

# Tasha Drake

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## PERSONAL PROFILE

An analytical and logical ACCA qualified accountant. A good communicator, who is confident, quick to learn and seeks to understand the underlying rationale. Performs effectively within a pressurised working environment, delivering high quality, technically correct work. Consistently receives positive feedback from management regarding willingness to put business needs first to ensure work is completed ahead of deadlines. Specialises in commercial transactions, specifically selling small subsidiaries, and particularly strong at balance sheet reconciliations.

## TRANSFERABLE SKILLS

Including but not limited to:

- Highly organised with good time management skills allowing for effective multi-tasking
- Works well in a team, adapting management styles to individuals to improve productivity
- Forward thinking enabling risks to be identified and therefore mitigated
- Adept at problem solving and able to overcome unexpected issues in a timely manner

## CURRENT AND RECENT ROLES

**Ernst & Young** December 2021 – Present

### ***Assistant Manager***

- Actively establish, maintain and strengthen internal and external relationships and make sure that delivered client work is of high quality, including anticipating and identifying risks
- Preparing analyses and reports supporting the engagement as required to be delivered to clients and other parties and contribute to presenting work and findings to the client
- Undertaking tasks critical for effective onboarding of new clients
- Undertaking day-to-day tasks for ongoing engagements to help ensure engagements are progressed effectively and within the allocated budget

**Public Power Solutions** June 2020 – November 2021

### ***Project Manager***

- Carrying out consultancy work for local authorities and communities such as producing feasibility reports, obtaining grid connection offers, financial modelling and managing planning applications for the installation of solar PV and energy storage on ex-landfills and greenfield land
- Liaising with landowners, property agents and solicitors to negotiate property agreements
- Appraising the viability of in-house development projects for solar PV and energy storage
- Managing a portfolio of in-house renewable energy development projects, ensuring they continue to progress, through from inception to sale
- Providing weekly progress updates in senior management meetings

**Travelling and working abroad** November 2019 – March 2020 – Carrying out Dive Master internship at a scuba diving shop and travelling in Costa Rica

**British Solar Renewables** January 2015 – November 2019

### ***Corporate Finance and Project Manager***

- Management of the complete process to secure construction finance from multiple different banks and investment companies to fund the construction of a portfolio of renewable energy projects totalling over £10m

- Managing the due diligence process for the acquisition and sale of dozens of solar park projects held within Special Purpose Vehicles totalling over £500m
- Responsible for a small team of people which included mentoring and development plans with regular performance reviews
- Producing and periodically reviewing investment appraisals for current and prospective solar park projects
- Producing and updating cash-flow forecasts for several departments, reviewing weekly and monitoring against agreed budgets
- Liaising with internal and external lawyers on a daily basis, assembling, reviewing and approving complex corporate, financing and technical legal documents
- Set up processes for the installation and operational monitoring of medium sized batteries in commercial and public sector properties
- Designing a project management software to monitor the progress of projects and easily identify problematic areas

**Travelling and working abroad** January 2012 – December 2014 – Australia, New Zealand, South East Asia

**KPMG LLP** November 2006 – January 2012

***Assistant Administrator***

***Day-to-day management of insolvent companies***

- Trading businesses in insolvency, whilst a buyer is sought, specifically:
  - keeping freight employees productive and motivated
  - liaising promptly and effectively with solicitors reviewing sale of business contracts
  - cash flow management and forecasting
  - accounting for trading, including balance sheet reconciliations
  - Overseeing the processing of payrolls
  - completing corporation tax calculations and VAT returns
- Closing insolvent businesses, specifically:
  - making company employees redundant in a commercial, professional and understanding manner, processing redundancy claims and liaising with employees
  - single-handedly closing whole branches (including redundancies, reconciling and banking cash, counting stock, collecting records and securing premises)
  - providing commercial and realistic advice to displeased creditors of the company and advising them of the likelihood of a dividend being distributed and timescale
  - investigating and reporting on the conduct of directors prior to the insolvency
  - ensuring the Insolvency Act is diligently followed and writing regular statutory reports and delivering them to Companies House

***Advisory work for companies experiencing financial difficulty***

- Creating complex Excel spreadsheets for analytical purposes
- Analytical reviews of cash flow, profit and loss accounts and balance sheets
- Receipt of client service award for exceptional work
- Chosen to work in London for 2 months on a very high profile confidential advisory case, completing analytical work for senior staff

## QUALIFICATIONS

ACCA Fully qualified - Fellow member of Association of Chartered Certified Accountants

ACC A-Levels in Mathematics, Further Mathematics and Biology respectively

11 GCSE's grade A - C

## SYSTEMS

- Advanced user of Microsoft Excel
- Proficient user of Microsoft Word and PowerPoint
- Experienced user of SAP, SAGE and multiple smaller accounting programs

## HOBBIES AND INTERESTS

- Scuba diving – Certified PADI Master Scuba Diver and Dive Master
- Volunteer work – Volunteered at a Lion Breeding Project in Zimbabwe, and a Humpback Whale and Whale Shark research project in Mozambique
- Worldwide nature-based travelling