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### CAREER PATH

I started my career in 2016 as an AAT level 2 apprentice. I started in accountancy practice, completing bookkeeping, VAT returns and year end accounts. This was a really good place to start as it was helpful for my studies as I got to cover a lot of areas very quickly.

I stayed in practice for the first 4 years of my career and completed AAT levels 2 and 3. When covid hit, I had to think about my future, everything was uncertain for a lot of businesses and a lot of clients were worried for the future. The industry that shone through for me was healthcare. I moved to a private hospital in St Helens as Accounts Payable. This was a very different role to what I was used to, but a good introduction into healthcare. As well as private healthcare, we also treated NHS patients. As it was a small team, I got to learn all aspects of the Business Office's workings so I got a good feel for how the finances of a hospital work. I enjoyed my role here but with such a small team, development opportunities were limited and I wanted to progress my career.

I then moved to WHH in 2022 and was in the Corporate Management Accounts Team. Learning the NHS abbreviations was just one of the new things to learn here. From establishments to month end timetables, it was a big learning curve. I learnt so much from my team and the wider Management Accounts Team.

An opportunity came up to join Liverpool Heart and Chest's Income team, it was a big decision to make as I hadn't been here long, but I did want the experience of a completely different Trust and Income was something I hadn't yet gotten experience in. Moving to LHCH came with its own challenges – I had to get used to a new Trust's way of working, a new team and a completely new workload.

Despite finding my feet in Income and succeeding in the role, I found that again, I was unable to properly develop myself in that role. I saw a development role in Management Accounts in WHH become available and thought this was a really good opportunity to develop in my working role as well as in my apprenticeship. Since my return to the Management Accounts team, I have been awarded 2 value maker badges, passed 4 of my CIMA exams, been part of the Sponsee Network and worked towards achieving my competencies.