

Deloitte

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## Leading Dealmaker to Take Reins at Deloitte



Deloitte has announced that the senior partner of its North East practice, Geoff Taylor, will retire at the end of this year and well known dealmaker Martin Jenkins, who has led the firm's corporate finance team for the past eight years, will step up to replace him.

Jenkins (42) joined Andersen in Leeds as a graduate in 1989, before specialising in corporate finance in the early nineties. He has been one of the region's leading dealmakers since he became a partner in 2001 and joined Deloitte in 2002 as part of the Andersen transaction.

He has advised on many of the region's landmark transactions over the past 15 years and has been named dealmaker of the year a total of four times in the last decade. As a corporate finance partner, Jenkins will break a trend that has previously seen audit partners in the role of practice senior partner.

Geoff Taylor said: "I have now led the Leeds offices of both Andersen and Deloitte and it is a very opportune time for me to take a step back from the role as well as the practice. Martin is a very well

known and respected figure in the business community and a hugely capable partner who will bring a new perspective and fresh approach to the leadership of the firm. From a personal perspective, I am proud to hand over the leadership of the practice from a position of great strength in the market.”

Taylor (56), who has been based in Leeds for more than 20 years, is leaving the firm and the profession after a career as an auditor of a number of the UK’s leading businesses. He will leave the partnership and Jenkins will formally take the position on 31<sup>st</sup> December 2010.

“It is a great privilege to be given the opportunity to lead the Yorkshire and North East practice. We have an exceptional team of people who are committed to providing outstanding advice and service to our clients. Geoff has been a great partner and leader of the firm and we wish him well in his retirement,” commented Jenkins.

Deloitte’s offices in Leeds and Newcastle comprise 82 partners and directors, employ a total of 538 people and have just hired 42 new graduates. The merger with property specialists Drivers Jonas in March this year delivered a new market specialism and illustrates the innovation and breadth of expertise that Jenkins believes will be crucial to the firm’s continued success.

“Our clients’ needs have changed a great deal over the past two years and we will continue to develop our business to deliver the most relevant expertise in a period of continued economic change.

“The last year has seen significant growth in our tax, public sector, debt advisory and financial services practices together with a partial recovery in the M&A market. The addition of a specialist property consultancy to the firm is already having a positive impact on our ability to advise many clients.

“We will maintain our focus on helping businesses deal with new challenges and in the coming years we will be looking for more ways to broaden our expertise and service offering,” he added.

Jenkins will continue to be active in the deals market as he will remain as leader of the firm’s corporate finance advisory team in the region.

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**Photography:**

Geoff Taylor (l) and Martin Jenkins outside Deloitte’s offices in City Square, Leeds.