workgroup *presents*

workgroup cfo

LONDON
WALLACESPACE, SPITALFIELDS
6TH NOVEMBER 2025

Mike Finnegan — Chief Financial Officer, Americas — Vanguard
Bruno Marion — Chief Financial Officer, France — P&G
Heather Wood — Chief Financial Officer — JoJo
Amy Ng — Chief Financial Officer — HIAB
Kathryn Sherratt — Chief Financial Officer — RNIB
Oli Olgen — Head of Finance, Europe — SAMSUNG
Amy Lynch — Finance Director — FATFACE
Funto Agbeniga — Head of Finance — GB Railfreight

THE ONLY EVENT FOR CFOS, RUN BY CFOS

with thanks to our partners ADP Gateley

Here's *how it works*

"Workgroup" isn't just our name; it's also how we operate. Workgroups are small discussion groups of up to ten CFOs, designed to foster candid, vulnerable conversations. The day alternates between these intimate group discussions and full-audience panels on the big, juicy topics.

Workgroups

A workgroup is an hour-long, CFO-led discussion group of up to 10 CFOs There are 3 rounds of workgroups, each with six options to choose from.

Panels

Panels are where we discuss the big topics as a group. 3 CFOs, 1 moderator and full audience involvement. There are 3 panels over the course of the day.

The Schedule

0900-0940	Registration
0940-1020	Panel 1
1020-1110	Workgroups 1
1110-1130	Round-ups
1130-1150	Break
1150-1240	Workgroups 2
1245-1300	Round-ups
1300-1350	Lunch
1350-1430	Panel 2
1430-1520	Workgroups 3
1520-1540	Round-ups
1540-1600	Break
1600-1640	Panel 3
1640+	Drinks

Our previous attendees include; Greggs, Meta, co op, unicef, PRIMARK, EVRi, NOKIA, Canva, dfs, Mondelēz International, Bell, mind, BT, AVIVA, Lidl, coursera, Macmillan Cancer Support, ASDA, Pets at Home, Oxfam, Hello Fresh, Starbucks, mamas & papas, Fever-Tree, Lloyds Bank, gsk, Warburtons, amazon web services, mitie, golfgalf, boohoo, Fujitsu, Coca-Cola, Marshalls, eon, LG Electronics, serco, Vellanova, Taylor Wimpey, COSTA

Panel 1

Kicking off the day with our first panel.

CFO, not CPA?

Does every modern CFO still need an accounting background or has the job outgrown its roots?

With AI handling the ledgers and specialist teams owning the technicals, today's CFOs are expected to lead with vision, not just precision. Is it enough to speak the language of finance, or do you still need to know how to write it?

Mike Finnegan — Chief Financial Officer, Americas — Vanguard
Funto Agbeniga — Head of Finance — GB Railfreight
Janet Sippy — Finance Director, Europe — APCO
Moderator: Premal Parekh — Founder & Chief Financial Officer — PPP Advisory

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1st workgroup

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Ctrl + Alt + Delete

When should we pull the plug on a valued team member, and when is it worth pushing through to make it work?

Amy Lynch, Finance Director, **Fatface**

Make yourself at home

As CFOs, should we lead our teams like family or keep clear lines of hierarchy? How do we balance care, loyalty, and belonging with accountability and performance?

Rebecca Read, Group Finance Director, **rimes**

Is this it?

Is being CFO the end of our career paths? How do we find new purpose when the goalposts stop moving?

Jennifer Challenger, Former CFO & Executive Coach

Beyond the gilet

Shouldn't we CFOs challenge the "finance bro" narrative? How do we buck this stereotype, and redefine what finance looks like?

Tom Moran, Chief Financial Officer, **KOMI GROUP**

Likes don't pay the bills

Marketing chases followers, finance chases ROI. How can we as CFOs connect brand buzz to real business impact?

Liyun Ye, Chief Financial Officer, **Design Museum**

Smooth operators

To be great CFOs, do we also need to be great diplomats? How do we build a boardroom dynamic where others feel safe bringing us ideas even after we've had to shut them down?

Mike Finnegan, Chief Financial Officer, Americas, **Vanguard**

2nd workgroup

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Tough love

How do we as CFOs give honest, tangible feedback that pushes our teams to grow without constant oversight? How do we strike the balance between accountability and empowerment?

Mandeep Sahota, Chief Financial Officer, UK, **Landor**

Feathers will be ruffled

How do we as CFOs push back and hold the board accountable without fear of jeopardising relationships? How can we balance personal dynamics while staying effective?

Heather Wood-Stringer, Chief Financial Officer, **JoJo Maman Bébé**

Say it with your face screen

What are we missing as CFOs when we're not in the room? Without body language and presence, how do we navigate cross-cultural nuance in remote conversations?

Bruno Marion, Chief Financial Officer, France, **P&G**

People or platform?

When should we as CFOs invest in building strong in-house teams, and when is it smarter to outsource or automate? How do we strike the right balance between humans and tools?

Oli Olgen, Head of Finance, Europe, **Samsung Electronics**

Feeding the fire

How do we as CFOs feed our own fire for knowledge and growth while making sure that energy pushes the business forward too?

Amy Ng, Chief Financial Officer, **Hiab**

Dataphiles anonymous

Everyone wants data, but more isn't always better. How can we as CFOs break the cycle of metric overload and focus on what truly matters?

Janet Sippy, Finance Director, Europe, **APCO**

Panel 2

Easing you back in from lunch with our second panel session.

Boomers to zoomers

How do we, as CFOs, lead a finance function that spans five generations?

Gen Z is challenging hierarchy, questioning process, and redefining what work looks like. As CFOs, we need to manage the tension, harness the strengths, and guide a team that spans from spreadsheets to Slack.

Amy Lynch — Finance Director — FATFACE
Atif Hafeez — Global CFO & Board Advisor
Tom Moran — Chief Financial Officer — KOMI
Moderator: Lorna Wake — Chief Financial Officer — ADP

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Default settings

If everything we do trains the machine, what are we unconsciously coding in? How do we as CFOs set intentional standards before the defaults take over?

Atif Hafeez, Global CFO & Board Advisor

System Overload

How much ERP is too much ERP? When one size doesn't fit all, how do we as CFOs handle global complexity without getting buried in mismatched systems, local needs, and platform fatigue?

Olaide Yussuf, Chief Financial Officer, **Freelance**

Playing the game

How can we as CFOs build the right relationships, inside and outside the business, to break silos, grow our teams, and strengthen our influence? And can we teach our teams to play the game too?

Funto Agbeniga, Head of Finance, **GB railfreight**

Fluff lovers & focus keepers

When does storytelling help, and when does it get in the way? How do we as CFOs indulge the fluff lovers while still getting to the bottom line?

Kathryn Sherratt, Chief Financial Officer, **RNIB**

Get off the hamster wheel

How do we as CFOs spot performative productivity and promote genuine results when expectations around work ethic vary across cultures, boards, and teams? After all, not all hard work means progress, does it?

Tim Holbrow, Chief Financial Officer, **Nothing**

Bitten by the hand you fed

When we lead with kindness and trust, how do we stay true to ourselves, stay accountable, and still stay protected? Where's the line between empowering your team and being left to take the fall?

Mark Gallacher, Chief Financial Officer, **Equans**

Panel 3

Confessions of a CFO

We've all blown a budget, backed the wrong call, or missed the obvious. Now what?

This is where ego takes a backseat. CFOs share their most painful and formative mistakes. The misfires, regrets, and plain old "what was I thinking" moments. It's not just storytime. It's an open mic for lessons learned the hard way. Bring your worst. Leave a little lighter.

Heather Wood — Chief Financial Officer — JoJo
Oli Olgen — Head of Finance, Europe — SAMSUNG
Rebecca Read — Group Finance Director — rimes
Moderator: Bernhard Gilbey — Partner — Gateley

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