

Press Release
20 May 2021

**UK200Group Introduces Free Foundation Learning Initiative
Supporting the skills and knowledge of Trainee Accountants and Lawyers
in audit and soft skills**

In response to a need to fill gaps in existing learning provision for trainee chartered accountants and lawyers, the UK200Group is pleased to announce its new Foundation Learning initiative.

Foundation Learning is a UK200Group-led project to provide trainees (and professionals in need of a refresher) with easy to access learning, presented in short, bite-sized videos with supporting materials. The topics for inclusion in the Foundation Learning project are chosen by the chairs and members of our various industry groups because they know where gaps in provision exist.

The videos are recorded by carefully selected specialists who also create the supporting materials where appropriate to enhance the learning experience. The resulting Foundation Learning sessions are exclusive to UK200Group members and available free of charge on our new Knowledge Hub.

We recently commissioned Peter Herbert of Insight Training to develop an initial suite of sessions to help trainees develop their basic understanding of core elements relating to their sector. With some input from the Charities and Education Committee, the first tranche of Foundation Learning modules is as follows:

- a) Audit – What and why?
- b) Audit - Audit Assertion and Directional Testing
- c) Audit – Risk and materiality
- d) Audit – Using analytical skills
- e) Audit - Producing audit working papers
- f) Charities – the accounts
- g) Charities – the fundamentals
- h) Pension Schemes - the accounts
- i) Pension Schemes – the fundamentals

In addition, on the recommendation of the Lawyers Group, we commissioned Phil Gott of Firm Academy to develop a suite of soft skills Foundation Learning units, the first of which is called Learning from Feedback.

All of the above [Technical Training](#) and [Soft Skills](#) sessions are now available on the Knowledge Hub and we would encourage all those with responsibility for training new entrants to their firm to take a look at the provision and begin to apply it in your learning and development planning.

Looking ahead, our plan is to develop a second tranche of audit related Foundation Learning sessions along with an Introduction to Independent Examination - the fundamentals, Academies - Regularity (1), Internal Scrutiny (2) and also complete Phil's suite of soft skills sessions.

Meantime, our industry groups will continue to be actively identifying further gaps in provision that we can fill through this initiative.

Ends

Notes to editors

UK200Group is the UK's leading professional services group of independent quality assured chartered accountancy and law firms. The Group comprises c500 partners and represents c150,000 SMEs, owner operators, family businesses' and private clients.

For further information, please contact admin@uk200group.co.uk