



# ***Embedding sustainability in future learning***

HIGHER EDUCATION CONFERENCE 2022

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***Sustainability in the ACA***

# ***What is sustainability?***

ICAEW's vision is that ICAEW Chartered Accountants enable a world of sustainable economies.

Sustainability describes a world of thriving **economies** and just **societies** based on what **nature** can afford.

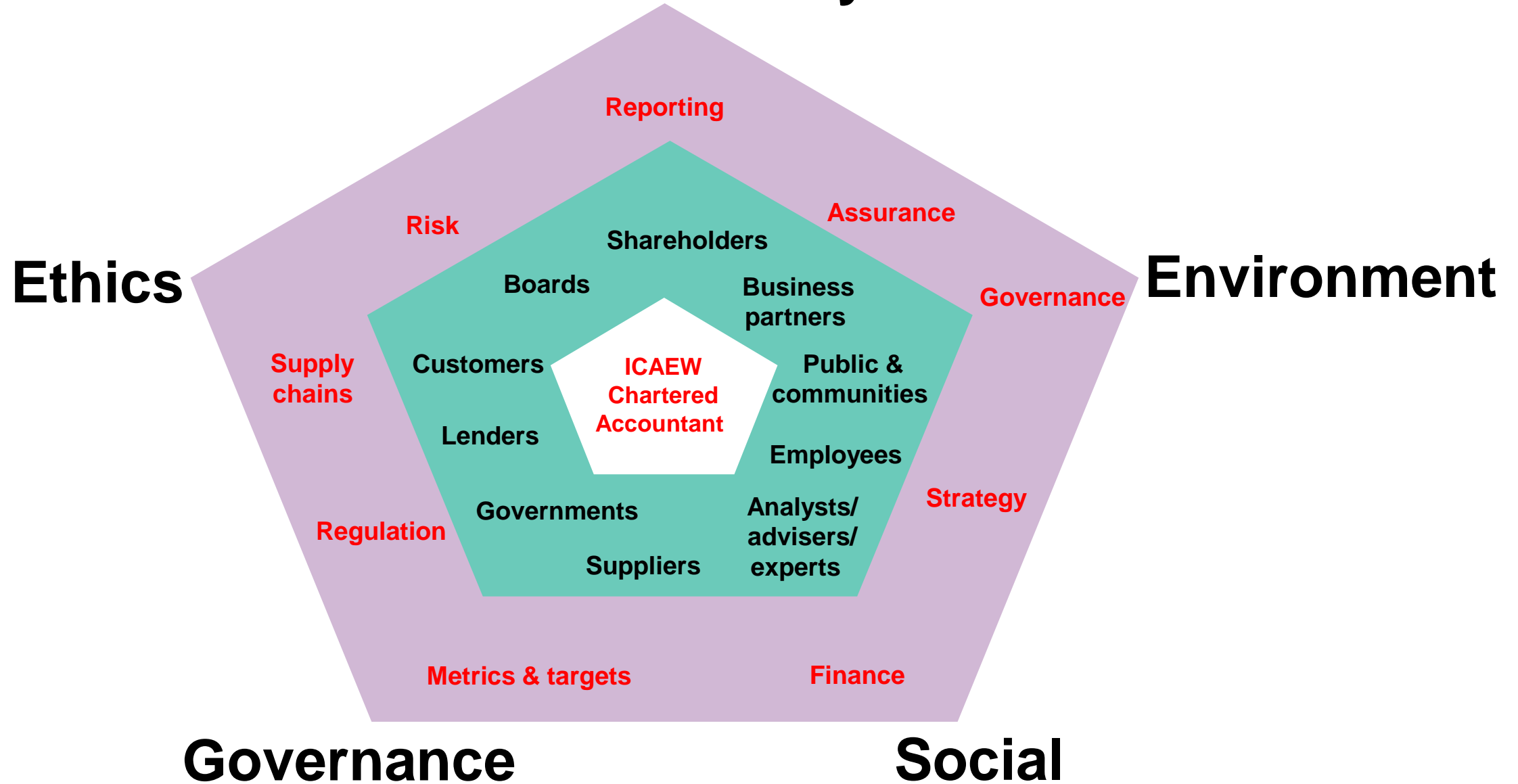
# ***Sustainability in ACA – 2022 content***

Certificate Level	Professional Level	Advanced Level
<p><b>Business, Technology and Finance</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Business objectives, stakeholders, analysing the environment</li> <li>• Measuring climate change, sustainability management and natural capital</li> <li>• Green Finance</li> <li>• Corporate governance and ethics - Natural capital, sustainability and corporate responsibility</li> <li>• External regulation of business</li> </ul> <p><b>Assurance</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Why is assurance important</li> </ul> <p><b>Principles of Taxation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Environmental concerns</li> </ul>	<p><b>Business Strategy and Technology</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Macro environment</li> <li>• Industry and market environment - Sustainability, including natural capital and climate change</li> <li>• Ethical issues in manufacture and procurement</li> <li>• Concepts of sustainability and corporate responsibility</li> <li>• Sustainable development, corporate responsibility – risks and opportunities</li> <li>• Monitoring and measuring sustainability</li> </ul> <p><b>Financial Management</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Stakeholder objectives</li> <li>• Green finance</li> </ul> <p><b>Audit and Assurance</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Other insurance engagements</li> </ul>	<p><b>Corporate Reporting</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Statutory audit planning and risk assessment – Current developments eg TCFD</li> <li>• Assurance engagements on greenhouse gas statements</li> <li>• Environmental and social considerations – corporate responsibility, social responsibility, implications for statutory audit, social and environmental audits, integrated reporting</li> </ul> <p><b>Strategic Business Management</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CSR and performance</li> <li>• Corporate governance</li> <li>• Social responsibility and environmental matters – financial awareness</li> <li>• Investment appraisal – externalities and social responsibilities</li> <li>• Ethics and strategy</li> </ul>

# ***Sustainability in the ACA - motivations***

- Piecemeal additions to syllabus on sustainability to date
- Develop some common themes
  - Scope – determining the boundaries
  - Perspective – ICAEW Chartered Accountant; language
- Consolidation and coherence across the ACA
- New regulations - ISSB

# Sustainability



# Matrix of key areas by exam module

1 = low level – knowledge and understanding

2 = medium level – knowledge, understanding and application

3 = high level – knowledge, understanding application and judgement

	AC	AS	BTF	LW	MI	PoT	AA	FAR	FM	TC	BST	BPT	BPB	BPI	CR	SBM	CS
Reporting	1							2					2	2	1 / 3	3	
Risk management		1	1		1		2		2		2		2	2	3	3	3
Assurance		1					1 / 2						2	1 / 2	2 / 3	1 / 3	
Strategy			1								1 / 2	2	2	2	3	1 / 3	3
Finance			1						1 / 2				2	2		1 / 3	
Governance		1	1		1		2				2		2	2	3	1 / 3	3
Metrics and targets		1	1		1		2		2		1 / 2		2	2	3	1 / 3	3
Operations & supply chains											2					1 / 3	
Law & Regulation	1			1		1		2		1							

# ***What next – embedding sustainability***

- 2023 learning materials
- 2024 syllabus review
- Exam questions



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***Interactive session***

# ***Questions***

1. What do you know about sustainability as an educator?
2. Do you think the role of accountants are changing and it is now an expectation/requirement to have a base understanding of sustainability?
3. Is there a growing demand for sustainability in accounting courses? Where is the demand coming from?
4. How are sustainability topics being embedded into the university curriculum? Should they be more deeply aligned with the core competencies of an accountant e.g. risk management, reporting, or be more high level? What are potential alternatives?
5. What barriers might there be for you to teach these topics to students?



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