

ON THE RIGHT PATH

Follow our expert employment advice to help you get ahead with your treasury career

“My ultimate career goal is to make group treasurer. Do I need the MCT to have a realistic shot at this?”

ASK THE EXPERTS

The fact that many treasurers now have the confidence to ask this question is an encouraging sign of increased activity in the recruitment market.

The MCT is highly respected and rightly so. Not only does it give a broader, more strategic view of treasury's role within an organisation, it also confers a certain 'kudos' that is derived from its rigorous nature and intellectually stimulating course material – especially from those who have conquered it themselves.

Whenever you are considering the opportunities in the job market, it is good to ask yourself: “Who am I up against?” At group treasurer level, competition is fierce. This is simply the nature of moving up the treasury ‘pyramid’ since, relatively speaking, there are a limited number of true ‘number one’ seats available, and the pieces have only started to move at this level in recent times. As such, the difference between making the cut and not is likely

to be marginal, and the MCT could well be that difference. This isn't necessarily to say CFOs are spoilt for choice when considering potential candidates, but competition for places could mean they find themselves in the fortunate position of only considering those who hold the advanced treasury diploma.

Some reach group treasurer level by stepping up rather than moving externally. So if the MCT formed part of an outgoing group treasurer's rite of passage, it is likely to be seen as essential rather than desirable when the organisation plans for succession.

Given the changing nature of the job market, a ‘one-size-fits-all’ approach is never advisable. Other factors can take prevalence ahead of a professional qualification, such as a very niche skill set, particular sector experience or even a personal relationship.

Nevertheless, arming yourself with the MCT is likely to offer you the best treasury opportunities out there. Keep in mind that this should be backed up with leadership abilities, strong relationship management skills and a deep technical understanding of relevant treasury issues. Overall, the MCT is a key part of the climb to the top. 📈



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