



Forster Chase

Professional Services

M&A/Corporate Finance

Executive Search

Advisory

Transaction Services

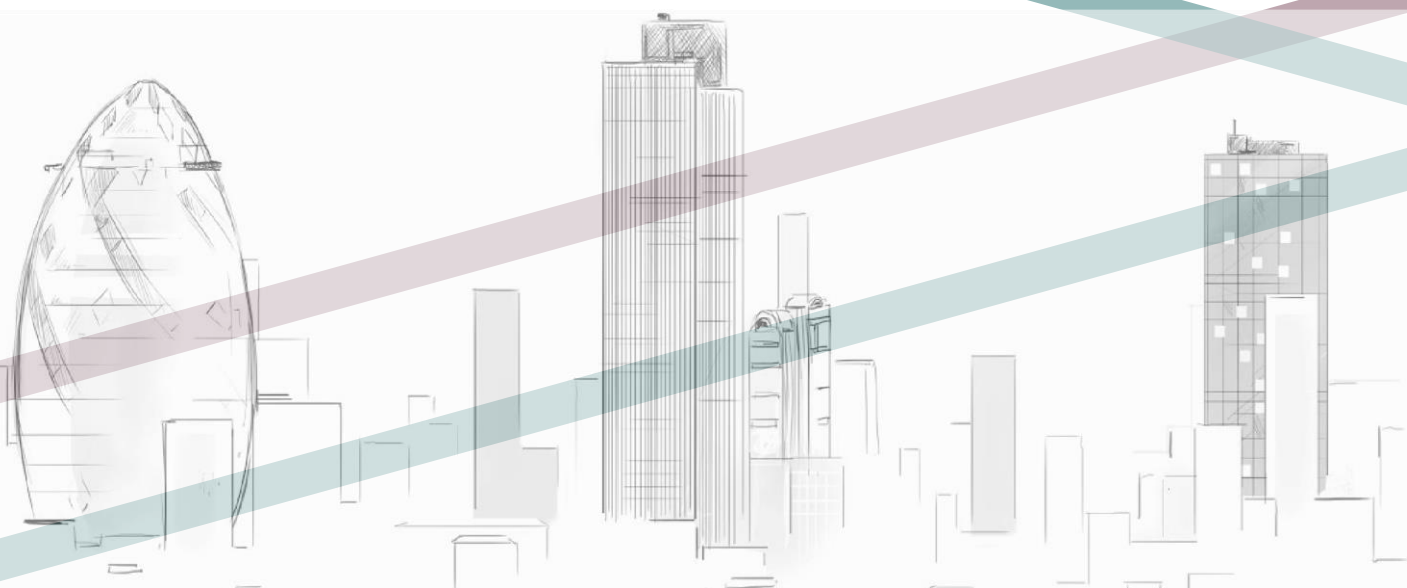
Taxation Services

INTRODUCTION

The Forster Chase Group supports clients in the delivery of their strategy at various stages in the business lifecycle. We are strategic advisors, strategy implementors and M&A business advisors with a difference. We are sector agnostic having worked across a range of industries and asset classes thanks to our extensive board and chairman network.

When working with clients, we provide a full spectrum of services by using Forster Chase specialists within different disciplines. We have a strong mix of experienced consultants in Corporate Finance, M&A, Strategic advice, Transaction Services, Taxation Services and Executive Search as well as Interim Managers who are former or current CEOs, CFOs, Chief Actuaries, COOs, CTOs, General Counsels who between them have worked across some of the largest companies in the world as well as in smaller start-ups or scale ups.

The seniority of our staff is what makes our offering unique. Every single person involved in a project, be it a transaction or a strategic piece of work has been on both sides of the deal before many times and will act in the best interest of our clients no matter the circumstances. We are the only firm in the market to provide an end-to-end Corporate Advisory and M&A solution under one group including succession planning Executive Search.



Forster Chase

M&A | FUNDRAISING | INTERIM | EXEC SEARCH



OUR NETWORK

We have connections in major global corporates, private equity, smaller boutique firms as well as not for profits and government. We have long-standing relationships with CEOs, Chairmen and Strategy Directors which means we can assess potential interest very quickly, allowing us to concentrate on areas where deals are much more likely to happen. We are also regularly approached by international investors and private equity businesses who are looking to enter specific markets – these are generally contacts that more local boutique strategic advisors simply wouldn't have.

We believe we offer an unrivalled service because of both our extensive network and reach as well as our in-depth specialisms combined with decades of experience. Choosing Forster Chase as your strategic advisor means you can be assured that you will have the best talent available working on your behalf every time. We work across the UK, Europe, Asia and Australasia.



OUR SERVICES

The Forster Chase Group can support you in any strategic requirement. From helping start-ups to connect to people and companies to accelerate growth to working with major corporations to identify their next strategic acquisition.

Each of our service areas are run by specialised Partners who have extraordinarily successful track records in their chosen fields and careers, when you engage with us you will deal directly with a Partner who will conduct all professional work personally and oversee all administration of mandates.

Please see below for the full range of services:

- **Forster Chase Ventures** small PE Fund focused on Fintech
- **M&A Advisory** for disposals and acquisitions
- **Fundraising** from Institutional Investors, PE, VC, Angel, etc
- **Corporate Finance** execution of deals
- **Start-Up Incubation** through Consultants or Executive Support
- **Interim Management / Management Consultancy / Project Work** business turnaround, risk and regulatory support, transformation projects
- **Executive Search** for C-level and Non-Execs
- **Transaction Services** including Due Diligence for M&A
- **Taxation Services** including Tax structuring





OUR TEAM

FORSTER CHASE CORPORATE FINANCE



BENNY HIGGINS
EXECUTIVE CHAIR AND HEAD OF M&A

Benny has extensive experience within the financial services industry. During a career which started in 1983 at Standard Life, he has held senior positions within the worlds of investment management, retail and business banking.

From being a Member of the Group Executive at Standard Life, Benny moved to RBS (in 1997) as Chief Executive of Retail Banking. He was with RBS until 2005. During this time he led the successful integration of NatWest Retail Banking - the largest single merger in UK banking for some time. Before joining Tesco Bank, Benny served as Chief Executive Officer of the Retail Business of HBOS plc.



CHRIS GROVE
FOUNDING PARTNER & HEAD OF CLIENTS

Chris is a founding partner of Forster Chase and works within our Corporate Finance division as Head of Clients. Chris has bought, managed and sold multi-million pound businesses and previously ran a boutique M&A business in England and Scotland. He has built up a network over many years that is ideal for the rapidly changing business world in which Forster Chase advise.

His network of C level Executives and Non-Execs in the Financial Services and Technology arena is particularly robust and allows Forster Chase access to contacts at the highest level in the country.



LEO MEGGITT
FOUNDING PARTNER & HEAD OF STRATEGY

Leo is a founding partner at Forster Chase and works within our advisory division as Head of Strategy.

Leo has worked in executive search and leadership consulting for 15 years, covering the asset management, pension funds and private equity sectors. He oversees the development of our strategy across our services of M&A, executive search, start-up advisory, strategic advisory, ensuring that these services are best aligned for our clients. His connections within the institutional investment world have proved invaluable to many projects we have conducted for companies.



FRANCIS MARTIN
MANAGING PARTNER

Francis is a Managing Partner within our advisory division. He is an accomplished and senior business advisory professional with extensive experience working at the highest levels of business to provide board level advice to clients, focusing on mergers and acquisitions, business transformation and operational effectiveness, strategy, capability building, finance, growth, profitability and value creation.

Prior to joining Forster Chase Francis spent 24 years' as a Partner, including 2 terms as Managing Partner of BDO Northern Ireland, has undertaken several non-executive roles, including, most recently, President and Chair of British Chambers of Commerce. He was awarded a CBE in the Queen's Birthday Honours List in June 2019 for Services to UK Business.



ADAM HARRIS
MANAGING PARTNER

Adam has a wealth of experience in corporate finance and private equity, having completed an extensive amount of deals over many years as an investor and an advisor. He's been at the forefront of acquiring, growing, managing and selling multiple organisations from start-ups to multinationals across a broad spectrum of sectors. Adam draws upon his vast network of private equity and venture capital contacts as well as key corporations. He was formally a Partner in a European private equity fund; he started his career with JP Morgan In London having gained a degree in Physiology from the University of Oxford.



FORSTER CHASE EXECUTIVE SEARCH



MARK BEACOM
MANAGING PARTNER

Mark runs Forster Chase's board practice, recruiting C-level Executives and Non- Executive Directors. He focuses on scale-up companies in the early to medium stages of growth funding, private equity portfolio companies and small/mid-cap businesses as well as NEDs for Larger financial services and FTSE listed businesses. Mark has a demonstrable track record successfully working in the Manufacturing and the Built Environment Sectors.

Prior to joining Forster Chase, Mark spent 15 years as a Director of a global search and selection organisation with responsibility for their business in the UK. His early career was spent with Whitbread plc, De Vere and Walmart. He holds a Business Degree and a Post Graduate Diploma in Psychology

KEY OPERATIONAL STAFF



ANDREW BREACH
DIRECTOR OF RESEARCH

Andrew spent the first 19 years of his career in the City in Corporate and Investment Banking with NatWest & RBS Group where he structured highly complex project and export finance transactions. Subsequently he became Head of the Financial Services Practice for a global support services firm.

At Forster Chase, Andrew is currently a director within our research and delivery function helping to deliver corporate finance advisory transactions across the financial services spectrum. Andrew holds the Cert CIB from the Chartered Institute of Bankers.



ESTHER ZHENG-GROVE
DIRECTOR OF RESEARCH

Esther Zheng-Grove is an experienced head-hunter within Executive Search. She has a specialism in Commerce and Industry sectors such as FMCG, Manufacturing and Pharmaceuticals as well as in Technology and Service sectors. She leads the Research Function in both Forster Chase Advisory and Search, providing up to date market information on both senior executives and acquisition targets.

Prior to starting her career in recruitment, Esther also ran her own IT start-up with a business partner that in five years grew to a turnover of £2M and was sold to a large PE backed Office Services Group. Esther has a degree in Law from the London School of Economics and is part qualified CIMA.



ALEX BRADSHAW
PROJECT SUPPORT

Alex's career spans more than 15 years providing senior-level support within Financial Services, Executive Search, Media and the property industry. She has worked with the senior team of Forster Chase since 2018.

At Forster Chase, Alex plays a key role in ensuring projects are run smoothly and efficiently. Alex provides support to the rest of the team on meeting liaison, research, document management, compiling reports and ensuring the clients are kept informed throughout.

NON-EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS



RODNEY BAKER-BATES
CHAIRMAN, FORSTER CHASE GROUP

Rodney has had a long career in the financial industry. His current portfolio of Chairmanships includes: Willis Ltd, Ridgeons Group Ltd, Shropshire Group Holding, and Vice-Chairman AtlasFram Group Ltd.

Since starting his career with Glyn Mills and Company (now incorporated within the Royal Bank of Scotland) in 1966, Rodney has held many Chairmanships and commercial appointments for a variety of organisations, including Stobart Group, EG Solutions, Arthur Andersen, Chase Manhattan Bank, Midland Bank, BBC, Prudential and Coral.



BABLOO RAMAMURTHY
NON-EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, FORSTER CHASE GROUP

Babloo's career spanned nearly 35 years with Willis Towers Watson, a leading global management consultancy including Managing Director of Willis Towers Watson's business in Europe, Middle East and Africa and a member of the firm's Global Executive Committee.

Since retiring Babloo has taken on a number of non-executive director roles including Chairman of the B&CE Group, Chairman of RPMI Limited and Chairman of Scottish Widows' Independent Governance Committee.



NICK WATTS
CHAIRMAN, FORSTER CHASE EXECUTIVE SEARCH

Nick's executive career was focused on the investment and pensions industry. His early roles included senior positions with Rothschild, Citibank and HSBC before spending 12 years with Watson Wyatt (now Willis Towers Watson) as Head of Investment Practice for Europe.

Nick's non-executive career has included numerous Chair and Senior Independent Director roles including; Chair of the Investment Committee for Cable and Wireless Pension Fund (£2bn fund), Chair of Corporate Governance and SID for Legal & General Investment Management and Chair of Biotics PTY Ltd, a growth stage biotech company.

ADDITIONAL CONSULTANTS



KEN FLEMING
IPO SPECIALIST

Ken is a highly experienced investment banker and qualified corporate lawyer who has led numerous successful IPOs, secondary fundraisings and M&A transactions across various sectors including technology, energy and finance.

Ken was most recently a Managing Director with Macquarie Capital, where, amongst other roles, he headed up the Equity Capital Markets operation in London. Prior to that he was one of the founders of Cenkos Securities operation in Edinburgh, a Divisional Director (Corporate Finance) at Brewin Dolphin and a Director at Allied Provincial Securities.



KEITH GIBSON
CONSULTANT

Keith has had an extensive career in corporate finance, working for consultancies including PWC and EY, corporate finance boutiques and for large Banks including the Royal Bank of Scotland. In his last executive role he was Managing Partner for Clyde Blowers Capital. Keith has completed thousands of deals over the years and brings with him a vast knowledge of corporate finance deals and structures as well as how to overcome obstacles.



Forster Chase

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