

## Paper SEO890

Board	SE Regional Council
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### PROJECT OVERVIEW

- 1.1 A Curriculum Review Project Brief was presented to the Students and Members Board (SMB) Away Day on 8<sup>th</sup> April 2019. This paper is attached for reference, as it details the overall approach to be taken to the review of CIPFA's Professional Accounting Qualification.
- 1.2 The objective of the project is to review our professional curriculum, which has not undergone any revision since 2015, with a view to making improvements, based on a stakeholder consultation, and utilising expertise from across CIPFA membership and staff. For the purposes of this project we are defining the curriculum as including all aspects of Teaching and Learning that a student engages with during their time in the Professional Qualification. The project will consist of four phases:
  1. Needs Assessment
  2. Qualification Framework
  3. Curriculum Development
  4. Implementation
- 1.3 The final output will be an updated curriculum, informed by rigorous consultation, fit to train the next generation of 21<sup>st</sup> century leaders in public finance.

### PROJECT UPDATE

#### 1. Internal consultation

After extensive consultation internally, between different teams within the organisation, we have outlined 3 key areas to focus our consultation on; the threats and opportunities our employers find themselves in (Brexit, Climate Change, Austerity), advances and developments in technology and graduate soft skills.

#### 2. Primary consultation

We have shortlisted 12 Students 12 employers from a diverse range of sectors, race, gender, age and region. We will be having a focused conversation with these volunteers about the qualification, focused on the three areas outlined above. These phone conversations will be recorded and sent to a trusted transcribing

company. We are arranging these phone calls from the end of September to October. We will then analyse this research, and from it, shall then create two specific surveys, one for all employers, and one for all students and recent graduates. These surveys will be launched during the end of September and be live throughout November. This will give us both quantitative and qualitative results which will be able to inform our review.

### **3. Further consultation**

We are also working with the CIPFA Regions to put on some focus group sessions throughout the end of the year. The aims of this consultation will be to dig deeper into the specifics raised in the primary research. These will take the shape of focused conversation and group consensus workshops.

This will be a good opportunity to sense check our findings from the primary research, test out some development ideas, and gather ideas from our membership.