

Post title:	Finance Director
Reports to:	The postholder will report to the Managing Director, Blackpool Entertainment Company Ltd as well as being accountable to the company Board. The role will also have a professional link to the Chief Finance Officer of the Council (shareholder of the company).

Introduction
<p>Blackpool Entertainment Company Limited is a wholly owned companies of Blackpool Council within a larger company group.</p> <p>The Finance Director is a pivotal person within the Executive Team of the company that form part of the Council's leisure assets portfolio. The ultimate goal of this role is to provide strategic financial oversight of the company at a key time during their expansion and beyond. The role holder will have a leading role in ensuring shareholder and board confidence in the long-term financial robustness of the business, analysing investment options, optimising profitability and driving financial efficiency.</p>

Purpose of the role
<p>The postholder will provide strategic direction and management of Blackpool Entertainment Company Ltd. They will lead the team on identifying, evaluating, delivering and monitoring opportunities for efficiencies and profits across the business, as well as overseeing financial planning, forecasting and operational delivery.</p>

Main duties and responsibilities
<p>Responsibilities to the Board and Shareholder</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Report to the company Board and ensure that Board directors are kept up to date with strategic developments, financial performance and key updates • Support the Managing Director and the Board in making effective decisions and applying corporate governance, promoting and ensuring compliance with corporate and government standards and controls including preparation and oversight of annual external audit' • Prepare and present updates and reports on financial activities and new initiatives for the Executive Teams, Boards and committees • Have a professional link to the shareholder's (Blackpool Council) Chief Finance Officer and ensure that the shareholder is regularly updated on financial performance, including attending quarterly financial planning meetings of the company group

Business Development

- Develop and agree a financial strategy including a long-term financial plan that supports the shareholder vision for the company in bringing sustainable and increasing business tourism to Blackpool
- Understand commercial business performance, identify any negative variances and proactively recommend solutions
- Analyse sales activities to inform business decisions

Strategic and Tactical Planning

- Develop and oversee long-term strategic financial planning alongside ensuring delivery of annual budget commitments
- Review and revise plans quarterly to ensure they are up to date and achieving objectives
- Pro-actively manage the cash flow, investment and funding requirements of the business identifying risks and opportunities to the BECL board and Shareholder Committee
- Support the development of the IT and data strategy to drive efficiency improvements across the business
- Develop and implement appropriate cost allocation and reporting to support more accurate analysis of the profitability of events and activities
- Develop, direct and monitor the implementation of policies, procedures and work standards to ensure standards are achieved

Risk management and internal audit

- In conjunction with the Managing Director, liaise with Internal Audit in the drawing up of the Annual Internal Audit Plan
- Ensure that finance relevant findings and recommendations from audit reports are acted on in a timely manner
- Ensure that any financial risk is appropriately assessed and added to the Risk Register with the necessary mitigations to reduce the risk
- Attend and contribute as required to the company Audit Committee, and annual shareholder report

Performance management

- Develop and maintain a performance management framework in conjunction with the Managing Director and Company Board to ensure that the financial function and the team operate to the highest level
- Assist in the setting of challenging and measurable KPIs and monitor business against these
- Report regularly to the Managing Director and company Board on KPI achievement

Day to Day Management

- Lead the financial teams of the company, supporting them to achieve objectives and targets, ensuring effective collaboration across the organisation to achieve the aims and objectives of the business and to maximise profitability.
- Encourage and lead on a positive change culture of the businesses, ensuring motivated and customer focused teams with low staff turnover and low absence levels.
- Encourage and support team members to take an active part in their own development including providing appropriate training to address skills gaps within the team.
- Proactively look for new/smarter ways to improve processes and procedures to deliver a faster, more efficient service to customers.
- Ensure good relationships are maintained across the organisation and Executive teams
- Work closely with the Executive Team and Department Heads to maximise revenue and subsequent net Profit.
- Manage contracts on behalf of the company for relevant areas of responsibility.
- Work with commercial team to review event contracts to ensure appropriate pricing, reconciliation and profitability.

Essential Qualifications

- CCAB / CIMA qualified

Essential Experience

- Substantial leadership experience at a senior level
- Substantial experience in financial management at a strategic level
- Experience of business planning, performance management, managing budgets and can demonstrate adherence to relevant regulations (e.g. public sector procurement regulations)

Essential Knowledge and Skills

- Strong collaboration and leadership skills
- Excellent customer management skills in building relationships and presentations to senior and strategic leaders/customers

- Experienced senior manager skilled in managing and motivating financial teams
- Excellent communication, reasoning, negotiation and influencing skills, both oral and written
- Ability to analyse and solve complex problems creatively and pragmatically and the ability to use initiative
- Exceptional project direction and management skills, ability to manage multiple timelines, deadlines and actions in a collaborative fast paced environment
- IT skills including use of digital and social media, Word, excel, PowerPoint
- Knowledge of Microsoft Dynamics GP with eRequest or SAGE and Nolan Business Solutions is desirable.

Other requirements

- No formal affiliation with any political party.

Review Arrangements

This job information cannot be all encompassing. It is inevitable over time that the emphasis of the job will change without changing the general character of the job or the level of duties and responsibilities entailed. This information may be periodically reviewed, revised and updated in consultation with the post holder to reflect appropriate changes.

Equal Opportunities:

We do our utmost to ensure that there is no unjustified discrimination in the recruitment, retention, training and development of staff on the basis of their age, sexuality, religion or belief, race, gender or disabilities.