



Northern
Finance Director Awards

Shortlist 2023

Celebrating Exceptional Talent

September 2023

#NFD Awards23

northernfdawards.co.uk



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Introduction

The Northern Finance Director Awards recognise and celebrate the exceptional talent of finance directors and their teams across the North of England.

Our Supporters

As partners and ambassadors for this recognition of the finance community, and their essential role in the commercial success of the region, Barclays, Grant Thornton, Page Group and Squire Patton Boggs are proud sponsors of the Northern Finance Director Awards.



Page
Executive

Michael Page

SQUIRE
PATTON BOGGS



Overview

The Northern Finance Director Awards embrace all that is brilliant about finance directors, who are often the unsung heroes of any business. Traditionally responsible for sustaining business continuity and managing cash flow, the modern finance director now exhibits creative thinking and strategic influence, as well as demonstrating leadership.

Spanning 12 categories, the awards sponsored by international business advisers Grant Thornton UK LLP, global law firm Squire Patton Boggs, global banking company Barclays and leading recruitment firm Page Group, pay tribute to the enterprise, leadership, resilience, social impact and all-round excellence of financial leaders and their teams in Northern businesses over the past 12 months.

Those FDs who have demonstrated the need for their organisation to conduct themselves responsibly, making a positive contribution to the environment, society and their organisation, will be recognised with the ESG Champion Award.

The Northern Finance Team of the Year award has also been added to the programme this year, recognising and celebrating the important contribution made by the full finance team in their business.

The judging process to select our shortlist this year was incredibly hard. Our panel of highly experienced judges represented by each of the partners and business leaders from the region's most influential bodies have robustly selected our shortlist, all of whom are worthy of praise for their accomplishments. This year's categories include:

Company Size and Structure

- Best Northern Finance Director of a Limited Company up to £25 Million
- Best Northern Finance Director of a Limited Company £25 Million – £100 Million
- Best Northern Finance Director of a Limited Company Over £100 Million
- Best Northern Finance Director of a Private Equity-backed Company
- Best Northern Finance Director of a Family-Owned Company

Outstanding Achievements













- Northern Finance Director of the Year 2023 – Growth/Scale Up
- Northern Finance Director of the Year 2023 – Leadership
- Northern Finance Director of the Year 2023 – One to Watch
- Northern Finance Director of the Year 2023 – Deal of the Year
- Northern Finance Director of the Year 2023 - Turnaround
- Northern Finance Team of the Year 2023

Celebrating Excellence

- ESG Champion 2023

Best Northern Finance Director of a Limited Company up to £25 Million



This category showcases exceptional finance directors of businesses with revenues of up to £25 million annually.

	<p>David Harrop Group Finance Director Reward Finance Group</p> 		<p>Jo Boardman Finance Director Alcedo Care Group</p> 
	<p>Elizabeth Foster ACA Finance Director Holiform Limited</p> 		<p>Rebecca Shellard Finance Director Esselle Retail Limited t/a Arthouse</p> 
	<p>Jo Allen Chief Financial Officer DEA – Specialised Airborne Operations</p> 		<p>Ryan Stephenson-Brown Finance Director Evolve B G Limited</p> 



Best Northern Finance Director of a Limited Company £25 Million – £100 Million











This category showcases exceptional finance directors of businesses with revenues between £25 million and £100 million annually.

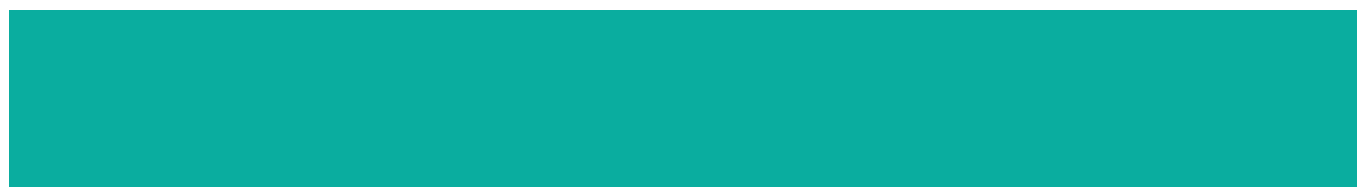
	<p>Eoghan Johnston Chief Financial Officer iamproperty</p> 		<p>Nick Duffield Finance Director Chapel House Motor Co Ltd</p> 
	<p>Gary Taylor Finance Director Express Engineering (Group) Limited</p> 		<p>Rob Jobbins Finance Director 26 – an MSQ agency</p> 
	<p>Lucy Bolton Chief Financial Officer Camira</p> 		<p>Stephen Biddlestone Group Finance Director Aero Services Global Group Limited</p> 



Best Northern Finance Director of a Limited Company Over £100 Million

This category showcases exceptional finance directors of businesses with revenues over £100 million annually.

	<p>Adrian Sullivan Chief Financial Officer Edge Worldwide Logistics Limited</p> 		<p>Jenny Cotterill Head of Finance Payne's Dairies Limited</p> 
	<p>Chris Stefani Chief Financial Officer DWF Group plc</p> 		<p>Stefan Allanson Chief Financial Officer MJ Gleeson plc</p> 
	<p>Danielle Davies Chief Financial Officer Revolution Bars Group plc</p> 		



A Message From Grant Thornton

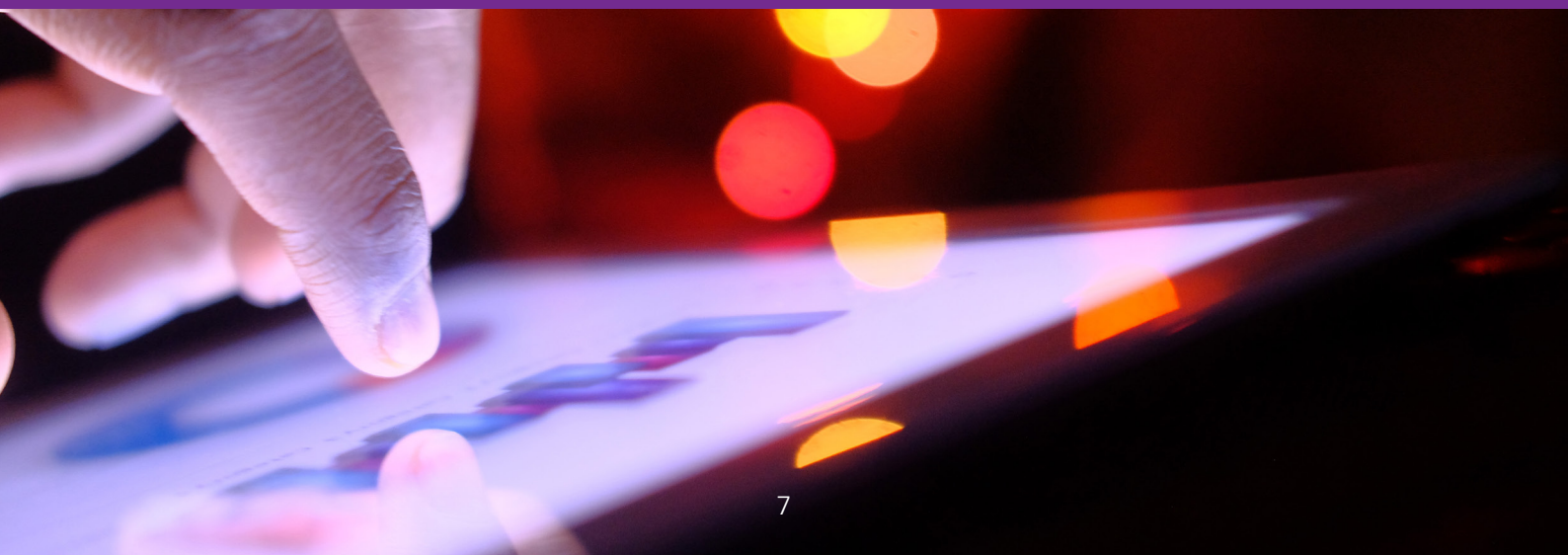
Grant Thornton is once again delighted to be co-sponsoring the prestigious Northern Finance Directors Awards. Working with finance leaders as we do every day, we know how incredibly important it is to celebrate their outstanding contribution to the Northern economy.

Throughout the judging process, we have heard from a fantastic range of finance directors and financial officers from across the North. These conversations have underlined why it is right to acknowledge the tireless and often unheralded work behind the scenes that they, alongside their teams, have undertaken to ensure the success of businesses across the many varied sectors of the North's economy.

As a leading business advisor, we are increasingly seeing more complex and diverse demands and expectations being placed on finance leaders as companies look to grow with new products and services, enter new markets, pivot their business model, digitise their operations, demonstrate their commitment to ESG, look at strategic acquisitions or take on external investments themselves.













The role of finance directors in value creation is so much more challenging, diverse and rewarding than it has ever been, making these awards so important to acknowledge the enterprise, leadership, resilience, social impact and all-around excellence of the finance directors, chief financial officers and their teams in northern businesses over the past 12 months. The awards will also showcase some truly inspirational stories of agility, compassion, innovation and, of course, that most natural quality, Northern grit!

As we continue to navigate wider macro challenges and global uncertainty – from supply chain issues, talent shortages, and rising inflation rates – this is no doubt an important time to recognise and celebrate those who go above and beyond within the industry. Everyone at Grant Thornton is proud to support this programme and look forward to celebrating with all nominees at our gala dinner on 19 October.



Best Northern Finance Director of a Private Equity-backed Company











This category shines a spotlight on the exceptional talent of finance directors in private equity-backed businesses in the North.

	<p>Eoghan Johnston Chief Financial Officer iamproperty</p> 		<p>Rebecca Shellard Finance Director Esselle Retail Limited t/a Arthouse</p> 
	<p>Jon Furber Chief Financial Officer Horsefly, formerly CFO, Mobica Holdings Limited</p> 		<p>Richard Godsland Finance Director Inprova Limited</p> 
	<p>Michael Watts Chief Financial Officer Hippo Digital Limited</p> 		<p>Rob Jobbins Finance Director 26 – an MSQ agency</p> 



Best Northern Finance Director of a Family-Owned Company



Our shortlist demonstrates the value of a good finance director on a Family-Owned company.

	<p>Adrian Sullivan Chief Financial Officer Edge Worldwide Logistics Limited</p> 		<p>Nick Duffield Finance Director Chapel House Motor Co Ltd</p>  <p>Where our name means a great deal</p>
	<p>Jo Boardman Finance Director Alcedo Care Group</p> 		<p>Victoria Weber Financial Controller Trilanco Limited</p> 
	<p>Karl Lloyd Chief Financial Officer Club L London</p> 		



Northern Finance Director of the Year – Turnaround

This category shines a spotlight on the exceptional talent of finance directors as they face the challenges of turning around the financial position of their organisations.

	<p>Louise Britnell Chief Financial Officer The Co-operative Bank plc The co-operative bank Ethical then, now and always</p>
	<p>Lucy Bolton Chief Financial Officer Camira camira</p>

	<p>Rebecca Shellard Finance Director Esselle Retail Limited t/a Arthouse ESSELLE Retail Limited</p>
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A Message From Squire Patton Boggs

We are delighted to once again be a headline sponsor of the revered Northern Finance Director Awards, which showcase the incredible talent across the region. It has been another fascinating and inspiring year to be part of the Northern Finance Director Awards.

In addition to grappling with their newfound responsibilities, businesses continue to face unprecedented challenges on a global scale, many of which we have no prior experience or rule books to guide us through, thus highlighting the exceptional commerciality and strategic influence that it takes to be a finance leader in the modern market.

We have seen how the role of finance directors in value creation continues to evolve from the traditional role that we once knew, with many turning their hand to IT and technology and implementing ESG initiatives.

This year's shortlist comprises an array of finance leaders who embody the exceptional skill that is required to be a successful finance director, who go above and beyond to compete in their respective markets and make significant contributions to the big wins their businesses experience.

The Northern Finance Director Awards allow an opportunity to step back and applaud the inspirational finance leaders who have played a significant role in guiding their businesses to success. There is no doubt that each and every finalist is truly deserving of their place on the shortlist.



Giles Chesher

Partner

T +44 161 830 5163

E giles.chesher@squirepb.com



Hannah Kendrick

Partner













T +44 113 284 7620

E hannah.kendrick@squirepb.com



Northern Finance Director of the Year – Growth/Scale Up











Our Growth/Scale Up shortlist showcases finance directors that have taken affirmative action to grow their businesses and contributed to their company’s success story.

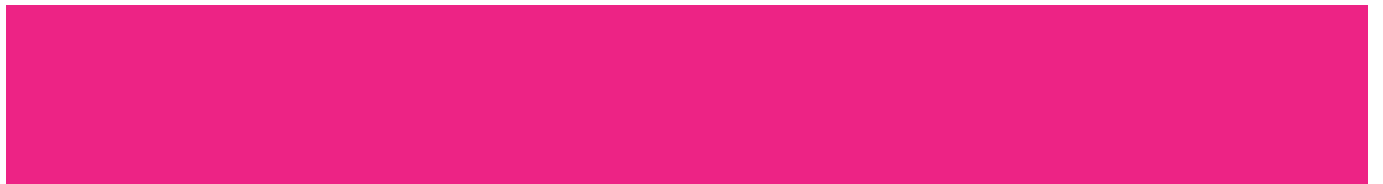
	<p>Eoghan Johnston Chief Financial Officer iamproperty</p> 		<p>Karl Lloyd Chief Financial Officer Club L London</p> 
	<p>Guy Bagshaw Finance Director Fruugo.com Ltd</p> 		<p>Paolo Benedetto Group Chief Financial Officer Formerly St Pierre Group Ltd</p> 
	<p>Jon Furber Chief Financial Officer Horsefly, formerly CFO, Mobica Holdings Limited</p>  <p>a cognizant company</p>		<p>Ryan Stephenson-Brown Finance Director Evolve B G Limited</p>  <p>managed network solutions -</p>



Northern Finance Director of the Year – Leadership













Our shortlist has demonstrated exceptional leadership, driving forward strong business growth and innovation strategies, with people who are prominent role models within their sectors.

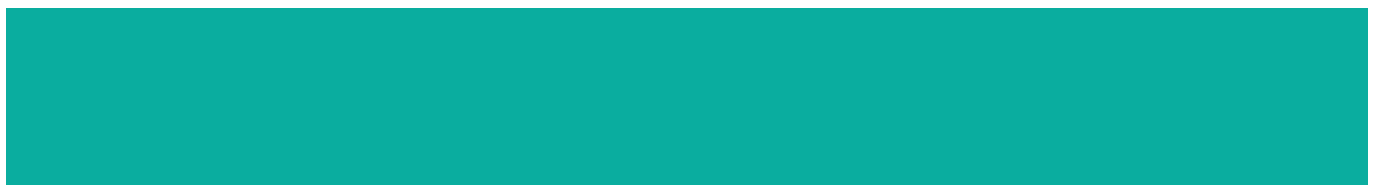
	<p>Danielle Davies Chief Financial Officer Revolution Bars Group plc</p> 		<p>Rebecca Shellard Finance Director Esselle Retail Limited t/a Arthouse</p> 
	<p>Jenny Cotterill Head of Finance Payne's Dairies Limited</p> 		<p>Rob Blomfield Head of Global Business Services Burberry Group plc</p> 
	<p>Lucy Bolton Chief Financial Officer Camira</p> 		



Northern Finance Director of the Year – One to Watch

Our One to Watch category focuses on emerging talent, those finance directors making a real impact within their businesses and sectors, and our next generation of role models.

	<p>Alex Cook Finance Director Nexus Rental</p> 		<p>Matthew Gallacher Group Finance Director D A Languages Limited</p> 
	<p>Carl Derving Chief Financial Officer Three Oceans Fish Company Limited</p> 		<p>Richard Godsland Finance Director Inprova Limited</p> 
	<p>Claire Elcock Chief Financial Officer SmartSearch</p> 		<p>Stephen Biddlestone Group Finance Director Aero Services Global Group Limited</p> 



A Message from Page Group

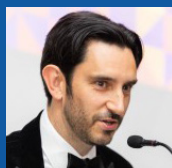
It has been an absolute pleasure once again to be involved in these awards and to get to hear some truly positive stories of well known, and some less well-known businesses from across the North.

The calibre of finance leaders we are seeing, and their involvement across the companies they are part of never seems to diminish – and yet again we have heard how the role of the FD/CFO is critical to the profitable and sustainable performance of the region's companies, and therefore its economy.

In unfamiliar and uncertain economic times it is great to see there are still success stories out there with companies adapting to the challenges before them and thriving- in no small part thanks to the insight and advice of their finance leaders.

All those nominated this year can be proud of their achievements and we wish them all the best of luck and look forward to hearing the winners at the dinner in October.

Page Executive Michael Page



John Halton

Partner

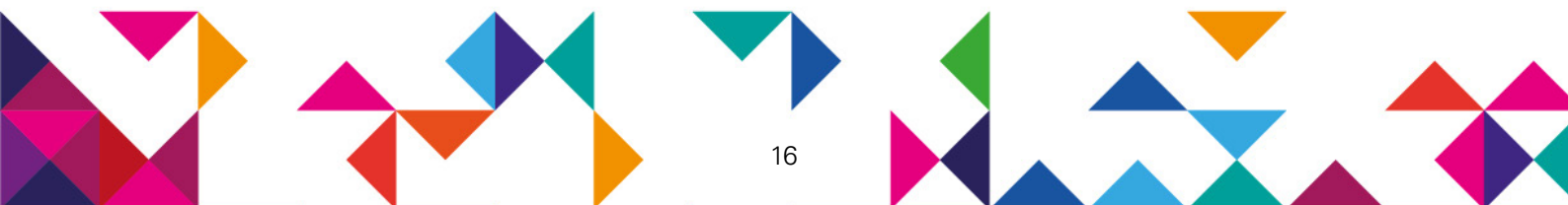
T +44 791 764 5355

E JohnHalton@pageexecutive.com

Northern Finance Director of the Year – Deal of the Year











This category shines a spotlight on the finance directors involved in noteworthy deals over the past year, for the impact these deals have on their business's successes.

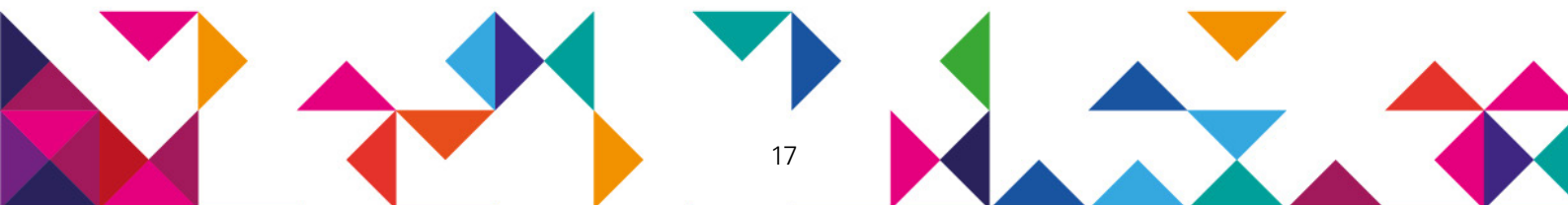
	<p>Adam Wearing Chief Financial Officer Profile Financial Solutions Limited</p> 		<p>Rebecca Shellard Finance Director Esselle Retail Limited t/a Arthouse</p> 
	<p>Jon Furber Chief Financial Officer Horsefly, formerly CFO, Mobica Holdings Limited</p> 		<p>Richard Godsland Finance Director Inprova Limited</p> 
	<p>Paolo Benedetto Group Chief Financial Officer Formerly St Pierre Group Ltd</p> 		<p>Sarah Wilkinson EMEA Finance and HR Director Crosslake</p> 



Northern Finance Team of the Year

Recognising collaboration and collective success, this award celebrates the finance teams that have demonstrated excellence in their field and positively impacted the wider business through outstanding achievements.

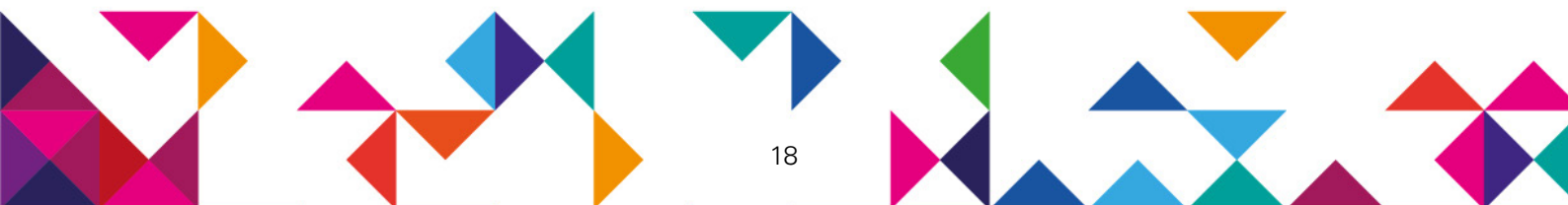
 	<p>Jo Boardman Finance Director Alcedo Care Group</p> <p>“When I found out that our finance team and I had been nominated in 3 categories for the awards I was surprised and absolutely delighted. I am so proud and passionate about our business it was a pleasure to share with the panel what we do, where we are now, how we got here and our future plans. The panel were friendly and engaging. Great news to hear that both myself and our finance team have been shortlisted, the awards night will be a great way to celebrate our achievements whatever the result.”</p>
 	<p>Rob Blomfield Head of Global Business Services Burberry Group plc</p> <p>“I was flattered and pleased to be nominated by the GT team. The Burberry Business Services team have worked really hard over the last few years to become an integral part of our business and this nomination is great external recognition of the work being done and the value being driven by the team.”</p>
 	<p>Nick Duffield Finance Director Chapel House Motor Co Ltd</p> <p>“I am excited to be shortlisted and proud that my team has also been shortlisted. The hard work and enthusiasm we deliver has allowed the business to flourish and make informed decisions over the years. This has benefitted both the business and our customers. We always strive to provide timely information at all times, and it is great that this is recognised.”</p>
 	<p>Victoria Weber Finance Controller Trilanco Limited</p> <p>“I am delighted that myself and my team have been shortlisted for the Northern Finance Director Awards. The interview process presented an opportunity to reflect on all the hard work we have all put it resulting in the positive journey that Trilanco has been on in recent years. I am looking forward to meeting the fellow nominees at the awards event.”</p>
 	<p>Louise Britnell Chief Financial Officer The Co-operative Bank plc</p> <p>“I am delighted to have been nominated for the Northern Finance Director awards. It was a pleasure to talk to the judging panel about the challenges we have faced and the co-operative way we’ve overcome these to achieve our goals. It was uplifting to share these moments with a group who are so clearly passionate about supporting our local community of talented finance professionals.”</p>



Celebrating Excellence – ESG Champion

The ESG Champion category acknowledges the contribution to society, the environment and the organisation.

	<p>Chris Stefani Chief Financial Officer DWF Group plc</p>
	<p>Danielle Davies Chief Financial Officer Revolution Bars Group plc</p>
	<p>Gary Taylor Finance Director Express Engineering (Group) Limited</p>



A Message from Barclays

It has been fascinating to hear how the top quality shortlisted FDs from across the region have been able to add substantial value to their businesses during a period that has seen more volatility than anyone could have expected. The sponsor judges and independent judges all spent a lot of time deliberating throughout a rigorous process and all those that have been shortlisted should be really proud of their achievements. We hope all the applicants can join us to celebrate at the awards event which should be a great opportunity to showcase some of the fantastic businesses in The North.

Debbie Mullen, Head of Mid Corporate North, Barclays Corporate Banking

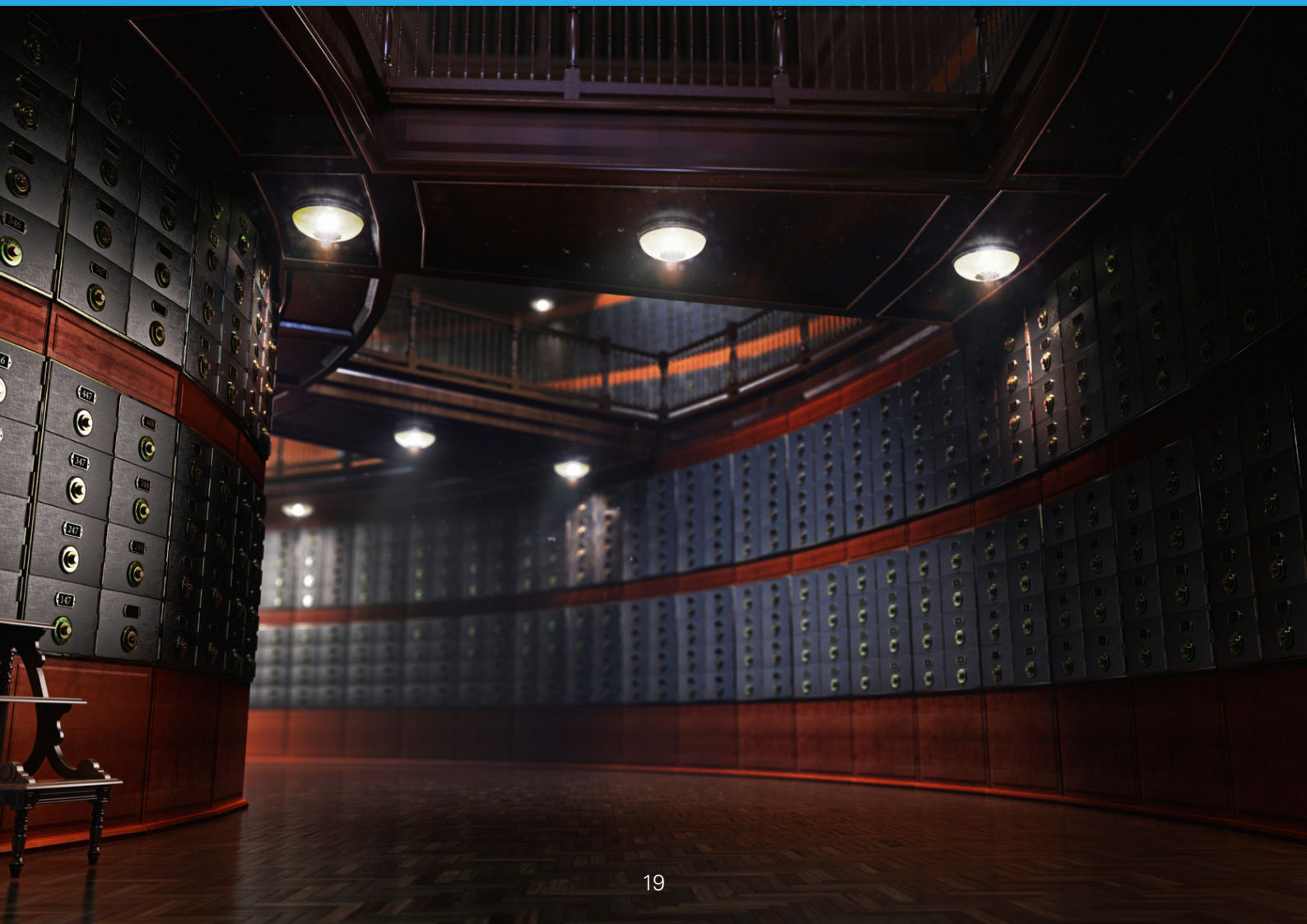


Deborah Mullen

Head of Region, Mid Corporate North

T +44 (0)7775 540673

E debbie.mullen@barclays.com



Meet Our Judging Panel



Beverley Shepherd

Finance Director, Econ Engineering Ltd

Beverley Shepherd is the finance director of Econ Engineering Ltd; she joined the company in 2014 as company accountant before being promoted to finance director three years later. Econ Engineering Limited, based in Ripon, North Yorkshire, is the UK's leading manufacturer of gritters, de-icers, and snow clearance and highway maintenance vehicles. The company has grown significantly over the last few years and Beverley has made an outstanding contribution to the business's success.

Beverley returns to the Northern FD awards this year as a judge, following her successful award of Finance Director of the Year (£25 million to £100 million) in 2018 and Finance Director of the Year for Leadership in 2022.



Craig Tomkinson

Group Chief Financial Officer, Bopran Holdings (2 Sisters Food Group)

2 Sisters Food Group is one of the largest food manufacturers in the UK, turning over £3 billion and employing 18,000 people across 20 manufacturing sites across Europe.

Craig Tomkinson re-joined 2 Sisters in 2018 as group CFO, to execute a new strategy of focusing on its core fresh poultry and meals business. Since then, the group has executed eight disposals, realising over £700 million of enterprise value – most notably a sale of the Fox's Biscuits business to the Ferrero Group in 2020 for £246 million.

Over the last 18 months, the group has focused refinanced in the high yield bond market, and continued the turnaround of the core business, supplying poultry products and ready meals to customers including M&S, Aldi, Tesco, Lidl, Sainsburys, KFC, etc.

Craig returns to the Northern FD Awards as a judge this year, after previously winning the Best Northern Finance Director of a Company Over £100 Million in 2021.



Giles Chesher

Partner, Squire Patton Boggs

Giles Chesher is a partner in the Global Corporate Practice. He is based in the Manchester office, where he heads up the Manchester Corporate team. Giles' particular expertise covers mergers and acquisitions, IPOs and private equity. He has worked on a number of high-profile private equity and M&A transactions in the local, national and international markets, acting for a wide variety of corporate and institutional clients. Giles also acts as a trusted business adviser to corporate clients on structural, organisational and strategic legal matters, assisting with dynamic growth strategies, defensive cost-cutting measures and everything in between.



Hannah Kendrick

Partner, Squire Patton Boggs

Hannah Kendrick leads the Corporate Practice in Leeds and has a wide range of experience advising both public and private companies on mergers and acquisitions, fundraisings, takeovers, restructurings and reorganisations. She also leads the food and drink sector group for EMEA.

Her work varies between UK and cross-border and she works closely with executives, in-house legal teams and general counsel both in the UK and globally. Hannah also leads the team focusing on the "G" of ESG and is a member of the Regional Advisory Group of the London Stock Exchange plc for the North East.



John Halton

Partner, Page Executive

John Halton is a partner within the Page Executive CFO practice and over his 15 years with the group, he has successfully supported a broad range of companies, across all industries, in their search for senior finance professionals.

Originally planning to pursue a career in academia, gaining his Master’s Degree from Leeds University, John changed direction and after a successful career in sales and account management with an owner managed business, started his career with Page in the Sheffield office in 2008, successfully leading that business through the economic downturn.

Since then, he has managed Page Group operations across the North West and Midlands with his remit for the past seven years being entirely dedicated to executive finance recruitment in the North of England – specifically leading hires in to PE/VC-backed companies.

John is a keen football fan, watching and still trying to play, and has also been an enthusiastic amateur stand-up comedian.



John Laud

Head of West & North Yorkshire, Barclays Corporate Banking

John is head of Barclays West & North Yorkshire Corporate Banking team and is based out of our Leeds office. The team has relationship directors and associate bankers that focus on SME businesses in a specific industry such as manufacturing, transport and logistics; consumer; professional services; and not-for-profit. John has spent over 30 years in corporate banking and was previously our national head of food, drink and packaging sector, where he managed our relationships across the globe with some of the biggest and most well-known brands. His wide range of corporate banking experience is now being put to good use in supporting the growth plans of our customers in Yorkshire.



Saeeda Amin

Chartered Accountant, Former Chief Financial Officer, Fox’s Biscuits

Saeeda Amin has over 20 years’ experience holding senior executive roles, supporting both entrepreneurial owner-managed and listed businesses, primarily across the branded food sector. She is a Chartered Accountant with a background as a chief financial officer (CFO), corporate finance lead and transformation leader. Her skills have been gained through delivering turnarounds, business integrations, mergers and acquisitions, supporting manufacturing-footprint rationalisation, and building empowered and engaged teams. Saeeda has a strong strategy and change-management focus, ensuring delivery of results for all stakeholders. She recently led the sale of Fox’s Biscuits to the Ferrero Group during the COVID-19 lockdown, successfully delivering the target transaction price.

She is a passionate advocate for diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI) inside and outside of the company’s walls and is committed to building inclusive environments.

Saeeda is also a trustee of Penny Appeal, a charity whose aim is to relieve hunger poverty and water poverty and provide access to education for orphaned children worldwide.

In her spare time, Saeeda is often seen at Anfield; a lifelong follower of Liverpool football club, she has been fortunate enough to have been at the Champions League final three times and was overjoyed to witness Liverpool lifting the trophy in 2019.



Tim Knockton

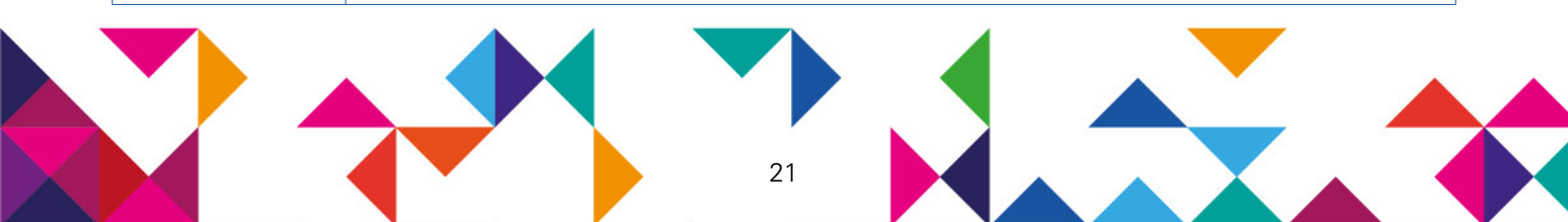
Former Finance Director, Arc Inspirations Ltd

Tim Knockton has 25 years of finance and consulting experience across SME to FTSE companies.

He trained and qualified while working in Fast-Moving Consumer Goods (FMCG) Industry and was a management consultant for EY in London, leading finance transformation, change and post-deal integration projects. He then returned to industry with KP Snacks in 2015.

Most recently, Tim was at Arc Inspirations for circa three and a half years and delivered a series of significant strategic projects through an unprecedented few years. He played a key role in supporting Arc through the COVID-19 pandemic, refinanced the business in 2021 for growth, and played a pivotal role in securing private equity investment in 2022.

Tim won Best Northern Finance Director for Covid Pandemic Response in 2021, and is delighted to return as a judge for 2023.



Comprehensive Shortlist

Name	Job Title	Organisation	Categories
<p>Adam Wearing</p> <p>“After a long process (almost two years) to get this transaction away this was a great opportunity to reflect on the process and take stock of what had been achieved with an intelligent and interested panel.”</p>	Chief Financial Officer	Profile Financial Solutions Limited	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Northern Finance Director of the Year – Deal of the Year
<p>Adrian Sullivan</p> <p>“The NFD process has been brilliant so far and it is fantastic to have been shortlisted! Personally, it is great to be recognised, but credit must go to the EWL finance team as a whole.”</p>	Chief Financial Officer	Edge Worldwide Logistics Limited	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Best Northern Finance Director of a Limited Company Over £100 Million Best Northern Finance Director of a Family-Owned Company
<p>Alex Cook</p> <p>“I have really enjoyed being welcomed into the NFD process and meeting the judging panel. After a very busy year, the NFD interviews were a rare opportunity to pause and take time to reflect on the great things the team at Nexus have achieved over the last 12 months and beyond.”</p>	Finance Director	Nexus Vehicle Management Ltd	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Northern Finance Director of the Year – One to Watch
<p>Carl Derving</p> <p>“It’s a privilege to be selected as finalist for the NFD awards, especially being so new to the CFO role and competing with exceptional talent across the north of the country.”</p>	Chief Financial Officer	Three Oceans Fish Company Limited	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Northern Finance Director of the Year – One to Watch
<p>Chris Stefani</p> <p>“It was a pleasant surprise to be nominated amongst so many really high quality names. It is a great opportunity to reflect on the collective achievements of the finance functions that keep northern-based businesses running.”</p>	Chief Financial Officer	DWF Group plc	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Best Northern Finance Director of a Limited Company Over £100 Million ESG Champion
<p>Claire Elcock</p> <p>“It was a good experience to take part in the Northern Finance Director Awards and great to be part of a vibrant community of FDs from businesses across the North.”</p>	Chief Financial Officer	SmartSearch	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Northern Finance Director of the Year – One to Watch

Name	Job Title	Organisation	Categories
<p>Danielle Davies</p> <p>“The North is full of amazing CFOs and their teams and it has been really tough this year for a lot of finance teams. It is therefore amazing to see them being recognised here and to be part of the group nominated for an award is really humbling. I enjoyed meeting the judges and found the interview process really enjoyable. The team were insightful in their questions and follow ups, and it felt like an inclusive conversation rather than an interview. It’s not often that we shout about ourselves in this career, so it was nice to relax and reflect on what we’d delivered at Revs.”</p>	Chief Financial Officer	Revolution Bars Group plc	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Best Northern Finance Director of a Limited Company Over £100 Million • ESG Champion • Northern Finance Director of the Year – Leadership
<p>David Harrop</p> <p>“I have enjoyed the process (so far!) and see it as an opportunity to showcase the success of Reward Finance Group in supporting and funding SME businesses throughout the UK from our base in the North.”</p>	Finance Director	Reward Investments Limited	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Best Northern Finance Director of a Limited Company up to £25 Million
<p>Elizabeth Foster ACA</p> <p>“My experience with NFD has been a fun and exciting one. I enjoyed the interview process and learned a lot speaking about our business and my role within it.”</p>	Finance Director	Holiform Limited	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Best Northern Finance Director of a Limited Company up to £25 Million
<p>Eoghan Johnston</p> <p>“It’s an honour to be shortlisted for this award alongside such a fantastic group of finance directors from the North. Businesses are thriving in our region and I’m proud to look back on iamproperty’s growth over the past year, as we celebrate exceptional results across the board, including 46% YoY revenue growth. We have many more exciting milestones to come and I look forward to driving further success across the business.”</p>	Chief Financial Officer	iamproperty	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Best Northern Finance Director of a Limited Company £25 Million – £100 Million • Northern Finance Director of the Year – Growth/Scale Up • Best Northern Finance Director of a Private Equity-backed Company

Name	Job Title	Organisation	Categories
<p>Gary Taylor</p> <p>“I am extremely thankful for the nomination provided by the panel for NFD. The process has been rewarding as it provided an opportunity to reflect on what our business has achieved over the last 5 years, with particular focus on the last 12 months. I am extremely proud of our growth at Express Engineering, which is a testament to our people and their hard work.”</p>	Finance Director	Express Engineering (Group) Limited	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Best Northern Finance Director of a Limited Company £25 Million – £100 Million • ESG Champion
<p>Guy Bagshaw</p> <p>“The NFD awards are fantastic recognition for the quality of businesses in the Region, many of which deliver world-class solutions, advanced technology and innovation while attracting and developing hugely talented and ambitious teams.</p> <p>“It is therefore a great honour to be short-listed for an award, which is really a testament to the amazing support, dedication and drive from the team at Fruugo.”</p>	Finance Director	Fruugo.com Ltd	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Northern Finance Director of the Year – Growth/Scale Up
<p>Jenny Cotterill</p> <p>“Rarely do we get the chance to reflect on what we have achieved as a team over the last 5 years - being shortlisted for the NFD awards gave us this opportunity.”</p>	Head of Finance	Payne’s Dairies Limited	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Best Northern Finance Director of a Limited Company Over £100 Million • Northern Finance Director of the Year – Leadership
<p>Jo Allen</p> <p>“Delighted to have been considered and shortlisted for this award. In our busy lives we don’t always take time to reflect and celebrate achievements of our teams and personally and this award offers the time to do just that.”</p>	Chief Financial Officer	DEA Aviation Limited	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Best Northern Finance Director of a Limited Company up to £25 Million

Name	Job Title	Organisation	Categories
<p>Jo Boardman</p> <p>“When I found out that our finance team and I had been nominated in 3 categories for the awards I was surprised and absolutely delighted. I am so proud and passionate about our business it was a pleasure to share with the panel what we do, where we are now, how we got here and our future plans. The panel were friendly and engaging. Great news to hear that both myself and our finance team have been shortlisted, the awards night will be a great way to celebrate our achievements whatever the result.”</p>	Finance Director	Alcedo Care Group	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Best Northern Finance Director of a Limited Company up to £25 Million • Best Northern Finance Director of a Family-Owned Company • Northern Finance Team of the Year
<p>Jon Furber</p> <p>“I am really thrilled to be shortlisted for the Northern Finance Director Awards, it is not what I work hard for, but recognition of the role you play is always great. I found the process really straight forward, and a good opportunity to reflect, with a strong selection panel, on the last 12 months.”</p>	Chief Financial Officer	Chief Financial Officer Horsefly, formerly CFO, Mobica Holdings Limited	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Northern Finance Director of the Year – Growth/Scale Up • Northern Finance Director of the Year – Deal of the Year • Best Northern Finance Director of a Private Equity-backed Company
<p>Karl Lloyd</p> <p>“It is an honour to be nominated and recognised within this forum and obviously this reflects not just on me but the whole of the finance team and wider leadership team at Club L.”</p>	Chief Financial Officer	Club L London	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Northern Finance Director of the Year – Growth/Scale Up • Best Northern Finance Director of a Family-Owned Company
<p>Louise Britnell</p> <p>“I am delighted to have been nominated for the Northern Finance Director awards. It was a pleasure to talk to the judging panel about the challenges we have faced and the co-operative way we’ve overcome these to achieve our goals. It was uplifting to share these moments with a group who are so clearly passionate about supporting our local community of talented finance professionals.”</p>	Chief Financial Officer	The Co-operative Bank Plc	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Northern Finance Team of the Year • Best Northern Finance Director of the Year - Turnaround

Name	Job Title	Organisation	Categories
<p>Lucy Bolton</p> <p>“It has been a pleasure to be a part of this process and of course I am delighted to have been shortlisted for an award. I actually really enjoyed the panel interview which was unexpected, I think due to the relaxed approach and well thought out questions. It is also nice to get the chance to reflect on how I have personally influenced the business over the last year!”</p>	Chief Financial Officer	Camira Fabrics Ltd	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Best Northern Finance Director of a Limited Company £25 Million – £100 Million • Northern Finance Director of the Year – Leadership • Best Northern Finance Director of the Year - Turnaround
<p>Matthew Gallacher</p> <p>“I am very grateful to DA Languages and to IK Partners (our private equity owner) to have given me this platform to develop and ultimately be nominated for this award!”</p>	Group Finance Director	D A Languages Limited	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Northern Finance Director of the Year – One to Watch
<p>Michael Watts</p> <p>“It is an honour to be shortlisted for these awards. It is a reflection of the finance transformation that the team have achieved over the past two years which has delivered greater financial insight and helped drive business growth.”</p>	Chief Financial Officer	Hippo Digital Limited	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Best Northern Finance Director of a Private Equity-backed Company
<p>Nick Duffield</p> <p>“I am excited to be shortlisted and proud that my team has also been shortlisted. The hard work and enthusiasm we deliver has allowed the business to flourish and make informed decisions over the years. This has benefitted both the business and our customers. We always strive to provide timely information at all times, and it is great that this is recognised.”</p>	Finance Director	Chapel House Motor Co Ltd	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Best Northern Finance Director of a Limited Company £25 Million – £100 Million • Northern Finance Team of the Year • Best Northern Finance Director of a Family-Owned Company
<p>Paolo Benedetto</p> <p>“It is a real privilege to have been recognized and nominated. I firmly believe that the nomination is, a reflection of the outstanding team, founders and investors I had the pleasure of working with at St Pierre, who built an outstanding business.”</p>	Group Chief Financial Officer	Formerly St Pierre Groupe Ltd	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Northern Finance Director of the Year – Growth/Scale Up • Northern Finance Director of the Year – Deal of the Year

Name	Job Title	Organisation	Categories
<p>Rebecca Shellard</p> <p>“Such an honour and a surprise to be shortlisted for the Northern Finance Director awards and to be recognised for doing a job I love. Good luck to the other nominees.”</p>	Finance Director	Esselle Retail Limited t/a Arthouse	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Northern Finance Director of the Year – Leadership • Best Northern Finance Director of the Year – Turnaround • Best Northern Finance Director of a Limited Company up to £25 Million • Northern Finance Director of the Year – Deal of the Year • Best Northern Finance Director of a Private Equity-backed Company
<p>Richard Godsland</p> <p>“I am thrilled to be shortlisted by the panel of judges for three NFD awards. The judging process provided a reflective platform for both my individual and company performance. Stimulating and thought-provoking questions during the nominee panel session covered areas of financial performance, culture, challenge and ESG. I am thoroughly looking forward to the awards evening.”</p>	Finance Director	Inprova Limited	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Northern Finance Director of the Year – Deal of the Year • Best Northern Finance Director of a Private Equity-backed Company • Northern Finance Director of the Year – One to Watch
<p>Rob Blomfield</p> <p>“I was flattered and pleased to be nominated by the GT team. The Burberry Business Services team have worked really hard over the last few years to become an integral part of our business and this nomination is great external recognition of the work being done and the value being driven by the team.”</p>	Head of Global Business Services	Burberry Group Plc	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Northern Finance Team of the Year • Northern Finance Director of the Year – Leadership

Name	Job Title	Organisation	Categories
<p>Rob Jobbins</p> <p>“I am absolutely thrilled not only to be part of the Northern Finance Director Awards, but moreover for being shortlisted. To be recognised amongst such strong talent in the North is really exciting and an honour. It is also a great testament to my wider finance team, the exec team, all of 26 and MSQ, all of whom have been the enabler to this whilst there are so many northern companies performing so well. I have really enjoyed the process so far, meeting some highly respected people during the panel interview, and am equally looking forward to the finalists dinner in October. The process has also given me the chance to reflect on the growth we have delivered over the past few years as a company and to be proud of what we have achieved.</p> <p>Thank you.”</p>	Finance Director	26 – an MSQ agency	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Best Northern Finance Director of a Private Equity-backed Company • Best Northern Finance Director of a Limited Company £25 Million – £100 Million
<p>Ryan Stephenson-Brown</p> <p>“I am delighted to have been nominated and shortlisted for two categories at the Northern Finance Director Awards. I enjoyed sharing my experience with the judging panel and look forward to the awards dinner in October.”</p>	Finance Director	Evolve B G Limited	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Best Northern Finance Director of a Limited Company up to £25 Million • Northern Finance Director of the Year – Growth/Scale Up
<p>Sarah Wilkinson</p> <p>“It feels a real honour to be shortlisted for this award, particularly given our region’s strong presence in M&A. I look forward to swapping notes with the other nominees on the paths their deals took.”</p>	EMEA Finance and HR Director	Crosslake	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Northern Finance Director of the Year – Deal of the Year

Name	Job Title	Organisation	Categories
<p>Stefan Allanson</p> <p>“The North of England punches above its weight with a depth of finance talent to be envied across the country. So, I feel very honoured just to be shortlisted for this prestigious award. It’s a tough time to be a CFO in the housing sector. We’re unloved by Government, criticised by the media, frustrated by Local Authorities and met with caution by investors. Yet we deliver greater economic and social benefit than almost any other sector. Navigating a high-growth, listed plc through these difficult times requires a range of skills, a clear set of values and a great deal of tenacity and I try and live up to these every day.”</p>	Chief Financial Officer	MJ Gleeson plc	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Best Northern Finance Director of a Limited Company Over £100 Million
<p>Stephen Biddlestone</p> <p>“I am delighted to have been shortlisted for two categories at the Northern Finance Director Awards. The process has been very professional and engaging, giving me an opportunity to reflect on how much rapid growth and strategic change has been experienced at ASG Group over the past 12 months. I’m looking forward to meeting fellow nominees at the awards event in October.”</p>	Group Finance Director	Aero Services Global Group Limited	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Best Northern Finance Director of a Limited Company £25 Million – £100 Million • Northern Finance Director of the Year – One to Watch
<p>Victoria Weber</p> <p>“I am delighted that myself and my team have been shortlisted for the Northern Finance Director Awards. The interview process presented an opportunity to reflect on all the hard work we have all put it resulting in the positive journey that Trilanco has been on in recent years. I am looking forward to meeting the fellow nominees at the awards event.”</p>	Financial Controller	Trilanco Limited	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Northern Finance Team of the Year • Best Northern Finance Director of a Family-Owned Company

Further Information

For more information on the Northern Finance Director Awards, please visit our website: www.northernfdawards.co.uk.

Get in touch with our sponsorship team:

	<p>Emily Wilkes Business Development Apprentice T +44 113 284 7488 E Emily.wilkes@squirepb.com</p>
	<p>Tracey Edwards Regions Growth Manager, Markets and Clients T +44 (0)161 953 6900 E Tracey.Edwards@uk.gt.com</p>
	<p>John Halton Partner – Executive Finance T +44 791 764 5355 E JohnHalton@pageexecutive.com</p>
	<p>Pamela Delaney Marketing Manager T +44 7464 988209 E pamela.delaney@barclays.com</p>

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Northern Finance Director Awards

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