

## 9 September 2025 HFW, 8 Bishopsgate, London EC2N 4BQ

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## Draft agenda, subject to change

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- 00.80	BREAKFAST AND NETWORKING
08.30	Grab a coffee and croissant, and connect with your peers!
08.30 -	WELCOME
08.40	Richard Brent, head of content, Briefing
08.40 -	KEYNOTE: Steering a course through economic uncertainty and geo-
09.15	political chaos
	Persistent macroeconomic uncertainty, including slow growth, 'stagflation' and
	geopolitical instability; these are the economic pressures which require an agile
	and proactive approach to financial planning and risk management. How can
	finance leaders steer their firms through these uncertainties while maintaining
	profitability and supporting long-term growth?
	Yael Selfin, vice chair and chief economist, KPMG
09:15 –	LEADERS PANEL: Growth, profitability and business planning in uncertainty
10:05	Delivering growth in an uncertain world?
	Managing the tension between the pressure to drive up productivity versus
	the push for growth
	How to balance hybrid working and growth plans with long leases
	The role of tech in releasing lockup and improving the firm's financial
	position
	How to engage leadership teams with longer-term planning
	Andy Stephens, chief finance officer, Browne Jacobson
	James Webb, chief finance officer One Europe, Clifford Chance
	Jenny Elgie, chief finance officer, Womble Bond Dickinson
	Mike Giles, chief finance officer, HFW Paul Suffield, managing director, Attest Group, Board Legal SME Advisor
	Chair: Richard Brent, head of content, Briefing
10:05 –	FINANCE FOCUS: All and the pricing/cost conundrum
10:45	As genAl continues to be rolled out at pace, there is an emerging set of
	challenges around cost structures, client expectations around pricing and
	value, and the reallocation of fee-earners' time.
	Chris Stanton, chief financial officer, Shoosmiths
	James Brown, senior partner and managing director UK, Simon Kucher & Partners
	Rhona Ibrahim, commercial pricing manager – finance, Fieldfisher
	Chair: Richard Brent, head of content, Briefing

10.45 –	COFFEE BREAK
11:00	Continue the conversation over a brew
11:00 –	ROUNDTABLES: strategies to improve working capital, reduce lock up and
11:45	harness efficiencies to drive profitability
	Choose a table and share your perspective on the strategic challenge for
	finance leaders
	Strategies for improving WIP to cash/lockup
	Building commercial awareness to get fee-earners to think like finance leaders
	<ul> <li>Navigating business transformation: getting started with overhauling legacy systems</li> </ul>
	Smart Resourcing: matching skills, roles, and tools for maximum efficiency
11:45 –	QUICK BREAK
11:50	Refill your coffee, stretch your legs and get ready for the next sessions
11:50 –	QUICKFIRE ROUND-TABLE FEEDBACK
12:10	A chance to hear the key takeaways from all the roundtable discussions
12:10 –	KEYNOTE: All change – why finance transformation needs to be a top priority
12:40	Finance transformation is vital to provide the insights and critical thinking that
	firms need to unlock growth and profitability in an ever tighter market. This
	session will consider the operating models, technology and finance processes
	that are right for your firm to deliver real-time data insights.
	Tom Williams, Partner, PwC
12.40 -	CLOSING REMARKS
12:45	Richard Brent, head of content, Briefing
12.45 -	LUNCH
13:45	Join us for a light lunch before heading back to your desk