

## **Finance recruitment market, April 2011**

The finance recruitment market in the North East is experiencing mixed fortunes. Candidates searching for roles at the part-qualified to recently qualified level (30-40k) have seen a steady flow of opportunities over the past six months. These roles have tended to be in the region's larger businesses that have been searching for candidates with good technical accounting knowledge; therefore ACA's from the 'Big 4' and some independent firms have been in high demand. In addition, as the manufacturing sector has seen a period of growth, a number of businesses have been seeking to find strong management accountants. Those candidates with the CIMA qualification and experience of working in manufacturing often have more than one option, when entering the job market.

The senior end of the market (Finance Directors, Financial Controllers and Finance Managers) where salaries are typically in the £40k+ bracket has experienced lower levels of recruitment activity. At Nigel Wright we are aware of a number of senior finance professionals who are looking for a move but who are finding the market relatively stagnant. Typically, those in higher paid senior finance positions are being cautious and undertaking due diligence into prospective employers, to get as much information as possible about that business and its future prospects.

On a more positive note, we have noticed significantly increased levels of recruitment activity in the interim market. A number of high quality finance professionals who were out of work for various reasons have been able to utilise their skills and gain experience of different businesses and sectors, on temporary contracts. This will hopefully increase their chances of finding permanent roles going forward.

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