



Band 1 Qualified Accountant - Chief Accountant

Location	Bootle with occasional travel to Cheltenham, London and industry-related sites in the UK
Salary	£61,825 - £70,594
Specialism	Finance
Directly reports to	The post-holder will report to the Finance Director

Job Purpose

Responsibilities

Leading a financial function of approximately 15 employees based in Bootle with a focus on, but not confined to, financial and management accounting, statutory reporting, budgetary control, business partnering, treasury management, procurement and charging processes. They will also provide appropriate oversight of the wider portfolio of Finance Directorate activities including risk management, corporate planning, business performance monitoring and reporting, business intelligence and estates management.

About The Role

Postholder Attributes

Reporting directly to the Finance Director and engaging with senior ONR colleagues, the role is suited to an experienced finance professional with a breadth and depth of proven experience of operating and delivering effectively in senior financial roles. The role is designed to promote exemplary financial probity and control within ONR complemented by strong leadership and engagement.

The successful candidate will lead the ONR finance function, adding, driving and protecting value through the provision of timely, high quality financial information expertise, insight, intelligence and challenge. They will be responsible for optimising the efficiency and effectiveness of the organisation, professionalising the finance function and strengthening financial awareness and control throughout the organisation.

The Chief Accountant will be at the forefront of planning and performance matters, supporting improved business performance, enabling continuous improvement and enhanced business delivery through its business partnering, delivering innovative organisational development interventions and providing an excellent professional finance and budgeting service.

This will require visionary, intuitive and resilient leadership with a dynamic combination of practical 'hands on' expertise combined with a strong strategic focus to drive the Finance Directorate's agenda and support the wider organisation. To achieve this, you will draw on a wealth of personal knowledge, skills and expertise to build a proactive

and sustainable approach to finance business partnering, operational planning, performance reporting and financial management including greater cost consciousness and commercial performance that will lead to greater operational efficiency.

You will have the personal and professional credibility to challenge and support your colleagues to develop a progressive approach to leading change and engaging their teams in improving performance. This will be underpinned by your ability to provide a clear strategic vision. You will have a proven track record of leading and delivering measurable improvements.

You will be able to demonstrate exceptional leadership of professional teams and your ability to inspire others and successfully lead adaptive change across a wide variety of organisational services. Combined with your knowledge and expertise, you will be a corporate and strategic thinker, adept in building relationships, influencing others and delivering innovative solutions.

Principal Responsibilities

Financial

- 1) Identify opportunities; develop and implement initiatives to improve efficiency and enhance value for money throughout the organisation, driving strong financial management, leadership, probity and control throughout ONR
- 2) Ensure the organisation and the Accounting Officer is legally compliant in discharging their role
- 3) Provide leadership, oversight and support to change initiatives and continuous improvement developments as appropriate to secure efficient and effective delivery
- 4) Enhance the quality of finance support; drive improvements in the provision of a single source of consistent, high quality, timely, trusted financial information, insight and intelligence throughout the organisation and externally with key stakeholders
- 5) Support, advise and influence the identification, development and reporting of enhanced performance information, measures and key business performance indicators and financial strategies
- 6) Develop strong, collaborative relationships with key stakeholders to promote and enhance the value of the Finance Directorate throughout the organisation and beyond; optimise stakeholder engagement and communication
- 7) Provide professional, trusted and pro-active support to the Finance Director but also to the wider Finance Directorate and ONR to optimise outcomes and inform effective decision making
- 8) Professionalise the ONR Finance function: provide financial and commercial expertise, insight, challenge and support;
- 9) Support the drive to empower individuals and embed accountability in the delegation of financial authority; earn trust, respect and credibility amongst peers, stakeholders and licensees
- 10) Lead the finance function ensuring full alignment with HM Treasury's "Managing Public Money" to ensure a robust focus for securing sound financial management throughout ONR
- 11) Provide expert opinion, impartial advice and support on all planning, operational performance and financial matters.

Effective Leadership

- 1) Engage effectively with regulatory and enabling functions,
- 2) Provide inspiring leadership and improve capability to meet ONR future needs
- 3) Act as the strategic and operational lead for all matters relating to financial and management accounting, statutory reporting, budgetary control, business partnering, treasury management, procurement and charging processes, reporting financial and operational performance.
- 4) Contribute to the development of ONR's wider leadership community to drive and deliver continuous improvement and authentic leadership throughout the organisation
- 5) Build a culture of professional and technical expertise to support the business
- 6) Promote a culture of high performance where enabling people to achieve their potential delivers excellence

Building Capability

- 1) Build a vibrant and creative professional learning and development culture to support
Effective performance and financial management within the ONR finance function more widely across the organisation
- 2) Contribute to the development of enhanced financial skills, awareness and capabilities across the organisation, providing training and upskilling activities throughout ONR
- 3) Support the continuing professional development within the Finance Directorate, helping to build the future capability of the organisation.

Corporate role and responsibilities:

- 1) Role model exemplary leadership behaviours, demonstrating the core values of the organisation, inspiring ONR staff to achieve better outcomes for stakeholders and contribute to shaping the culture of the organisation
- 2) Support the Executive Team by taking a corporate strategic perspective, providing expert advice and delivering solutions across the full range of business activities
- 3) Provide effective leadership, giving clear direction, dealing with difficult situations and championing new ways of working
- 4) Drive and deliver cost savings in line with the requirements of the business.

Location / Travel

Bootle with occasional travel to Cheltenham, London and industry-related sites in the UK

Security Clearance

The successful candidate will be required to undergo and obtain security clearance to Security Check (SC) level.

Person Specification

Competencies

- Changing and Improving
- Leading and Communicating
- Collaborating and Partnering

- Managing a Quality Service

Essential Skills and Qualifications

- Full membership of a CCAB body or CIMA (or internationally recognised equivalent) with extensive post-qualification experience
- Experience of working in a high pressure, complex organisation and management of change within a dynamic environment
- Senior level experience in a finance and performance delivery role
- Thorough understanding of strategic and operational finance and performance management
- Experience of corporate leadership and the ability to operate and influence at Board level
- Self-starter with experience of implementing improvements and providing insight, oversight and pro-active support to line management
- Experience and knowledge of corporate finance functions supporting operational business needs
- An excellent communicator, keeping line management and colleagues updated promptly on key achievements, opportunities, issues and solutions and the ability to be proactive are key attributes to succeed within this role;

Other Requirements

This will be a high pressure role which will require significant flexibility and resilience.

For Further Information

The **closing date** for receipt of applications is **07 February 2018**

Please contact Penna our designated recruitment partner if you would like to learn more about this opportunity.

Your contact will be Chris Macdonald, Lead Finance Consultant

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