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Grant Thornton’s Whaley to lead growth of Yorkshire corporate finance advisory team

Grant Thornton has strengthened its Northern corporate finance advisory practice with the return to Leeds of Phil Whaley.

Phil, who has been with Grant Thornton since 2002 and specialises in mergers and acquisitions, spent ten years in Leeds before taking up positions with the firm’s offices in London and Manchester. He returns to lead the firm’s seven-strong corporate finance advisory team in Yorkshire and the North East, that continues to work closely with colleagues in the North West as part of the firm’s integrated Northern corporate finance advisory team.

“This is a great opportunity for me to move back to my Yorkshire roots and play a key part in not just building our own business but also helping our clients realise their ambitions,” comments Phil.

“As part of Grant Thornton’s Northern team, we have a strong presence throughout the region, and we are busier than we have been for a number of years executing deals and servicing clients across Yorkshire, the North East and the North West.

“Already this year, the Yorkshire team has been involved in deals with Fusion Group, Augean plc and Hallam Medical, and, in conjunction with our colleagues in Grant Thornton’s transactional advisory services team, we are delivering deals for growing private businesses, large corporates, and private equity across the Northern region.
“We are seeing an upturn of activity in business support services, healthcare and industrials in particular, and we expect the momentum to continue to build.”

Grant Thornton’s 13-strong Northern team, headed by the firm’s national head of corporate finance advisory, Ali Sharifi, includes seven Yorkshire-based experts. As well as key individuals based in Leeds such as Phil Whaley, Stephen Leah and Kate Lawrenson, the team includes Claire Davis in Sheffield and Zara Lane in Newcastle.

“As the deals market continues to improve, we are in an ideal position to work with stakeholders in dynamic and growing companies, helping them to unlock their potential for growth and access international markets,” Phil concludes.

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Picture shows (L to R front): Zara Lane; Phil Whaley; and Claire Davis; with (back row L to R) Mohammed Miah; Louis Casimir-Cohn; Josh McGuire; Kate Lawrenson; and Stephen Leah of Grant Thornton’s Northern corporate finance team

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