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Fractional Finance Director – Founder Led Consumer Products Manufacturer – West Yorkshire

Description

Location: West Yorkshire — on site for the diagnostic phase and for key interviews, hybrid thereafter. Candidates must be within roughly an hour's drive of the Leeds, Bradford and Dewsbury corridor.

Commitment: One day per week, initial 12-week assignment with a strong likelihood of extension

Day rate: £700–£1,000 per day, depending on experience

Start: August 2026 — shortlisting is already underway

The Company

Our client is a founder-led British consumer products business in West Yorkshire. It manufactures in the UK, sells direct to consumers through Shopify and paid media, and is now extending its range with imported finished goods and adjacent product categories.

The business employs around 90 people on a turnover approaching £20m, and revenue has been doubling. Growth of that pace has outrun the finance function: the numbers arrive, but not quickly enough or in enough detail to steer pricing, stock and capital allocation with confidence. The founder wants senior finance judgement in the business now, and a permanent Financial Controller recruited beneath it.

Responsibilities

The Role

This is a defined, hands-on 12-week mandate with four deliverables. You will work directly with the founder, one day a week, with the first few days spent on site.

1. Diagnose the finance position

- Establish the true financial picture — cash, working capital, gross margin by product line and by channel, and the reliability of what is currently reported
- Interrogate product costing across manufactured and imported lines, including landed cost, freight, duty and carriage
- Identify the hidden costs that growth at this pace tends to bury: returns, damages, stock write-downs, carriage recovery, marketing cost per acquired customer against contribution

2. Install cash and control disciplines

- Build and run a 13-week cash flow forecast
- Bring stock under control — valuation, cover, slow-moving and obsolete lines, and the working capital tied up in imported goods
- Review supplier terms, purchasing authorisation and approval limits, and put a proportionate control framework in place
- Assess whether the business is capturing the grant, R&D and funding

Hiring organization

FD Capital Recruitment

Employment Type

Part-time

Beginning of employment

1st September 2026

Duration of employment

12 weeks initially

Industry

Manufacturing

Job Location

Batley, West Yorkshire, United Kingdom

Working Hours

9-5

Base Salary

£ 700 - £ 900

Date posted

July 28, 2026

Valid through

31.08.2026

support available to a UK manufacturer investing in expansion

3. Create management reporting

- Design and deliver a monthly management pack the founder can act on — P&L, balance sheet, cash, and margin cut by product, channel and campaign
- Establish the budget and rolling forecast, with a view on the capital and capacity required by the expansion into new categories
- Set the KPI set that the incoming Financial Controller will maintain

4. Recruit and onboard a permanent Financial Controller

- Write the specification, sit on the interviews and advise the founder on the appointment
- Onboard the successful candidate and hand over the reporting and control framework you have built

Qualifications

The Candidate

- Fully qualified accountant — ICAEW, ACCA or CIMA
- **Strong SME manufacturing experience is essential:** standard costing, bills of material, stock valuation, work in progress and margin analysis in a business that makes physical product
- Demonstrable product-costing and inventory-control track record, ideally including imported finished goods and landed cost modelling
- Experience in owner-managed businesses in the £10m–£50m range, partnering directly with a founder rather than reporting through a board
- E-commerce or D2C exposure — Shopify, paid media economics, returns and carriage — is a distinct advantage
- Hands-on and pragmatic: you will be the senior finance presence in the business, not directing a team
- Previous fractional or portfolio experience preferred, with genuine capacity for one day a week over 12 weeks
- A track record of recruiting and onboarding a Financial Controller or equivalent
- Based within about an hour's drive of the Leeds, Bradford and Dewsbury corridor — Wakefield, Huddersfield, Halifax, Harrogate and east Manchester all work — and willing to work on site

Job Benefits

Competitive day rate £700-£900 per day