



## UK and Global Advocacy Quarterly Roundup (Q4)

The global economy is climbing out from the depths to which it plummeted earlier in the year. But with the COVID-19 pandemic continuing to spread, many countries have slowed reopening, and some are reinstating partial lockdowns to protect susceptible populations. Businesses still face uncertainty. Recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic will be a marathon not a sprint and the only true exit depends on an effective vaccine. Until then, Government's continue to tackle the economic and social challenges brought on by the pandemic and we continue to focus our advocacy efforts on providing them with constructive ideas for how they could support and help businesses navigate the pandemic and keep cash flowing through the economy. We have recently released our [budgeting for recovery report](#), which complements the [20-point plan](#) for UK economic recovery released earlier this year. (More on this to follow). Below, we outline our activities in Q4.

### CIMA Letters to Parliament

CIMA continues to call on Government to put in place measures to drive long term economic recovery from the global pandemic. We are advocating for policies that will rebuild confidence, create jobs and allow businesses to look ahead with a degree of certainty.

CIMA has written the following letters to Government:

UK	<a href="#">CIMA letter to the Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster</a> Establishment of a joint task force on Brexit
UK	<a href="#">CIMA letter to Apprenticeship minister Gillian Keegan</a>
UK	<a href="#">CIMA letter to Permanent Secretary of Education Susan Aclan-Hood</a>
South Africa	<a href="#">CIMA letter to the President of the Republic of South Africa</a> Economic recovery from the Covid-19 pandemic in South Africa
Botswana	<a href="#">Letter to the Botswana Government on the COVID-19 loan guarantee scheme</a>
UK	<a href="#">Letter to Members of Parliament and Lords</a> CIMA launches "Budgeting for Recovery and the Long-Term Economic Future of the UK Report.
UK	<a href="#">Budgeting for Recovery Report</a> Chancellor of the Exchequer Prime Minister Boris Johnson  <b>BEIS Ministers</b> Alok Sharma – Secretary of State, BEIS Paul Scully – Small Business Minister Nadhim Zahawi – Minister for Business Lord Callanan – Climate Changes and Corporate Responsibility Minister  <b>Education Ministers</b> Gavin Williamson – Secretary of State for Education Gillian Keegan – Apprenticeships and Skills Minister  <b>Treasury Ministers</b> Kemi Badenoch – Exchequer Secretary Steve Barclay – Chief Secretary

	<p><b>Other Ministers</b>  Luke Hall - Minister of State for Regional Growth and Local Government  Therese Coffey, Secretary of State DWP, CIMA Member  Liz Truss, Secretary of State DIT, CIMA Member</p> <p><b>Select Committee Chairs</b>  Darren Jones – BEIS Select Committee Chair  Meg Hillier – PAC Chair  Rob Halfon – Education Select Committee Chair  Mel Stride – Treasury Select Committee Chair</p> <p><b>Other MPs</b>  Julie Marson, John Howell, Harriet Baldwin, Paul Howell, Craig Mackinlay  Peter Grant, Jake Berry – former Northern Powerhouse Minister  Simon Clarke – former Minister for regional growth and levelling up</p>
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#### Blogs / Bitesize briefing

UK	<a href="#"><u>Surviving the second UK lockdown: a guide</u></a>	24 November
UK	<a href="#"><u>How can we drive the UKs post-COVID19 recovery</u></a>	26 November
UK	<a href="#"><u>Get your business ready for Brexit</u></a>	3 December

#### Reports

UK	<p><a href="#"><u>Budgeting for Recovery and a Long-Term Economic Future for the UK</u></a></p> <p>40 Policy suggestions for the UK government to help businesses and the economy both survive the short-term economic crisis caused by the pandemic and help aid longer-term recovery in the UK. The report looks at long-term structural challenges in the UK economy such as poor productivity and how we can create more sustainable and productive growth going forwards. The report also looks at how SMEs and entrepreneurs can be supported to grow and expand and support UK economic recovery.</p>	24 November
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#### Advocacy Related Media and Press Activity

UK	<p><a href="#"><u>CIMA Comments Picked Up in House of Lords Report</u></a></p> <p>Earlier this year, the House of Lords European Union Committee called for evidence on The Future of UK-EU Relationship on Professional and Business Services. The Global Advocacy submitted a response on behalf of CIMA pointing out that the mutual recognition of qualifications was key to the accountancy and audit sector, that mutual recognition of qualifications must be part of any new trade deal with the EU and their member states, the need for regulatory co-operation between the UK and EU on professional and business services and the importance of mobility for accountant professionals.</p> <p>On the 13 October 2020 the House of Lords EU Committee published their report and directly quoted us on the importance of mutual recognition of qualifications and regulatory co-operation. You can view the report <a href="#"><u>here</u></a>. We are quoted on page 33 and 46.</p>	15 October
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UK	<a href="#"><u>Media comment: We must support people to thrive in the new normal</u></a>	13 October
UK	<a href="#"><u>Media comment: We are still missing the mark on long-term recovery</u></a>	15 October
UK	<a href="#"><u>Media comment: Upskilling must become today's priority</u></a>	20 October
UK	<a href="#"><u>The Chartered Institute of Management Accountants releases blueprint to drive post-COVID-19 economic recovery</u></a>	23 November
UK	<a href="#"><u>Media comment: Further investment in skills is vital for post-Covid recovery</u></a>	25 November

### Media activity

#### How can we drive the UK's post-COVID-19 recovery?

**Tuesday, 24<sup>th</sup> November:** Samantha Louis, FCMA, CGMA, Vice President International Advocacy and Andrew Harding, FCMA, CGMA, Chief Executive of the Association of International Certified Professional Accountants discuss CIMA's economic recovery recommendations to UK Chancellor Rishi Sunak. Watch the [video here](#).



### Government and Parliamentary Inquiries

CIMA is currently participating in the following inquiries:

UK	<a href="#"><u>CIMA Response to the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy Consultation on the Recognition of Professional Qualifications and Regulation of Professions</u></a>
UK	<a href="#"><u>Treasury Select Committee: Economic Impact of coronavirus</u></a>
UK	<a href="#"><u>CIMA response to the IFRS Foundation Consultation Paper on Sustainability Reporting</u></a>
UK	<a href="#"><u>Treasury Select Committee Economic Crime</u></a>
UK	<a href="#"><u>HM Treasury – Economic Crime Levy</u></a>
Australia	<a href="#"><u>Australia-UK FTA</u></a> CIMA response to The Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) on the potential opportunities and impacts of a future Free Trade Agreement (FTA) with the United Kingdom (UK).

### Political meetings

The international advocacy team met with the following:

UK	Gillian Keegan MP – Apprenticeships and Skills Minister
UK	Policy Exchange – one of the UKs leading think tanks
UK	John Howell MP
UK	Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy on COP26
UK	Andrew Harding briefing call with the UK Prime Minister, Boris Johnson, and Cabinet Office Minister, Michael Gove, on Brexit negotiations and business preparedness
UK	Centre for Cities – one of the UKs leading think tanks
UK	Centre for Policy Studies - one of the UKs leading think tanks

### Ongoing research

CIMA is conducting the following:

UK	<b>Purpose &amp; Profit research: CIMA / International Integrated Reporting Council (IIRC)</b> Research with business leaders from across the globe, which gauges how boardrooms and c-suite executives are balancing purpose and profit. This research piece provides a snapshot of how businesses are focused on creating long-term value for both their shareholders and their stakeholders through their strategy, business model and operations.
UK	<b>The Chairmen's Forum:</b> Impact of COVID-19 and Brexit on UK businesses

### Upcoming research

UK	<b>Trade research:</b> Member research to understand needs from ongoing and future trade negotiations
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### Policy asks & wins

#### UK

As we emerge from the pandemic, the Government needs a clear economic plan to ensure that the pandemic can be accounted for and to help create the conditions for UK businesses to grow and expand. We have worked with members and students to create the [budgeting for recovery report](#). This report contains policy suggestions on ways government can help businesses navigate recovery. These suggestions were shared in an open letter to the Prime Minister, Boris Johnson and various Ministers on State and the Shadow Cabinet.

The budgeting for recovery report complements the [20-point plan for UK economic recovery](#) released earlier this year.

It contains 40 policy recommendations calling on the Government to:

- Support UK businesses now to survive this ongoing crisis and enable businesses to grow and expand in the future
- Increase productivity and skills in the UK economy
- Pay back the pandemic and move the economy to a more sustainable footing

- Drive investment and economic opportunities to help SMEs grow out of this crisis and support the levelling up agenda

Below, we outline our policy wins for Q4. Our list of wins will be updated as more information becomes available.

	Country	Advocacy wins
1	Ghana	<p><b>Issue:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>Inquiry to establish ICAG to promote the study of accountancy; to regulate the accountancy profession and practice and to provide for related matters.</u></li> </ul> <p><b>What we called for:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A bill that upholds the validity of a CIMA membership and our members' right to practice in Ghana.</li> </ul> <p><b>Win:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CIMA appeared in front of the Ghana Education Committee to address the Institute of Chartered Accountants (ICAG) Bill 2020. The committee revised the original bill and incorporated concerns and inputs. The revised bill was passed after the third reading and is currently waiting for presidential assent. The amended bill upholds the validity of a CIMA membership and our members' right to practice in Ghana.</li> </ul>
2	UK	<p><b>Issue:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• It has taken the UK ten years to achieve 2% productivity growth which historically would have been achieved in a single year. One of the reasons suggested for the UK's recent poor performance include low levels of investment and R&amp;D spending and a long tail of companies and workers with low skill levels.</li> </ul> <p><b>What we called for:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A heavier focus and investment in R&amp;D across the UK. Encouraging greater use of R&amp;D by SMEs across the UK to increase national productivity and help the government in their levelling up agenda.</li> </ul> <p><b>Win:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Significant increases in research and development (R&amp;D) with almost £15 billion in 2021-22 including funding for clinical research to support delivery of new drugs, treatments and vaccines</li> <li>• £50.7 million for business support programmes to improve SME productivity through leadership, management and technology adoption</li> </ul>
3	UK	<p><b>Issue:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A 2019 City and Guilds Survey found that 95% of levy-paying businesses had not spent their budget in the first 12 months of the Apprenticeship Levy; many blamed the strict scheme rules.</li> </ul> <p><b>What we called for:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Apprenticeship Levy to be made more flexible for levy-paying businesses in terms of how they can use their funds.</li> </ul> <p><b>Win:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• From August 2021, employers who pay the Apprenticeship Levy will be able to transfer unspent levy funds in bulk to small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) with a new pledge function.</li> </ul>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The government will also introduce, from August 2021, a new online service to match levy payers with SMEs that share their business priorities.</li> <li>From April 2021 allowing employers in construction, followed by health and social care, to front-load training for certain apprenticeship standards. The government will explore whether this offer can also be made available in other sectors.</li> </ul>
4	UK	<p><b>Issue:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reporting should be wider than just financials and businesses should adopt integrated reporting best practice. Integrated reporting would help businesses and their regulators look wider than just the financial situation of the entity. The recent global effort to co-ordinate nonfinancial reporting standards is an opportunity for the UK government to promote global Britain through a common reporting framework and metrics</li> </ul> <p><b>What we called for:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Climate reporting: The adoption of integrated thinking and reporting to be widely encouraged by businesses across the UK.</li> </ul> <p><b>Win:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The government will introduce mandatory reporting of climate-related financial information across the economy by 2025 with the vast majority of requirements in place by 2023.</li> <li>The UK will also implement a green taxonomy that defines which economic activities tackle climate change and environmental degradation to help better guide investors.</li> </ul>
5	UK	<p><b>Other wins:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Economic analysis of coronavirus measures <u><a href="#">Analysis of the health, economic and social effects of COVID-19 and the approach to tiering</a></u></li> <li><u><a href="#">Extension of COVID-19 business loans to March</a></u></li> </ul>

More on these policy asks can be found in the [budgeting for recovery report](#). Read the full [spending review here](#).

## Events

### The Chairmen's Forum

The Chairmen's Forum is an independent, not-for-profit forum run by the Association that provides an opportunity for chairmen to share experiences, ideas and views to improve corporate performance, boardroom experience, skills and knowledge. It seeks to identify best practices in areas such as corporate governance; board performance evaluation; the recognition of shareholder and employee expectations; and our responsibility to other stakeholders and wider society.

UK	28 October	Chairmen's Forum in discussion with Paul Polman – Climate Change
UK	10 November	Chairmen's Forum in discussion with Sir Ian Davis - Innovation