

# **Speaker biographies**

# Risk, regulatory, audit & accounting seminar

Tuesday, 15th October 2024

# Robin Fieth

Chief Executive, Building Societies Association



Robin joined the Building Societies Association (BSA) as Chief Executive in December 2013. Previously he was Executive Director, Members and Operations at the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales (ICAEW). Robin originally joined the ICAEW in 2002 as Director of Finance. During his career, he has also held a number of other senior positions in the corporate sector, including Group Finance Director and Company Secretary at AIM listed Transacsys plc. He spent the first 10 years of his career with PwC.

The BSA is the voice of building societies in the UK, speaking out on issues relevant to building societies and their members (savers and borrowers). Together, building societies serve over 25 million customers across the UK; have total assets of over £500 billion and have a 23% market share of the residential mortgage market, and 19% share of the savings market.

Robin is a fellow of the ICAEW, a non-executive director of Co-operatives UK and a member of the General Assembly of the European Association of Co-operative Banks. He is married with three grown-up children.

# Thomas Pugh Economist, RSM UK



Tom Pugh is RSM UK's economist. He provides economic insights from a middle market perspective, to both RSM and its clients. Tom works closely with RSM partners across the UK, as well as with colleagues in the US to monitor how changes across the pond could affect the local market.

After graduating from the University of Manchester in 2009, he went to work for HM Treasury. This was right in the middle of the financial crisis, so he was assigned to help redraft the banking regulations. He then spent eight years at Capital Economics, where he first covered commodities (mainly oil), then the UK economy in the wake of Brexit and the onset of the pandemic.

Thanks to the UK's fondness for 7am data responses, Tom has to be an early bird. However, as he sees it:

"I like a new challenge, and I like having new experiences. Each new data release can really flip your viewpoint about what's going on and how the economy is responding. This is an especially exciting time to see that information coming in and which way it's going."

When not rising at dawn to monitor the economy, Tom can be found out on the links (he's learning to play golf) or preparing for another rugby match.

Tom writes regular analysis and commentary on the UK economy and its impact on businesses in the middle market. To keep up-to-date with the latest economic insights, subscribe to our Real Economy mailing.

#### **Chris Donald**

Senior Manager, Prudential Regulation Authority

Chris studied Russian and History at Sheffield University. After graduating in 2004, he had a very brief stint at Norwich Union up in South Yorkshire before joining the Financial Services Authority in 2005. Chris held a number of roles in retail finance regulation; he focussed on pensions policy initially before moving into wider independent financial advice on a range of products including CFD trading and small-cap shares. Since 2010, Chris' supervisory career has focussed on the Mutuals sector. He worked with the credit union sector from 2010 to 2023, leading the PRA's supervision of UK-based credit unions from 2015 during an exciting period of sectoral growth and policy change. Since late 2023, Chris has acted as Senior Manager in the PRA's Building Societies area and leads the supervision of a portfolio of 18 regional societies.

#### **Ruth Doubleday**

Head of Prudential Regulation, Building Societies Association



Ruth is the Head of Prudential Regulation at the Building Societies Association, representing societies' interests on prudential regulation and financial risk management. Ruth spent much of her previous career at the regulators, including a secondment to the Basel Committee Secretariat where she worked on the definition of capital, supervision and resolution. In more recent years she has been the CRO for start-up banks such as Monzo as well as providing consultancy services to small firms on ICAAP.

#### **Pierre-Alexandre Germont**

Director - Global Climate Risk Lead, Forvis Mazars



Pierre-Alexandre has 13 years of professional experience with extensive knowledge in quantitative modelling, credit risk and climate risk with expertise in risk management, IFRS9 model development and validation, quantitative modelling methodologies and approaches across all segments including financial services (FS - banking, insurance, asset management).

Pierre-Alexandre is leading Forvis Mazars Climate risk quantitative missions with FS companies across the globe. He is also leading the internal modelling development for climate risk into

financial risks. Pierre-Alexandre's core responsibilities include:

- Developing sound methodologies to assess transition and physical risk
- Incorporating climate risk into financial risks
- Product owner of CliMate, Forvis Mazars web tool to identify and measure climate risk
- Leading climate risk framework implementation, enhancement and validation services for FS companies
- Advising FS companies on climate risk for ICAAP, Pillar 2 and 3 disclosures, gap analysis against regulatory and international governing bodies' expectations

Prior to joining Forvis Mazars, Pierre-Alexandre held several positions. At Moody's Analytics, he worked as a Solution Specialist of credit and climate risk quantitative models, leading the implementation of climate-risk adjusted credit models into a French tier 1 insurer's IFRS9 framework. He also supported several insurers and banks in their regulatory climate stress testing exercises.

Pierre-Alexandre also worked as Head of Credit for Financial Institutions and Head of Credit Risk Modelling at British Arab Commercial Bank where he owned the Credit scoring and IFRS9 framework and lead the development of the bank's ESG framework, including climate risk considerations. He was also responsible for a GBP 5 billion portfolio of c. 220 financial institution groups across the globe.

Pierre-Alexandre also worked as a Rating Analyst at Moody's Investors Service covering financial institutions in France and Benelux.

Pierre-Alexandre holds an MsC in Finance from Audencia Business School in France and a Masters of Finance from Laval University in Canada. He is also a member of OS Climate, an open source platform for climate risk assessment.



#### Xavier Larrieu,

Partner - Co-head of Quantitative Solutions UK, Forvis Mazars

Xavier has been working for Forvis Mazars for the past sixteen years, with nine of the years in a Quant team based in Paris. He also heads the UK Quant practice since 2016.

Xavier has in-depth knowledge of Credit Risk modelling both in accountancy (IFRS9) and regulatory frameworks (CRR). He led external audits for large and medium-sized banks in the

UK and Europe, including European subsidiaries of large American banks, leading to extensive knowledge of best market practices. Xavier has also supported the European Central Banks on many on-site inspections.

As a former meteorologist, Xavier is also highly involved in assessing the impact of Climate Risk on banking and trading books for both transition and physical risks. Xavier has in-depth knowledge of financial instruments valuation such as interest rate swaps, FX swaps, FX forward, vanilla options and loans.

## **Andrew Hopkins**

Policy Manager, Building Societies Association



Andrew Hopkins is a Policy Manager in the Legal, Conduct Risk & Financial Crime team at the BSA. He has a broad range of policy responsibilities including operational resilience, data protection, competition, corporate governance and secretarial and constitutional matters. He also provides support on Consumer Duty. Andrew has many years' experience in financial trade associations having joined the BSA in 2006 following 5 years as Legal Adviser at the Council of Mortgage lenders.



#### Saheet Gohil

Partner, Financial Services Risk and Regulatory Advisory, EY

Saheet has over 24 years of experience within the Financial Services Sector. He leads EY's Financial Services UK Corporate Reform team (including UK SOX) and provides insights to Boards on how the industry is responding to the latest requirements. A senior client handler, working with Boards, Audit Committees and Senior Executives, he has a strong track record of working cross-border with complex

Global Financial organisations and UK headquartered organisations. He has held the role of Global Head of Audit for Finance and Risk.

Saheet re-joined EY, having held global head of audit roles within a Global Systemically Important (GSIB) SEC-registered UK bank. He works with a variety of Financial Service organisations, including Global Banks, Insurers and Asset Management. Saheet supports banks to implement Sox at both the outset in early 2000's, and subsequent enhancements.

### **Andrew Adeoye**

Internal Audit, SOX, Governance and Controls Director, EY



Andrew is a Partner in the FS Process and Controls practice and is a Chartered Accountant. He has over 18 years of experience focusing on Internal Controls in the Banking and IT sectors. He has served as Head of Controls at several UK regulated firms and has in-depth experience in the design and application of effective and efficient systems & controls and governance frameworks.

- Association of Chartered Certified Accountants (ACCA)
- ACCA Fintech for Finance and Business Leaders (Certification)
- Chartered Institute of Internal Auditors (IIA)
- Certified Internal Auditor (CIA)
- Prince 2 Project Management (Qualification)
- Second class degree in BSc Economics from the University of Kent

**Alex Brown** *Partner, Deloitte* 



Alex is a Partner in the Recovery and Resolution Planning team at Deloitte, specialising in providing expert advice to financial services firms on recovery and resolution issues. Alex specifically focuses on wind down planning and more recently the Solvent Exit expectations. Alex previously spent 13 years at the FSA/PRA and was a founding member of the PRA's recovery and resolution team, subsequently going on to lead the team for a number of years.

**Alastair Morley** *Partner, Deloitte* 



Alastair leads Deloitte's Global Centre of Excellence on Recovery & Resolution Planning. Alastair has over two decades of experience supporting global authorities and financial institutions in BAU and in distress. He heads up our relationship with several national and supra-national resolution authorities, and has led the implementation of multiple resolution cases in the UK and Europe. He also leads Deloitte's holistic wind down planning proposition for FS regulated firms, coordinating and bringing together the broader expertise from across Deloitte including modelling, operational and financial considerations.

**Tess Kelly**Partner – Financial Regulation Team, Addlesahw Goddard LLP



Tess is a Partner in the Financial Regulation team based in the London office. She focuses on advising banks, building societies and other financial services clients on prudential regulation, the implications of regulatory change and provides regulatory support in relation to strategic transactions.

Tess spent over ten years at the Bank of England, most recently as Deputy General Counsel, where she advised Governors and various senior committees on the prudential regulation of banks,

building societies and financial market infrastructure. She has extensive experience in liaising with regulators, policy development and regulatory reform in financial services.

In relation to banks and building societies, Tess has experience advising on the UK's prudential capital and liquidity regimes, stress testing, operational resilience, governance and risk management, access to central bank liquidity and the UK and EU recovery and resolution regimes for firms in financial difficulties, including restructuring. She advised extensively on the implementation of the post-Brexit regulatory regime for clearing in the UK as well as the development of prudential regulation in relation to systemic payment systems. In the field of crypto-assets, she has expertise on the emerging regulatory regime for stablecoin and the proposal for a UK digital pound.

#### **Sara Forbes**

Partner - Transformational Services, KPMG LLP



Sara is a Partner in the Transformation Services team with deep experience in Financial Services, working across the industry as well as in-house at Northern Rock and RBS. Sara has significant experience in leading large scale global transformation programmes. She has great energy and leads her teams with passion and enthusiasm. Skilled in business advisory and regulatory transformation, Sara specialises in Programme and Project Management, Operational Effectiveness for customers, cost and control, Digital Operations and helping organisations design and implement their Target Operating Model.

#### **Peter Westlake**

Partner - Head of Building Societies and Challenger Banks, KPMG LLP



Peter has over 20 years strategy and transformation experience in UK financial services. Peter specialises in working with Building Societies and Banks to innovate, transform and grow from strategy to results. He has deep expertise of the Building Society market and operations.

His recent experience extends from helping traditional players transform their financial, business and operating models to reposition in response to evolving market and competitor dynamics, though to working with new entrants seeking to disrupt key parts of the banking value chain. His

areas of specialty include –Strategy, Growth, Innovation, Business Transformation, Business Model Design, Operating Model Design, Customer Journey Design, Portfolio Optimisation, and Operational Improvement.

**Owen Lewis**Partner - Management Consulting, KPMG LLP



Owen is a Partner and Head of Banking & Capital Markets for KPMG Ireland and Global Lead on Financial Services Cost Transformation. Owen has over 25 years consulting experience, leading transformation in banking, telco and other sectors in the UK, US, Australia, Canada, Germany and Ireland. Owen spent 10 years at Toyota pre-KPMG in the US, Europe and Japan and has deep rooted experience in operational excellence, agile and high-performing teams.



Aisling Morgan

Policy Manager - Prudential Regulation, Building Societies Association

Aisling is the Policy Manager for Prudential Regulation, representing members' interests in prudential, tax and audit regulation. She led the BSA's June 2024 report into the Building Society Audit Market, following on from her previous experience as Senior Policy Adviser in the Civil Service for Audit Reform. Aisling's other career achievements have included leading the

expedited delivery of two cross-Government Economic Crime Bills in 2022, solving complex policy issues pertaining to corporate transparency and responding to emerging risks and threats to the integrity of the UK's business frameworks and wider economy.

Patrick Healy
Chief Operating Officer, HarbourPoint Al



Al, risk and governance specialist with board and executive level experience both within organisations and as an advisor. After a law degree and qualifying as a chartered accountant with Deloitte, Patrick has worked as a board advisor, both as an independent consultant and as the head of the Strategic Risk Group at EY. He has worked with many companies to create or fix risk and governance structures and processes, building more robust and flexible businesses. He is a frequent writer and speaker on risk and Al matters and his book on understanding and managing the use of Al will be published in 2024.

**Daniel Brydon** *Building Society Audit Partner, PwC* 



Dan is a well established partner within our UK Financial Services practice with over 20 years experience based in Manchester. He is a member of PwC's Banking and Capital Markets audit practice, where he specialises in retail and commercial banking, including Building Society audits.

He has worked with a wide variety of UK banks and other FS firms. Dan has spent the majority of his time working on external audits for these organisations, but has also performed other assurance and special reviews within the UK banking sector, including skilled persons work for

the UK regulators.

## **Oivind Andresen**

Principal – Financial Services Risk and Regulatory Advisory, BDO



Oivind is a Principal in BDO's Financial Services Advisory team and has more than 20 years of financial services experience, of which the last ten have been spent within the Prudential Team at BDO.

Oivind has broad experience of prudential regulation including regulatory reporting, capital adequacy calculations, reporting and policy considerations for all risk types including credit risk, market risk, and operational risk.

He has led several regulatory reporting Skilled Persons reviews and his experience includes:

- Leading 11 skilled persons reviews pertaining to capital and regulatory reporting including building societies.
- Implementation of the COREP end-to-end reporting of capital requirements for a Tier 1 Bank.
- Extensive experience in implementing and responding to the on-going regulatory changes including modelling and impact calculations on CRR2 and Basel 3.1.
- Managed several regulatory reviews of building societies, UK and international banks following the implementation of COREP and FINREP.
- Extensive experience for delivering COREP/FINREP training for building societies and banks across UK/Europe (Including ECB and UK Finance).
- Undertaken ICAAP/ILAAP reviews of several building societies, UK and European banks.