

**The Decision and Reasons of the Regulatory Assessor for the Case of Mr J T Nixon FCCA and Evolve Accountants and Business Advisors Limited referred to her by ACCA on 3 June 2026.**

**Introduction**

1. Evolve Accountants and Business Advisors Limited is the incorporated sole practice of ACCA member, Mr J T Nixon FCCA.

**Basis and Reasons for the Decision**

2. I have considered the Report, including ACCA's recommendation, together with related correspondence concerning Mr Nixon's conduct of audit work, including correspondence prepared and submitted by the firm since the monitoring visit.
3. In reaching my decision, I have made the following findings of fact:
  - a. The firm and its audit principal have had two unsatisfactory monitoring reviews
  - b. The first monitoring review was carried out on 30 September 2021. This was unsatisfactory as serious deficiencies were identified on two of the three files inspected, with the audit opinions not being adequately supported by the work performed and recorded. The firm provided an action plan, detailing the measures it intended to implement to address the deficiencies identified.
  - c. At its second review on 23 March 2026, two files were inspected. Both files had serious deficiencies in planning, execution and documentation of audit work in key audit areas and compliance with auditing standards. Consequently, in each file examined, the audit opinion was not adequately supported by the work performed and recorded and the overall outcome of the review was unsatisfactory. The action plan submitted following its first review has not proven effective in enabling the firm to achieve and sustain a satisfactory standard of audit work.
  - d. The firm relinquished its audit certificate, and Mr Nixon relinquished his Responsible Individual (RI) status.

## **The Decision**

4. ACCA recommends that the Assessor imposes conditions on any future re-application for RI status by Mr Nixon, or by any firm in which he is a principal indicating that Guideline Decision B8 would appear appropriate. However, while I agree with ACCA's recommendation that conditions on future re-application be imposed, I consider Guideline Decision B4 to be the appropriate decision for the Regulatory Assessor.
5. I note that Mr Nixon has relinquished his practising certificate with audit qualification and his firm's auditing certificate.
6. On the basis of the above, I have decided pursuant to Authorisation Regulations 7(2)(f), 7(3)(b) and 7(4) that any future re-application for audit registration by Mr Nixon, or by a firm in which he is a principal, must be referred to the Admissions and Licensing Committee, which will not consider the application until he has provided an action plan, including appropriate audit related CPD, which ACCA regards as satisfactory, setting out how Mr Nixon intends to prevent a recurrence of the previous deficiencies and, following the date of this decision, passed the advanced audit and assurance paper of ACCA's professional qualification.

## **Publicity**

7. Authorisation Regulation 7(6) indicates that all conditions relating to the certificates of Mr Nixon and his firm made under Regulation 7(2) may be published as soon as practicable, subject to any directions given by me.
8. I have considered the submissions made regarding publicity of any decision I may make pursuant to Authorisation Regulation 7(2). I do not find that there are exceptional circumstances in this case that would justify non-publication of my decision to impose conditions and/or the omission of the names of Mr Nixon and his firm from that publicity.
9. I therefore direct pursuant to Authorisation Regulation 7(6)(a), that a news release be issued to ACCA's website referring to Mr Nixon and his firm by name.

**Fiona MacNamara**  
**Regulatory Assessor**  
**10 June 2026**