ICAEW Tutor Conference 2024: Debrief of Case Study session

The session covered the following topics:

- Introducing the new examiner, Daniel Clark
- Answering questions that were submitted in advance, as well as related questions which arose on the day. Answers to these questions are in the separate Q&A document
- Recap of the November 2023 Case
- Overview of the marking key from Catherine Blease, Key Development Team
- Brief marking exercise of Requirement 2 from November 2023, led by Catherine; this gave rise to further questions and discussion of how the marking key is applied

Key points and takeaways:

- The new marking system has 'bedded in'. It is simpler and more transparent than the old system. It is not intended that this causes any change in how students are taught or how they answer the exam requirements. There has been no impact on pass rates.
- The major upcoming change is the addition of pre-populated spreadsheets (PPS) to the exam in 2025. The Learning Materials are being fully rewritten to address this and will be available in line with the normal cycle. Much more detail will be supplied at next year's conference.
- Students are free to make notes on their copy of the AI in Bibliu but cannot copy and paste this into their exam scripts.
- We will not be changing the marking of the Executive Summary for 2024, but will continue to look at ways in which we can further reward students who produce an appropriate summary rather than copy and paste a lot of material.
- Candidates can use artificial intelligence tools to analyse the Advance Information if they wish and may find this useful. However, it remains essential for candidates to undertake their own analysis to ensure that they thoroughly understand the subject company.
- Many candidates struggle with time management. We repeat our advice to leave enough time for a good attempt at each requirement to ensure that they gain the more straightforward marks and maximise their chances of success.

Other documents circulated

- Slides
- Completed Q&A
- Documents used in the marking exercise – extracts from student script, marking key, annotated marking key for that script