators, and business groups on key issues affecting the profession and the wider economy.

It is a founding member of Chartered Accountants Worldwide, the international network of over 1.8 million chartered accountants. Chartered Accountants Ireland members also play key roles in the Global Accounting Alliance, Accountancy Europe and the International Federation of Accountants.

Chartered Accountants Ireland also educates and supports professionals with qualifications throughout their career. Members can avail of more than 200 CPD courses from anywhere in the world each year, as well as accessing a professional network through over 175 events organised by District Societies and overseas chapters right throughout the year.

Its activities and those of its members are governed by its Bye-Laws and by Rules relating to professional and ethical conduct.

Chartered Accountants Ireland is governed by a Council and it is responsible for determining policy and monitoring its implementation. This Council is led by the Officer Group and supported by the Management Team and staff. The Council is supported in its work by a number of committees with voluntary member involvement.



## About CPA Ireland

The Institute of Certified Public Accountants in Ireland (CPA Ireland) is one of the leading Irish accountancy bodies. CPA Ireland was founded on 11 March 1926 and operates from its HQ in 17 Harcourt Street, Dublin 2. There are over 5,000 members and students in over 50 countries worldwide across every sector. CPA Ireland also regulates 262 statutory audit firms in Ireland.

The CPA designation is the most used designation for professional accountants, worldwide, and CPA Ireland provides a professional accountancy qualification that is strongly recognised both nationally and internationally, and it is designed to equip individuals with the skills and knowledge needed to pursue a successful career in accounting, finance, and business. This recognition can be advantageous for individuals seeking opportunities to work abroad or for multinational companies looking for professionals with a diverse skill set.

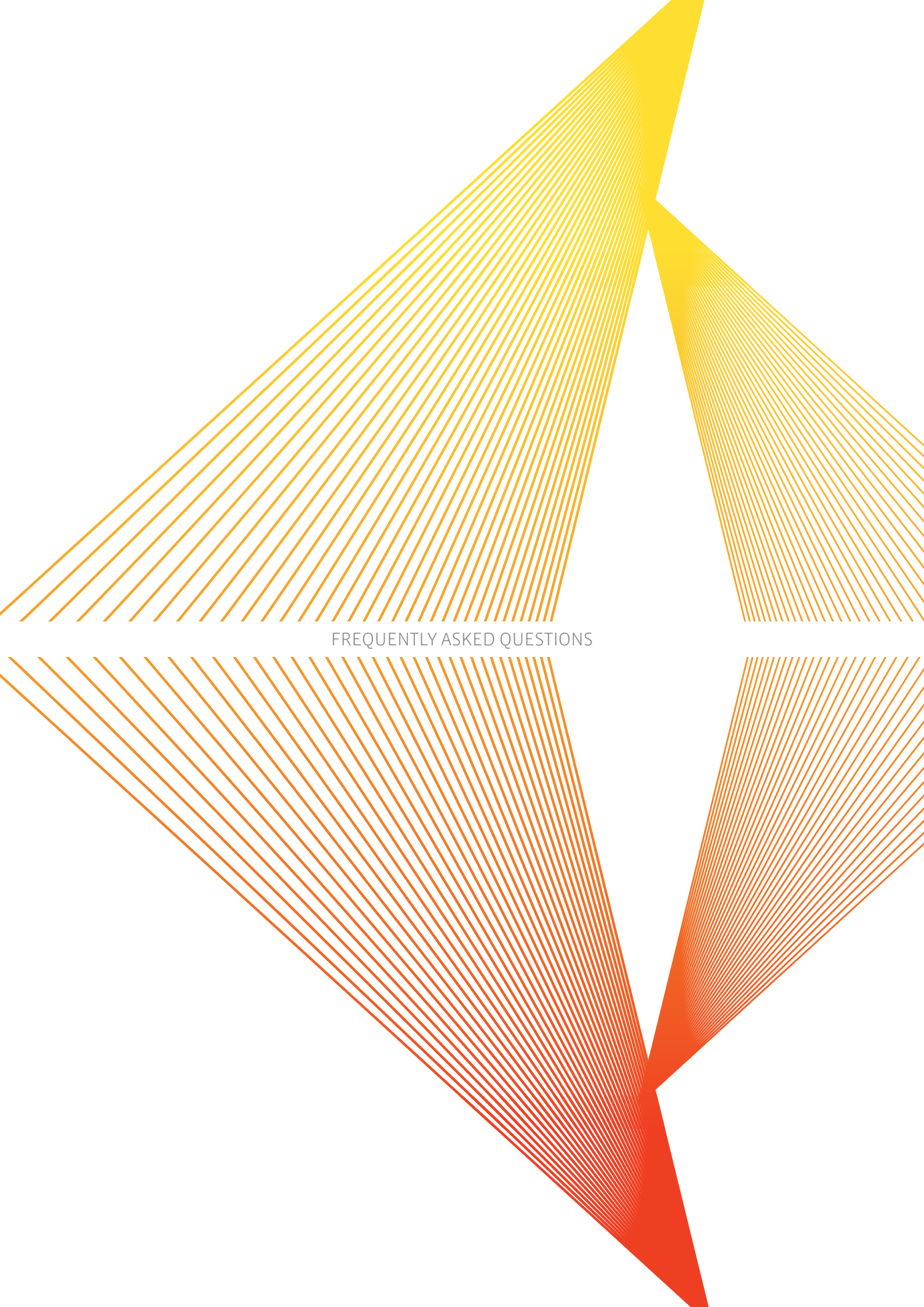
CPA Ireland holds several Mutual Recognition Agreements with leading professional bodies in the USA, Australia, India, South Africa, and other jurisdictions. CPA Ireland is also approved as an association whose members may be appointed and act as auditors in New Zealand. In the UK, the FRC Board has approved the audit qualification of CPA Ireland under Section 1221 of the Companies Act 2006.

CPA Ireland places great emphasis on the importance of continuous learning and professional development and is innovative and customer centric in terms of service delivery. Building on its innovative Digitalisation and Sustainability Hubs, CPA Ireland has recently launched four micro credentials in sustainability reporting and assurance.

CPA Ireland is also the first accountancy body in the world to leverage virtual reality technology (VR) to create a gamified, experiential learning programme delivered through the CPA Ireland Metaverse- School of Innovation.

CPA Ireland, like other professional bodies, is subject to regulatory standards and oversight to ensure the quality and integrity of the profession. This includes adherence to ethical standards and professional conduct.





FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

### General Questions

- **What is being proposed?**

CPA Ireland and Chartered Accountants Ireland are the only two Irish-based accountancy Institutes headquartered on the island of Ireland. Following months of discussion regarding closer cooperation, the Councils of both Institutes are asking members to vote on a proposal to amalgamate the two Institutes, to create a single Irish-based accountancy body and the largest professional body on the island of Ireland.

- **Why amalgamate rather than co-operate on issues?**

Over recent months, in a spirit of greater collaboration, Chartered Accountants Ireland and CPA Ireland have been discussing our shared goals, the strategic position of our profession and how to meet the challenges facing us both. Our individual visions, and objectives are so strikingly similar, as are our education and regulatory environments that an amalgamation is the next logical step. By taking this confident step, we will put our members and our Institute in the best position to meet those collective challenges and opportunities now and into the future.

Together, as one Institute with global influence, we will be a stronger voice when advocating for our members, and on behalf of the public interest, with policy makers and other stakeholders. We will be better positioned to promote the value of the profession to society and as a rewarding career to new entrants.

- **What will the Institute be named?**

Following amalgamation, the newly enhanced organisation will be named Chartered Accountants Ireland.

- **What does this mean for the Chartered Accountants Ireland brand?**

Upon a yes vote and the amalgamation completing, the Chartered Accountants Ireland brand remains as the brand. It is envisaged that post amalgamation that there will be a new refreshed brand identity that encapsulates elements of the CPA Ireland brand.

- **How many members do both organisations have?**

Chartered Accountants Ireland has almost 33,000 members and CPA Ireland has almost 5,000 members.

- **Are both organisations currently under the same regulatory standards?**

Both organisations have been regulated by IAASA in the Republic of Ireland for the best part of two decades and this has increasingly led to greater consistency across education, regulation and professional standards. Both bodies have delegated authority from the Central Bank to authorise members for investment business activities and both are competent authorities for the purposes of Anti-Money Laundering legislation in Ireland. Chartered Accountants Ireland also has statutory regulatory obligations in the UK and is subject to oversight by relevant UK external oversight bodies in that regard.



- How many registered audit firms does each organisation have?**

Chartered Accountants Ireland has 607 statutory audit firms and CPA Ireland has 262 statutory audit firms in the Republic of Ireland, as of 15th January 2024.
- What is the timeline for this?**

Both organisations will hold general meetings on Wednesday 21st February, 2024 where members will be asked to approve the amalgamation in principle.

If approved by the members of both organisations, it is envisaged that they will hold further meetings of members later in the year for Chartered Accountants Ireland to approve the necessary changes to the bye-laws and CPA Ireland to approve the legal steps for effecting the amalgamation and certain changes to the constitution of CPA Ireland to facilitate amalgamation.

If the members of both Chartered Accountants Ireland and CPA Ireland pass the relevant resolutions at their respective meetings and the necessary approvals of all relevant regulators are obtained, application will be made to the High Court asking it to sanction the amalgamation.
- Where will the head office be located?**

Following amalgamation head office will be located at Chartered Accountants House, Pearse Street, Dublin 2 and in Belfast on Linenhall Street.
- What does this mean for the Chartered Accountants Ireland's current strategy?**

The proposed amalgamation is consistent with the strategic objectives outlined in Chartered Accountants Ireland Strategy24R. The proposed amalgamation is a unique opportunity to be an accelerator of Institute Strategy across all core pillars. 'Redesigning Member Experience, Amplifying our Voice and Brand, Evolving for our Future, Educating career long and Trust.
- What does this mean for the CPA Ireland's current strategy?**

The strategic objectives of CPA Ireland are largely consistent with those of Chartered Accountants Ireland. The CPA Ireland Council believe that our strategic objectives can be best achieved by amalgamation at this time.

### Governance Questions

- What will be the composition of the new Council?**

Following amalgamation, the newly enhanced Chartered Accountants Ireland Council will be increased from 24 to 30 members. Six CPA Ireland members will join the amalgamated Council and each will be appointed to boards to ensure representation of CPA Ireland members in the governing structures. The Chartered Accountants Ireland officers in place from May 2024 will continue until their terms expire.

Subject to certain limits around length of service that apply to all members of Chartered Accountants Ireland's Council, those members of Council who join from CPA Ireland following the amalgamation will serve an initial term until 2028 and will then be eligible for re-election.

The increased Council will reduce to 24 members by 2030.

All members of the combined Institute will be eligible for election to Council.

- **Who will be the President?**

The President of Chartered Accountants Ireland at the time of amalgamation will be President of the combined body until the end of their term as President. The current Chartered Accountants Ireland rules around the nomination and election of President will continue to apply post-amalgamation.

- **How will District and Regional Societies be brought together?**

Regional Societies will be amalgamated and CPA Ireland members will be automatically enrolled in Chartered Accountants Ireland District Societies, based on registered location with the option for members to change to a preferred District Society if they so wish.

CPA Ireland Regional Society Chairs and Deputy Chairs will have the option to become officers of District Societies (propose for 1 term). See below listing of Societies.

No.	CPA	Chartered Accountants Ireland
1	Ulster Society	Ulster District Society
2	Leinster Society	Leinster District Society
3	Munster Society	Cork District Society
4	Western Society	Western District Society
5	Western Society	Northwest District Society
6	Mid-West Society	Mid-West District Society
7	British Society	London District Society
8	None	Various Intl Chapters

- **How will CPA Ireland be represented at the highest levels of governance?**

So as to ensure both organisations are represented within the amalgamated governing structures, six CPA Ireland members will join the Council until 2028 (after which they may seek re-election in the ordinary course as a member of Chartered Accountants Ireland) and each will be appointed to Chartered Accountants Ireland Boards.

The Institute of Chartered Accountants Ireland has the following Boards: (i) Oversight Board (ii) Members Board (iii) Audit Risk and Finance Board (iv) Education Training & Lifelong Learning Board (v) Advocacy & Representation Board and (vi) Professional Standards Board. CPA Ireland members will be appointed to all the Boards.



In addition, all members of the amalgamated Oversight Board are also members of the Nomination Committee, the Remuneration Committee and the Transformation Oversight Committee.

- **Do members need to vote on the bye-law changes separately?**

If the members of both organisations approve amalgamation on 21st February 2024, it is envisaged that they will hold further meetings of members later in the year for Chartered Accountants Ireland to approve the necessary changes to the bye-laws and CPA Ireland to approve the legal steps effecting the amalgamation and certain changes to the constitution of CPA Ireland to facilitate amalgamation.

### Financial Implications

- **What are the financial benefits of this move?**

It is the opinion of both Councils that the proposed amalgamation has a strong financial foundation and will be financial accretive. This will see the newly enhanced Chartered Accountants Ireland increase its membership base, growing its annual income significantly. This will create the largest professional body on the island of Ireland.

Combining the assets of CPA Ireland and Chartered Accountants Ireland and utilising synergies will benefit members.

### Education & Training

- **Are the education standards in each Institute comparative?**

The establishment of IAASA provided a common standard for the education of accountants in Ireland. Both CPA Ireland and Chartered Accountants Ireland have been overseen by IAASA for the best part of two decades and are required to meet the same educational standards. Both bodies are engaging with QQI on the proposed Listed Awards Body process which envisages both qualifications being aligned at Level 9 (post graduate level).

- **How will you ensure the quality of education standards after amalgamation?**

Both Institutes have recently jointly reviewed the examination syllabi and have identified significant commonality. Both Institutes are satisfied that both bodies are aligned on the educational standards demanded of our student members. Significant syllabus research has recently been concluded on the future skills of accountants and this will inform future syllabus development.

- **What Designation will be adopted?**

The Chartered Accountants Ireland qualification will be adopted, however there will be dual designation with members able to use ACA/FCA and CPA/FCPA designations. Dual designation will increase member access to global markets, benefitting members and students.

- **How will education be delivered?**

Each Institute uses a specific model of delivery. Chartered Accountants Ireland has its own online delivery, supplemented by limited face to face teaching. CPA Ireland partner with leading educators such as MTU and Griffith College to deliver its educational programme. If members approve the amalgamation, the CPA Ireland Strategic Level arrangement will continue for a period of three years. CPA Ireland Foundation and Professional Level students will be enabled to convert to the Chartered programme in a timely manner with the aim of making this transition as smooth as possible.
- **How will exams be delivered?**

Both Institutes use the same examination platform, Cirrus, with an agreed development pathway. This should make the process of amalgamation easier.
- **Final Year Students - how will they be designated?**

Existing CPA Strategic Level students sitting their final exam, will be allowed see out their studies within the existing curricula and receive ACA and CPA upon completion of their studies.
- **What will be the training duration requirements?**

There are no plans to shorten the current 3.5 year training duration requirement for students to qualify as chartered accountants. Currently CPA Ireland graduates typically apply for membership after a period of at least 3.5 years.
- **What training documentation will be required?**

Both Chartered Accountants Ireland and CPA Ireland require students to document their training experience and achievement of the required competencies. This will continue for students. Opportunities to streamline and simplify these requirements will be progressed over time.
- **What impact will this have on students currently studying?**

Existing CPA Strategic Level students sitting their strategic exam will be allowed see out their studies within the existing CPA Ireland curricula and exams. (A three-year window is envisaged to allow CPA Ireland students to complete their studies.)

All new and existing CPA students at Foundation and Professional levels will transition to the chartered education programme.
- **What does this mean for ATI (Accounting Technicians Ireland)?**

The amalgamation will strengthen the relationship with ATI, notably increasing awareness of the profession at school-level and encouraging increased diversity of intake into the profession in particular via the apprenticeship route.

### Continuing Professional Development

- **Will there be any additional CPD requirements on members?**  
There will be no additional CPD requirements.
- **What will be the reporting requirements?**  
It is anticipated that there will be an opportunity to simplify and streamline CPD reporting requirements.

### Voting

- **When will the first vote take place?**  
Chartered Accountants Ireland and CPA Ireland will hold Special General Meetings on Wednesday, 21st February 2024, to allow members to vote on proposed resolutions to approve the amalgamation in principle.  
Further meetings of members will be held by each organisation later in the year, at which the members of each organisation will be asked to approve further legal steps to implement the amalgamation.
- **What is the voting process for the first vote?**  
Chartered Accountants Ireland members will have an opportunity to vote online from 9am, 29th January 2024, until 1pm, 14th February 2024 or vote in person at the Special General Meeting on Wednesday, 21st February 2024.  
CPA Ireland members will have an opportunity (times in GMT) to vote in person at the Extraordinary General Meeting on Wednesday, 21st February 2024 or can provide proxy votes in advance of that meeting.



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