

Case Study: Appointment of Chief Operating Officer, the Education and Training Foundation

As the sector-owned national support body for the Further Education and Training sector, the Education and Training Foundation (ETF), plays a pivotal role in improving and setting the standards of teaching, training and leadership in the sector.

Following a recommendation from one of ETF's Board Members, Parkhouse Bell was invited to tender for, and was subsequently awarded, the lead role for the executive search for ETF's Chief Operating Officer. This was a newly-created position, crucial to strengthening ETF's senior capacity to further support the achievement of the Foundation's growth aspirations and its ongoing success.

ETF were specifically looking to attract candidates with experience in at least two of the three areas of public service; education or training; and commercial management. To build a suitable field of candidates, Parkhouse Bell thoroughly mapped organisations, encompassing private training providers, government and funding bodies, awarding organisations, universities, professional services companies, outsourced services providers, and complex, multi-sector Plc organisations.

Prospective candidates were approached, and taken through a rigorous pre-qualifying interview process. ETF were then presented with a refined, competitive field of senior operational leaders who exemplified the initial brief. Parkhouse Bell then continued to support ETF throughout their internal interview process, and during offer negotiations.

The successful candidate was appointed from the education and training sector, having led a complex and innovative joint venture between a not-for-profit organisation and a large Plc – the first of its kind in the UK.

Following the appointment, ETF Chief Executive, David Russell, announced that the new COO, ***“...will be a fantastic addition to our senior team and will hugely boost our leadership capacity and take our organisational development to the next level.”***

ETF additionally commented on Parkhouse Bell's management of ***“... a multi-stage selection process which produced several extremely strong and appointable candidates.”***

Press Release: [Parkhouse Bell leads appointment of Chief Operating Officer for the Education and Training Foundation](#)