



ACA – the next 10 years

SHAUN ROBERTSON, DIRECTOR, EDUCATION AND QUALIFICATIONS

ADAM BIRT, HEAD OF QUALIFICATIONS, STRATEGY AND DEVELOPMENT

ACA – the last 10 years



ACA evolution: 2013-2019

2013 – 2015

- New exam structure and content
- Online training file
- CPL
- Ethics Learning Programme
- Widened access

2016

- Banking and Insurance modules
- Launch of ACA/CTA joint qualification

2017

- Revised ACA skills framework
- UK GAAP alternative module
- BFP launched

2016 - 2019

- Computer Based Exams for Professional and Advanced Level
- Enhanced technology content

ACA 2019 consultations



Ethics and Integrity



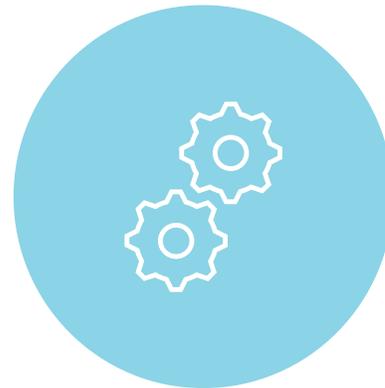
Skills and behaviours



Professional scepticism



Technological change

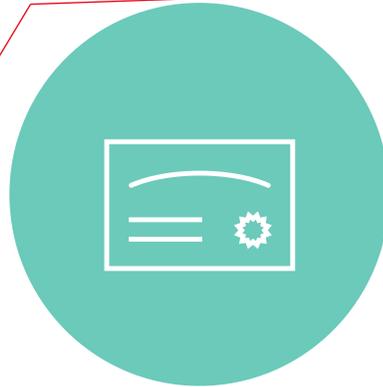


Technical knowledge

ACA 2019 consultations



Ethics and Integrity



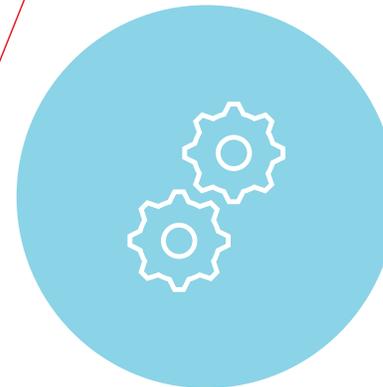
Skills and behaviours



Professional scepticism



Technological change



Technical knowledge

Assessment
needs to
evolve to
**better reflect
workplace**

Focus should be on
problem solving,
data story-telling, but
also **challenging
the sources of the
data**

Future ACA: development 2020-2023

- **Ethics** – update to Ethics Learning Programme (launched October 2020)
- **Technological change/Professional Scepticism/Skills:**
 - New exam platform including remote invigilation (launch March 2021)
 - Data Analytics Software (launched in March 2021)
 - Spreadsheet functionality incorporated in exam questions (launched March 2022)
 - Changing format of exam questions (Ongoing)
 - Digital Learning Materials (launched in 2021)
- **Technical knowledge**
 - 2021 - 2023 syllabus review: Ethics, AML, Green Finance, Statistics and Data Analysis, Professional Scepticism, continue embedding Technology and Sustainability, Skills assessed in the exams

ACA – the next 10 years

- Impact of sustainability
- Introduce use of additional software into assessment eg Tax Compliance, Accounting package, Data visualisation software eg Power BI
- Introduce AI to exam marking
- Create a more flexible exam regime
- Develop alternatives to exams – reduce dependence on summative assessment
- Introduce coding into syllabus



[icaew.com](https://www.icaew.com)