

Here's the full text of a review from Stephen, who joined CFO Readiness Builder in September 2023:

My CFORB journey started shortly after leaving my first Finance Director (FD) role. In my 3.5 years as FD I learnt a lot about the role and business. I also learnt there's a lot I didn't know - 'you don't know what you don't know' - which I wanted to address, particularly if another similar opportunity came up in the future.

Andy is someone I'd followed on LinkedIn before I started the FD role, and whose articles and posts I always found interesting and really resonated with me. His 'Roadmap from Accountant to CFO' and the '5 promotion triggers' - which are central to the CFORB course - were principles I could see in my career progress to date, and how I can continue my progress further.

Taking the plunge to invest in myself and do the CFORB course has the potential to be one of the best decisions I have made in my career.

Through CFORB Module 2 I have developed a career strategy which has helped highlight the key areas for me to focus on in the future. This will allow me to be more intentional with my career development to give me the best chance to achieve my goals. I have identified opportunities in my current role to further my development, as well as areas of further learning.

The other modules in the course have helped me develop skills, habits & behaviours to perform better in my current and future roles. I also have projects from the course I'm excited to complete in my work, which will assist my development and also help me add value to the businesses I work with.

I have enjoyed the format of the course. You can complete the modules at your own pace, but you're not just left to your own devices. I've purchased online courses in the past that I've still not completed as I've not been motivated to do so. Instead Andy also offers his time to make it interactive with regular 1:1 and group sessions which I look forward to, where I've found Andy genuinely cares about his students and how his knowledge and experience can help others.

I would advise the course to any qualified finance professional who is wanting to progress their career in industry. And it isn't necessarily just for those who want to have the No1 FD/CFO role. Whilst that is currently one of my goals, even if I take a different path I wouldn't consider the course a waste of time. Becoming 'CFO ready' is about developing skills, habits & behaviours and demonstrating them in your role to build your experience and evidence your credibility to progress - all factors which can benefit anyone's career at any level after qualifying.