

15:00 - 15:35



The Rise of Private Equity in Accounting: Strategic Partnerships or Increased Risks to Public Interest?

MODERATOR

• **KEN SIONG**

SPEAKERS

• **MARK BABINGTON** • **LIAM BOYLE** • **WENDY RUSSELL**

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KEN SIONG

IESBA, Program and Senior Director

Ken Siong has served as Program and Senior Director of the IESBA since January 2013. In his role, Ken manages and oversees the work of the IESBA, including its strategic and operational activities and its work program. He also plays a key role in developing and strengthening the IESBA's relationships with its stakeholders.

Ken previously served as deputy director of the International Auditing and Assurance Standards Board (IAASB). In this capacity, he provided technical direction and support on the development of IAASB standards. He also played a key role in managing the IAASB's strategic and operational activities, and the IAASB's relationship with major jurisdictional auditing standard setters.

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MARK BABINGTON

FRC, Executive Director | IESBA Member

Mark Babington is the Executive Director of Regulatory Standards at the Financial Reporting Council (FRC). He leads the division responsible for the FRC technical and public policy work covering audit, corporate reporting, corporate governance and stewardship, actuarial and the FRC Lab. The division also includes all FRC's Investor and Stakeholder Engagement work. Mark has been a member of the IESBA since 2022.

Before joining the FRC, Mark had a twenty-year career in audit and was a Director at the UK National Audit Office. Prior to that he was a technical advisor to a number of EU capacity-building programmes.

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LIAM BOYLE

Teneo, Chief Risk Officer

Liam is a chartered accountant with over 30 years of experience in the accountancy profession, with a focus on financial advisory services and M&A. He began his career in a client-facing role before moving into a quality and risk management role at Deloitte UK over 20 years ago, where he served as the Partner responsible for the firm's Restructuring business. He also served as Deloitte's Global Transactions Quality and Risk Leader and Deputy Reputation and Risk Leader for its Global Financial Advisory Practice. Teneo acquired Deloitte's UK Restructuring business in 2021 and Liam is responsible for risk and regulatory matters across Teneo globally.

Liam served two terms on the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Scotland (ICAS) Investigations Committee and is currently serving a second term on the ICAS Discipline Board.

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WENDY RUSSELL

Grant Thornton, Head of Audit

Wendy Russell is Head of Audit and a member of the firm's Strategic Leadership Team, responsible for driving the continued growth and success of the Audit practice. Her focus includes expanding market presence, investing in people and technology, and ensuring that audit quality remains central to the firm's work. Before joining the Strategic Leadership Team, she served as Central Region Head of Audit and was part of the firm's national Audit Leadership Team.

With over 25 years of experience as an audit partner, she has worked with listed multinationals and privately held companies, with a particular focus on retail and consumer businesses. She values long-term, trusted relationships with clients.

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