CAREER PATHWAYS





CONTENTS



CAREER PATH OVERVIEW: CENTRAL SERVICES4

Entry Level or Probation	5
Aspiring or Intermediate Level	6
Expert Level	7

CAREER PATH OVERVIEW: TECHNICAL 8 Preparer 9 Reviewer 10

Expert/specialist......11

PATHWAYS

Pathway 1	13
Pathway 2	14
Pathway 3	15
Pathway 4	16
Pathway 5	17
Pathway 6	18
Pathway 7	19
Pathway 8	20
Pathway 9	21
Pathway 10	22

TRAINING SUITE

Central Services	24
Technical	25
Client Facing	26
People Management	27



FINDING YOUR CAREER PATHWAYS

Used in conjunction with the quarterly appraisals, the aim of the career development pathway is to enable staff to outline their current skills and knowledge, think about goals and aspirations, and provide them with bespoke training and support to achieve those goals and aspirations.



CAREER PATH OVERVIEW: CENTRAL SERVICES



	TECHNICAL	SERVICE DELIVERY	CLIENT FACING	PEOPLE MANAGEMENT
EXPERT LEVEL	TECHNICAL AUTHORITY Has a unique specialism, anticipates impact of technical changes to manage commercial risk.	 SHAPING BUSINESS QUALITY STRATEGY Determines and delivers change to processes aiming for optimum service levels WORKFLOW Oversees production of work through their area of service ensuring timely delivery of work RESOURCE Advises on resource needs and acts on needs, recruiting and outsourcing as required 	CLIENT FOCUS Sets exceptional client service standards, highlights and implements change	LEADING PEOPLE Contributes to key people development strategies Evaluates and continually evolves learning opportunities across the business.
ASPIRING OR INTERMEDIATE LEVEL	TECHNICAL SPECIALIST Deals with complex technical areas within their field of specialism, minimising risk and meeting legislative and client needs	MANAGING EXCELLENT SERVICE Seeks out and implements improvement opportunities, resolves issues, provides alternatives for excellent service delivery	CLIENT FOCUS Manage own workload and the requirements of colleagues and client	MANAGING PEOPLE completes regular 1:1s and performance reviews Encourages and gives opportunities to individuals to develop their skills
ENTRY LEVEL OR PROBATION	TECHNICAL GENERALIST Up-to-date on technical knowledge & developments and applies it effectively	EXCELLENT SERVICE Identifies opportunities to improve operational processes and highlight/reduce business risk WORK EFFICIENCY Completion of jobs to agreed timescales or highlights any issues promptly	CLIENT FOCUS Quality excellence, day to day timely delegated jobs	SUPPORTING OTHERS Supports others to get the job done Shares knowledge and provides guidance as appropriate

ENTRY LEVEL OR PROBATION

Technical

- > Knowledge of phone systems and how we talk to clients
- > Knowledge of who's who and various departments of the business.
- Health and safety policies and procedures
- > IT, IRIS and backup processes (specific to RS)
- > Data protection/legal awareness/GDPR/ money laundering/breach processes
- > Understanding company terminology

Client Portfolio Business Growth

- To be aware of the customer service expectation we look to deliver internally at RS
- To be courteous and accommodating to internal requests that come in from our colleagues
- To learn and maintain a high standard of internal written communication, using email or any other technology system such as Teams.

Service Delivery/Workflows

- High level of courtesy and knowledge of who's who in the business, when internal or external enquiries come into your department
- Understanding who RS key clients are
- > Knowledge of who to turn to when problems arise
- To be an effective and approachable team member to all members of staff

- Supports others to get the job done
- Shares knowledge and provides guidance as appropriate

ASPIRING OR INTERMEDIATE LEVEL

- > Proficient at job specific areas e.g. marketing/HR/finance/administration
- Owning own development, attending training courses, expanding your knowledge through reading, panels discussions, podcasts etc
- > Fluency in company and sector specific terminology
- Data protection/legal awareness/GDPR/ money laundering/breach processes
- Awareness of other core roles within the business
- Advancing IT skills in your role

Client Portfolio Business Growth

- To continually set high standards and benchmarks throughout the RS business
- To offer high levels of service and courtesy to external clients, suppliers, guests, visitors of RS
- Work efficiency, resource allocation on jobs to ensure delivery of tasks as agreed with your manager
- Managing excellent service, seeks out and implements improvement opportunities, resolves issues for excellent service delivery
- To demonstrate effective time management and personal effective techniques to improve overall efficiency

Service Delivery/Workflows

- To offer support, guidance and help to internal and external colleagues and clients
- The ability to solve internal and external problems that may arise from colleagues and guests
- To demonstrate confident decision making skills when faced with challenges or problems
- To prioritise external client activity over internal

- Managing people completes regular 1:1s and performance reviews
- Encourages and gives opportunities to individuals to develop their skills

EXPERT LEVEL

Technical

- Strategic planning and delivery of job specific areas e.g. marketing/HR/ finance/administration
- Mentoring other people e.g. new starters
- Creation and updating current technical processes
- > Data protection/legal awareness/GDPR/ money laundering/breach processes

Client Portfolio Business Growth

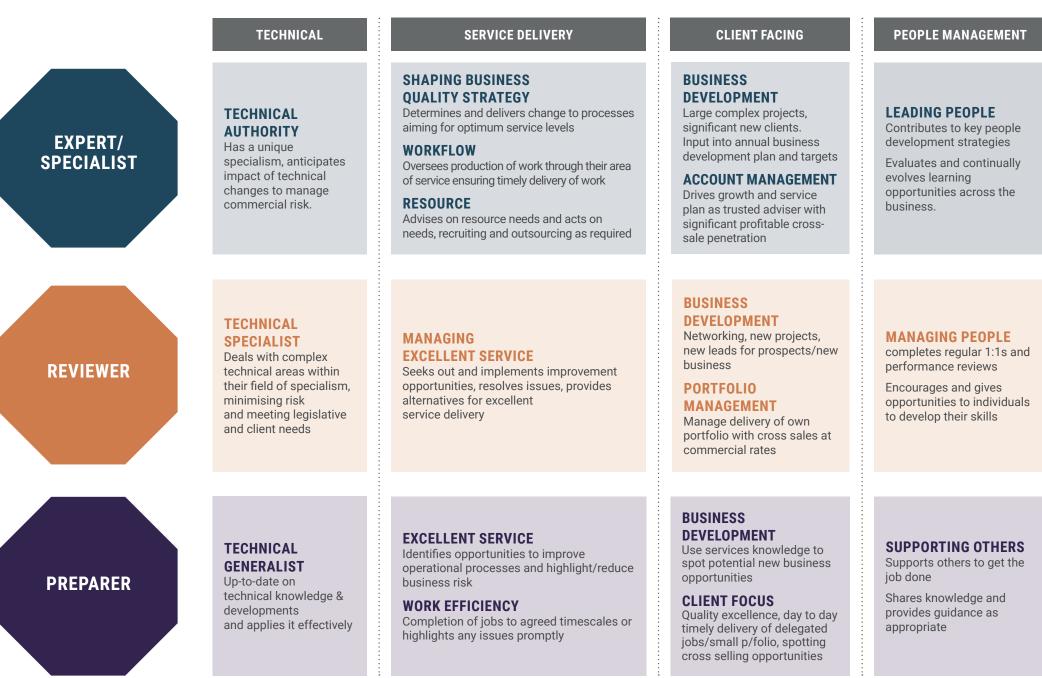
- Offering a full internal customer service experience to all colleagues within the business
- To offer and mentor others exceptional service standards when speaking to clients, suppliers, visitors, and guests of RS
- To be the public face of RS
- To have a full understanding of billing and statements for clients of RS
- To advocate the RS business when opportunities arise
- To support processes such as outsourcing and recruiting

Service Delivery/Workflows

- Exceptional client service standards
- Gathering of testimonials from clients
- Mentoring and training others in client facing excellence
- A high knowledge of our clients
- Identifying commercial opportunities to refer our client advisors into
- Setting standards of client excellence, internally and externally with suppliers, guests, visitors.

- Leading people contributes to key people development strategies
- Evaluates and continually evolves learning opportunities across the business.

CAREER PATH OVERVIEW: TECHNICAL



PREPARER

Technical

- Assist with the preparation of work for a variety of clients.
- > Use a variety of software and ensure competency on such software.
- Applies technical knowledge client issues.
- Keeps up to date on relevant technical changes and consistently adheres to the Firm's standards of compliance.

Client Portfolio Business Growth

- > Identify additional business opportunities from existing clients.
- Raise profile of the firm by ensuring clients are satisfied with the service and support they receive.
- Liase with clients where required telephone calls, emails and client visits as necessary

Service Delivery/Workflows

- Be aware of time allocated for each piece of work and flag overruns.
- Achieve quality and efficiency in service delivery.
- > Put forward ideas to improve ways of working and service.

- Supports others on day to day activities to get job done well.
- Acts as first point of reference to others for guidance as appropriate.
- Actively sets an example to others for continual personal and professional development.

REVIEWER

- > Provide technical coaching to preparers in the team
- Review assignments and ensure client manager has information required to hold client meetings as appropriate
- > Uses technical knowledge to anticipate and resolve client technical issues including potential conflicts of interest
- Anticipates the impact of technical changes to manage job risks
- > Discusses technical issues with other reviewers in the business, e.g. a tax reviewer communicates a tax point with an accounts reviewer.

Client Portfolio Business Growth

- Undertake networking activity to raise the profile of the business and opportunities within the local business and professional community.
- Meet with potential new clients as required and prepare fee proposals for the work/services discussed. Liaise with directors when preparing the proposal.
- Act as lead co-ordinator for a portfolio of clients coordinating all relevant input to ensure client needs are identified and met. Meet and talk with clients regularly to develop relationship
- Build and maintain client relationships and practise principles of excellent client service at all times

Service Delivery/Workflows

- Regularly review IRIS Practice Management to ensure compliance work and projects are scheduled, monitored and completed on time
- Work with client managers with regards deadlines and budgets on their clients
- Meet regularly with the directors to update them individually on their current job position and ensure they are aware of forthcoming deadlines
- Monitor job costs and work closely with Client Advisors to optimise recoveries
- Undertake projects to improve systems, processes and ways of working, explaining the benefits and 'how to implement'
- Demonstrate commercial understanding of the goals and challenges of client manager and the business and take a collaborative approach to service issues and efficiencies

People Management

- Manages employee relations & supports recruitment process
- Undertakes 1:1s and reviews to support performance and development.
- Actively coaches and mentors individuals to help improve their performance.
- Supports individuals' development by regularly creating development opportunities.

Back to contents 🜔 10

EXPERT/ SPECIALIST

Technical

- Set and continually review high technical standards for their area of expertise within the firm
- Anticipates the impact of technical changes in their field to ensure the business is well positioned to deal with them effectively
- > Established expert in a specific technical field, delivering powerful solutions.
- Communicates internally and externally their area of specialism and the impact of changes.

Client Portfolio Business Growth

- Proactive participation in the winning of large and complex project client wins.
- Formulates defined plans to deliver agreed levels of business growth
- Is recognised as a trusted adviser, creating client confidence and satisfaction as a priority
- Introduces significant projects that require proactive positioning with clients for a range of services
- Maintains a rich and growing pipeline of opportunities for various services with strong conversion levels.

Service Delivery/Workflows

- Leads by example to create a climate of continual improvement in business operations.
- Creates an annual service delivery plan for continual improvement and efficiency that inspires confidence across the teams.
- Be involved with the service area budget preparation. Share targets with the team and motivate to achieve
- Liaise with other service areas to ensure workflows between teams work well and are enhanced where necessary
- Continually works on improving systems and processes for efficiency and customer service

People Management

- Undertakes longer term succession & career planning.
- Creates a positive environment in which people want to and can improve performance through feedback & coaching.
- Provides framework for people to take on additional responsibilities for their own development.
- Regularly evaluates learning and opportunities in terms of business benefits.

Back to contents 🜔 11





















16

*









*













PATHWAY 10 🕁 Click the cog symbol to take you to the relevant training courses page.





22

TRAINING SUITE



CENTRAL SERVICES

ENTRY LEVEL OR PROBATION (From 1 years service)

Building personal confidence and assertiveness

Time Management and personal effectiveness

Managing stress and resilience

Developing influencing skills

Negotiation skills

Confident public speaking skills

Customer service skills

Introduction to excel

Introduction to powerpoint

Introduction to word

Understanding social media for business

Introduction to TEAMS

Introduction to IRIS

First Aid at work or First Aid refresher

Manual handling

Fire Steward

Introduction to marketing skills

CIM certificate in marketing (MARKETING ONLY)

ASPIRING OR INTERMEDIATE LEVEL (From 1 years service)

Conflict resolution Communication skills - understanding personality Presentation skills Creative thinking techniques Interviewing and recruitment skills Intermediate skills on powerpoint Intermediate skills on powerpoint Intermediate skills on excel Intermediate skills on word Intermediate skills on Social Media for business Intermediate skills on IRIS CIM advance certificate in marketing (MARKETING ONLY) CPP certificate in personnel practice (HR ONLY)

IDM digital marketing skills (MARKETING ONLY) writing

EXPERT LEVEL (From 2 years service)

Advanced skills on powerpoint

Advanced skills on excel

Advanced skills on word

Adavnced skills on Social Media for business

Adavnced skills on IRIS

CIM diploma in marketing (MARKETING ONLY)

CIPD post graduate diploma in HR (HR ONLY)



Podcasts Linkedin white papers TED talks Seminars YouTube Videos

- Apprenticeship in Business Administration
- CPD specific to HR and payroll (HR only)

TECHNICAL

PREPARER (From 1 years service)

Building personal confidence and assertiveness

Time Management and personal effectiveness

Managing stress and resilience

Developing influencing skills

Negotiation skills

Introduction to excel

Introduction to powerpoint

Introduction to word

Understanding social media for business

Introduction to TEAMS

Introduction to IRIS

First Aid at work or First Aid refresher

Manual handling

Fire Steward

REVIEWER (From 1 years service)

Conflict resolution

Communication skills - understanding personality

Creative thinking techniques

Interviewing and recruitment skills

Intermediate skills on powerpoint

Intermediate skills on excel

Intermediate skills on word

Intermediate skills on Social Media for business

Intermediate skills on IRIS

Report writing

EXPERT (From 2 years service)

Management planning and strategy creation

Advanced report writing

Advanced skills on word

Advanced skills on Social Media for business

Advanced skills on IRIS

Advanced skills on excel

SUPPLEMENTARY LEARNING

(Search for subject matter and shares links with colleagues)

- Podcasts
- Linkedin white papers
- TED talks
- Seminars
- YouTube Videos

- CPD and technical updates on Mercia as recommended by your manager in one to one reviews
- Academic training AAT, ATT, ACCA, ACA, CTA
- Project management skills eg. PRINCE 2 AGILE SCRUM or general overview

CLIENT FACING

PREPARER (From 1 years service)

Understanding exceptional customer service skills

Dealing with client objections

Negotiation skills

Developing influencing skills

Confident public speaking skills

Effective presentation skills

Networking and personal confidence skills

Time management and personal effectiveness

Understanding client's personality

REVIEWER (From 1 years service)

Developing effective sales process

Creating client proposals documents

Effective presentation skills

Networking and personal confidence skills

Conflict resolution

Time management and personal effectiveness

Story telling, benefits and value

Managing stress and resilience

EXPERT (From 2 years service)

Account management skills

Advanced presentation skills

Advanced neogotation skills

Writing to sell

Developing client strategy

Marketing skills

Using social media for business development

SECTOR SPECFIC (Any level)

Accountancy for professional services

Accountancy for retail

Accountancy for startups

Accountancy for freelance and self employed

Accountancy for SME

Accountancy for blue collar

Accountancy for hospitality

Accountancy for Medical

Accountancy for agriculture

Accountancy for tourism

Accountancy for motor trade

Accountancy for public figures

Any other sector specific



YouTube Videos

- CPD and technical updates on Mercia as recommended by your manager in one to one reviews
- Academic training AAT, ATT, ACCA, ACA, CTA
- Project management skills eg. PRINCE 2 AGILE SCRUM or general overview

PEOPLE MANAGEMENT

PREPARER (From 1 years service)

Step in to supervision and management - foundation level

REVIEWER (From 1 years service)

Introduction to management

Managing Performance and Motivation

Effective 1-1 reviews and appraisals

Managing personal effectiveness and time management

Managing communication and personality

Building managers confidence and resillence

Managing People remotely

EXPERT (From 2 years service)

- Management planning and strategy creation
- Understanding influence and leadership
- Managing conflict and relationships

Developing coping and mentoring skills

Understanding culture and change

Presentation and public speaking skills

IOD Institute of Directors Membership

MBA qualification

SUPPLEMENTARY LEARNING

(Search for subject matter and shares links with colleagues)

- Podcasts
- Linkedin white papers
- TED talks
- Seminars
- YouTube Videos

- Oxford School of Mentoring and coaching
- NLP Neuro linguistic programming
- Personality profiling eg. Myers Briggs and Disc
- Psychometric testing for numeracy, literacy and accuracy (for recruitment)
- Project management skills eg. PRINCE 2 AGILE SCRUM or general overview