



Message from the President of CPA Ireland

Dear Members,

On behalf of the entire Council of CPA Ireland I want to bring to you the proposal that CPA Ireland will amalgamate with Chartered Accountants Ireland, to form the largest professional body on the island of Ireland to ensure the sustainability of the profession.

With almost 5,000 members¹ and students in over 50 countries worldwide, our organisation has a long legacy of representing accountancy in Ireland. We are an innovative organisation, that has always placed a great emphasis on continuous learning and developing and future skills needs, to ensure that we are prepared for the challenges of the future.

One such challenge is in attracting the next generation of accountants to the profession, which is affecting accountancy both nationally and internationally. Increasingly, accountants are exiting the profession and poor student uptake, continued outsourcing, and developments in emerging technologies have led to changes within the sector. Across the globe, we have seen accountancy bodies consolidate in response to these exits from the profession. We too, must be proactive to ensure that we have a sustainable profession into the future.

Following several years of strong collaboration, CPA Ireland has been engaging with Chartered Accountants Ireland, discussing our shared goals, the strategic position of our profession and how to meet the challenges facing us both. In light of these discussions, the Council of CPA Ireland have unanimously agreed that amalgamation with Chartered Accountants Ireland provides the best opportunity to meet these shared challenges now and into the future.

CPA Ireland and Chartered Accountants Ireland both have longstanding traditions of high-quality member services, educational excellence and advocating on behalf of the public interest. A new Institute would bring together the best parts of our two organisations, pooling the resources and talent² 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.

Now is the time for you to have your say. We ask that you, the members, review the contents of this proposal and consider how it will strengthen our organisations for the benefit of the profession we all represent.

Over the coming weeks, I, alongside members of the CPA Ireland Council, look forward to engaging with you further to answer any questions you may have. We believe that this is the right action for our members, for our organisation, and for accountancy in Ireland and believe it is a confident step towards a strengthened profession in Ireland.

Best,
Mark Gargan
President, CPA Ireland
On Behalf of the Council of CPA Ireland

29 January 2024