

CORPORATE FINANCE

MOVING UP TO THE MAIN MARKET



PLANNING A MOVE FROM AIM TO THE MAIN MARKET?

WHAT IS A READINESS REVIEW?

- A free of charge assessment of how prepared your company is for a move up from AIM to the Main Market, with a particular focus on accounting and financial aspects
- Includes a discussion of the differences between AIM and a Premium or Standard listing on the Main Market, if this has not yet been considered
- It provides the board/management with an indication of practical steps that can be taken in the short term to assist a move

WHY PERFORM A READINESS REVIEW?

- Preparation work for a move to the Main Market can be onerous. Have opportunities been identified to bring work forward and thereby reduce the pressure on management nearer to the time of the move?
- Have all potential future stumbling blocks been identified and resolved?
- Only well prepared companies are likely to be able to meet investors' requirements and thereby take best advantage of windows of opportunity to move

OUTPUTS

- Verbal discussion of priority areas and recommendations, with the option of a brief report if required
- If required, assistance with implementing recommendations
- Readiness reviews are performed by experienced members of our Corporate Finance Transaction Services team in conjunction with specialist support from across the firm

ABOUT BDO

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See overleaf for some of the areas that we would typically investigate. ►



SOME OF THE AREAS WE WOULD TYPICALLY INVESTIGATE

AIM vs Premium vs Standard listing – what are the pros and cons of each, including the differences in work required and the implications for continuing obligations and costs post-move

Management team – are the board and management structure suitable for a Main Market listed company, taking into account any changes in corporate governance requirements? Is there sufficient resource to cope with the demands of the move process?

Corporate structuring and taxation – if required, are there any opportunities to refine the corporate structure and jurisdiction at the same time as the move, in order to optimise tax?

Historical financial information – does the company have adequate audited financial information, and have there been any significant acquisitions which may require additional financial information, based on rules applicable to the Main Market? Will a new opinion from the reporting accountants be required?

Financial reporting procedures – are these appropriate for a Main Market listed company? What diligence work might be expected in respect of these and how can this be prepared for? Can shorter reporting deadlines for interims and full year results be met?

Remuneration schemes – if required, what changes in remuneration and incentive schemes for directors and key employees might be considered?

Due diligence preparation – have financial and legal information requirements been established? Has work commenced on gathering documentation?

Timetable – what might be a realistic timetable in which to achieve the move?



'Tax Team of the Year' 2009 and 2008

'Audit Team of the Year' 2008

'Corporate Finance Deal of the Year' 2008

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