

CIPFA

The Chartered Institute of
Public Finance & Accountancy

CIPFA 2020

Curriculum Review

- A review beyond just content.
- Designed with employers.
- Internationalising the curriculum
- Technical updates.
- Accessible to all students.



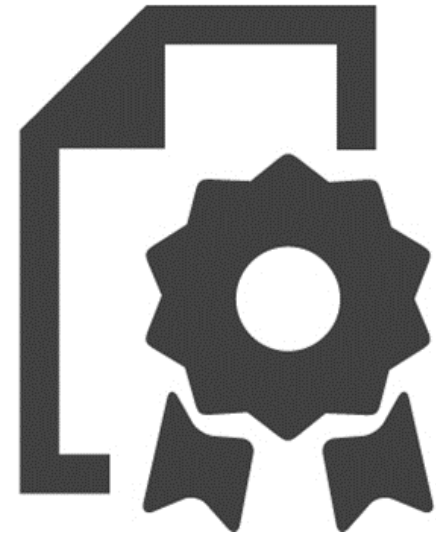
Objectives



- Review and update the CIPFA qualification.
- Grow sustainable memberships and partnerships.

Last curriculum review

- In light of Local Audit and Accountability Act of 2014, a curriculum review was implemented in 2015/16.



Philosophy guiding the project



- Primary driver: employers.
- Recognition of other stakeholders.
- Skills and competencies driven content.
- Focused on curriculum.
- International thought throughout.
- Lifelong learning approach.

What needs reviewing

- Overlapping of content (FA and CFR).
- Exemptions leading to failing students (FA vs PSFR).
- Workload (PSFR vs TAX).
- Number of modules.
- Course structure.
- International competition.
- Attainment gap (UK & International).
- Delivery mechanisms – online, face-to-face & self-study.
- Technology in accounting (Blockchain).



Research

- Competitor analysis.
- Benchmarking.
- Employer consultation.
- Student feedback.
- Regulatory bodies.



Stakeholder consultation

- At the heart of the project will be consultations with employers and students.
- Guided conversations.
- Student survey.
- Tutor consultations.



Outcomes

- A report of the findings from our stakeholder consultations.
- A benchmarking exercise against our competitors, to reaffirm where our qualification fits into the market.
- A series of recommendations from content changes, to qualification design.
- A review of our assessments, exemptions process and progression to membership.
- A timeline of changes.



What we have found so far?



- Climate change.
- New and emerging technologies.
- Shifting political landscape.
- Management and leadership skills.

Climate change



- As of 10 September 2019, 125 Councils have declared a climate emergency.
- 35% of all CIPFA students that work in L.As, work for those councils.
- Of those 125 councils, 50% have targets of carbon net neutrality by 2030.
- In 10 years' time, the students studying now will be in positions to enact real positive change.

New and emerging technologies

- The public sector is behind the private sector in implementing new accounting technology.
- Impacting all disciplines of public finance, across all sectors.
- Over 50% of current CIPFA students are technology natives.
- Should we create a specific module for tech, or embed it throughout our programmes?



Shifting political landscape

- The 'B' word.
- 10 years of austerity.
- 4 Prime Ministers in a decade.
- The national politics impact on local communities.



Management and leadership skills

- Public finance professionals need to be more than just technical.
 - Public speaking
 - Negotiating
 - Networking
 - Time-management
 - Resilience.
- If we are training the future leaders of the public sector, how are we helping them become leaders?



How to get involved?

- Employer consultation.
- Student consultation.
- Regional workshops.
- cipfa2020@cipfa.org



Questions?

