A member’s view: Laura Corbet

Briefings



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This month’s CIOT member spotlight is on Laura Corbet, CTA and Senior Tax Manager at PwC Channel Islands.

How did you find out about a career in tax?

I fell into tax and fell in love.

Why is the CIOT qualification important?

It gives you a bird’s-eye view, teaching you where to look for answers. Additionally, it instils the grit and determination you will need at future stages of your career.

Why did you pursue a career in tax?

My passion for tax started unexpectedly during my ICAEW qualification, when I found myself enjoying the tax exams. I then pursued the CIOT qualification, and the rest is history. I have since built a rewarding career in tax, driven by the daily

opportunity to make a meaningful difference to those around me. It was the exact opposite of what I envisioned for myself when I was younger, but I wouldn’t change it for anything.

How would you describe yourself in three words?

Passionate, driven and approachable.

Who has influenced you in your career so far?

I have been fortunate to learn from a number of individuals who have left a distinct mark on my career. My team, both in tax and the wider PwC office regularly and positively influence my career. I am also lucky to be blessed with several female leaders within the PwC Channel Islands firm who inspire me, one of whom is my career coach. A past manager also deserves a mention for believing in me and helping me believe in myself. Lastly, it goes without saying that my family (including the dogs!) and partner have been a huge support in encouraging me through more difficult times.

What advice would you give to someone thinking of doing the CIOT qualification?

Do it! Be prepared to find it tough but know that it will be worth it as you shape your future career. As a tutor and a manager, I cannot stress enough the importance of getting out of your comfort zone to help you grow, and completing the CIOT qualification helps you do that. Stay focused, and remember that every step forward is an investment in your future.

What are your predictions for tax advisers and the tax industry in the future?

Technology is set to revolutionise the tax industry, particularly in compliance tasks, and this will lead to change for many tax advisers. I also think there will be some significant movements in the UK tax landscape in the coming years, as well as the outfall of Pillar 2 globally, which makes now a more exciting time than ever to get involved in tax.

What advice would you give to your future self?

It’s ok to not know everything! Tax is always changing, and it is also best in a collaborative form. Embrace what you don’t know and learn from it by challenging yourself and discussing it further with others.

Tell me something about yourself that others may not know about you.

Many people don’t know that I also currently teach tax, with the hope of inspiring the next generation of tax professionals. Outside of work, I really enjoy outdoor activities. In 2022, I even won a local fishing competition. As these hobbies differ from my everyday working life, they offer me a great source of relaxation.