

## Santander Invoice Finance for Recruitment







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"I attended the APSCo Midlands Forum on Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> March, where Santander's Chief Economist (Frances Haque) undertook a presentation on The Opportunities and Challenged of 2023. This was followed by a panel discussion on Business Strategy, to reflect the changing economic and political landscapes.

The presentation from Frances was very thought provoking and she discussed GDP, Inflation, unemployment & bank rates amongst other things. Labour supply was highlighted as an issue, despite unemployment levels being low at 3.7% and we discussed that the recent Santander Trade Barometer advised that 70% of companies are having difficulties in finding new suitable staff. Also a noticeable figure quoted from another report was that 94% of staff will need to be retrained by 2030. The final takeaway for me was the publicly available information which shows that the UK has the lowest level of investment currently in G7 economies, alongside one of the lowest levels of productivity. This was discussed at length!

Following Frances' presentation there was the panel discussion which was an open Q & A session with experienced recruitment leaders. Again very thought provoking and tailored to the sector. Some excellent questions and an informative discussion.

Overall a really good forum and well hosted by Trowers & Hamlins in Birmingham. The more we can understand the sector the better we can work with clients in it, so I am looking forward to the next one!

Have a great week."

Alan Horton, Santander