## Finance consultancy to recruit in Yorkshire amid push to £6m turnover

Finance intermediary ABL Business says it wants to significantly increase headcount across its Yorkshire operation as part of a growth plan.

The Cleckheaton-based consultancy — which helps firms raise finance — says it wants to reach £6m turnover in the next three years and aims to open another 12 locations across the UK in the same period.

In addition to its Yorkshire presence, ABL <u>opened a North East</u> <u>office last year</u> and also runs a South West office from Bridgwater.

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Alex Beardsley, joint managing director at ABL Business, said: "As an intermediary, our 360-degree view of the complex commercial funding market is increasingly popular with businesses, and their advisors, looking for independent advice to structure and secure the best possible finance package.

"The funding is out there for UK businesses looking to grow, but they and their advisors no longer know where to go to get independent, unaffiliated support to ensure they access the best deal.

"Add to this the fact that commercial lending is going to be more difficult to secure because of the pandemic – plus the lack of ability for businesses to access to bank managers unless they have a turnover of plus £5million or they are a prime customer – means the need for independent commercial finance advice is greater than ever.

"This represents a huge growth opportunity for ABL Business as we are uniquely positioned to help.

"We have a proven business model that works, and we are now actively recruiting for finance consultants, senior finance consultants and regional managing directors to help shape the future of the company."

Earlier this year, former Handelsbanken UK chief operating officer Andy Copsey joined ABL's board as a non-executive director to advise on and deliver its growth plans.

At the time, Mr Copsey said: "I am delighted to be joining ABL at a time when the UK commercial finance and banking market is changing quickly, and businesses are increasingly seeking commercial finance consultancy that is independent of lenders.

"ABL's business proposition gives business owners and advisors an independent view of the complex commercial funding environment, thus delivering real value to businesses, and the UK economy, while fulfilling a crucial market requirement that is getting greater by the day."

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