

## Global Learning Providers' Conference February 2015

### F1 Accountant in Business

This document summarises the Question and Answer discussion which took place in the examiner's workshop at the Global Learning Providers' Conference on 11-12 February 2015.

- **For the F1 exam is there an even balance of questions across each of the syllabus areas?**

*Sections are roughly equal but not exactly. For syllabus areas with a greater number of learning outcomes these are likely to be the base of more questions in the exam.*

*Each F1 exam will feature a balanced set of questions across the whole syllabus.*

- **Is there any trend behind which types of question candidates find more difficult?**

*There is no consistent pattern showing candidate performance being affected by questions either featuring a scenario or by having fewer than four option choices, such as for one mark questions.*

- **Which topics do students find to be more difficult in F1?**

*There is no consistent pattern to areas which students find to be more difficult. Often it is the type of question asked on a topic which can make it more difficult. For example, although students typically struggle when asked to match one of Belbin's team roles to a description, they are much stronger when it comes to evaluating statements about Belbin's model.*

*It is thought that a possible area of difficulty is caused by unfamiliar terminology. This can be mitigated through question practice using approved learning materials.*

- **If a question seems easy to a student, there is a concern that they think that cannot be right and that they have missed something in the question. Have you got any advice on this?**

*It should be stressed that there are no trick questions within the F1 examination. There will be a mix of question difficulties and there will be some questions that a*

*well-prepared student should find easy. Students should not allow themselves to be 'psyched out' and should trust their initial instinct.*

- **In a CBE two people sitting the same exam will get different questions. How do you ensure that one of them does not get a more difficult exam than the other?**

*A student who receives a more difficult question on one topic in the exam will be likely to receive a comparatively easier question on a different topic.*

*Given that there are 52 questions in the whole exam, the overall difficulty level of each exam will be evened out, given the rules that sit behind the construction of the question bank and the selection of questions for each individual student.*