



Think Ahead

The Autumn 2023 in practice event hosted jointly by IAFA and ACCA Ireland was held on the 13<sup>th</sup> October 2023. The webinar was titled "**Digital, AI and the future of the Accounting Profession**".

In this event insights into developments in global talent trends, with a particular focus on the Irish market, based on an ACCA inaugural annual talent-trends survey in accountancy and finance was provided. The results showed a profession in workplace transition, grappling with a multitude of short-term challenges, as well as some big, longer-term questions. Employers are facing a potential talent crunch and adapting/experimenting with new ways of working across the workforce, including the use of AI.

This was followed by presentations and discussion on the AI landscape in business, including potential future trends and examples of how AI is being successfully harnessed in business.

We were delighted to be joined by several guest speakers on the day, including;

- Clive Webb, Head of Business Management in ACCA's Policy and Insights team.
- Eoin O'Reilly, Partner in EY – Head of Data and Analytics.
- Clodagh Monks, Co-founder and CFO of AI start-up, Clearword.

The seminar was an excellent event and provided interesting insights and debate around Digital, AI and the future of the Accounting Profession.