

Performance improvement

Financial effectiveness

We support CEOs, CFOs, controllers and treasurers to optimise the structure of finance functions to improve their contribution to the business. We structure our support to ensure that finance optimally addresses the challenges of achieving appropriate standards of control, efficient back office opportunities and support to the business through insight and challenge. Until recently, the emphasis for finance has been control characterised by a heavy focus on SOX compliance. Now, the focus for many has turned to Insight and Efficiency. Optimising these three competing priorities is the challenge for the finance function.

Maintaining compliance and control:

Being accountable to the business and to the financial community, CFOs have put compliance and control to the top of the agenda. For many, responses have to date been tactical rather than strategic. More deeply embedded and sustainable solutions are now required. Flexibility to respond to regulatory change is also increasingly important.

Driving efficiency: The pressure to release resources and capacity and manage costs has never been greater. Gains may come from the elimination of redundant activities, consolidation of activities, standardisation

and automation of processes. These steps have in some instances resulted in substantial cost savings.

Providing insight and challenge:

Insight takes different forms in different organisations. It involves delivery of an effective performance management framework, understanding and responding to the key business drivers and challenging and supporting business decisions around these drivers. Equipping finance to deliver effective support to the key corporate objectives requires tools and capabilities which are often new to the function.

We can help you with:

- Obtaining a 'snapshot' of finance's progress towards optimising competing priorities of maintaining control, driving efficiency and providing insight and value.
- Creating a vision for finance.
- Creating an integrated, automated internal control environment that is linked to an efficient testing and compliance process.
- Reducing complexity and cost within the finance function and create standardized, streamlined processes.
- Optimising finance function technology to create an integrated finance application platform that maximizes automation, enhances data quality and improves control at a reasonable cost.
- Creating a standardized close and consolidation process that provides accurate and timely results.
- Consolidating processes to reduce costs, increase quality and improve consistency and productivity.
- Aligning skills and competencies to the needs of the finance function and clarify roles and responsibilities.
- Translating strategy into sustainable performance.
- Optimising existing management information systems.

By enabling you to:

- Evaluate benchmarking of finance functions against an agreed peer group and a series of recognisable industry practices from PwC's Global Best Practices® and implement recommendations for change.
- Design and implement medium and long-term strategic plans and establishing business cases to support them.
- Integrate risk management and control functions to more efficiently and effectively address governance, risk and compliance issues.
- Undertake financial transformation activities and re-calibrate organizational design.
- Perform technology enhancements including general ledger optimisation projects and implementations.
- Design and implement improvement plans e.g. chart of accounts, consolidation models etc.
- Assess the close process; design and implement improvement plans.
- Reengineer certain finance processes.
- Assess and implement shared services and outsourcing options.
- Assess the current finance team's capabilities.
- Receive multi-level, narrow and broad spectrum training.
- Benefit from finance function executive search & selection.
- Design and implement performance management systems.
- Assess budgeting, planning, and reporting functions and implement designed solutions.



Figure 1

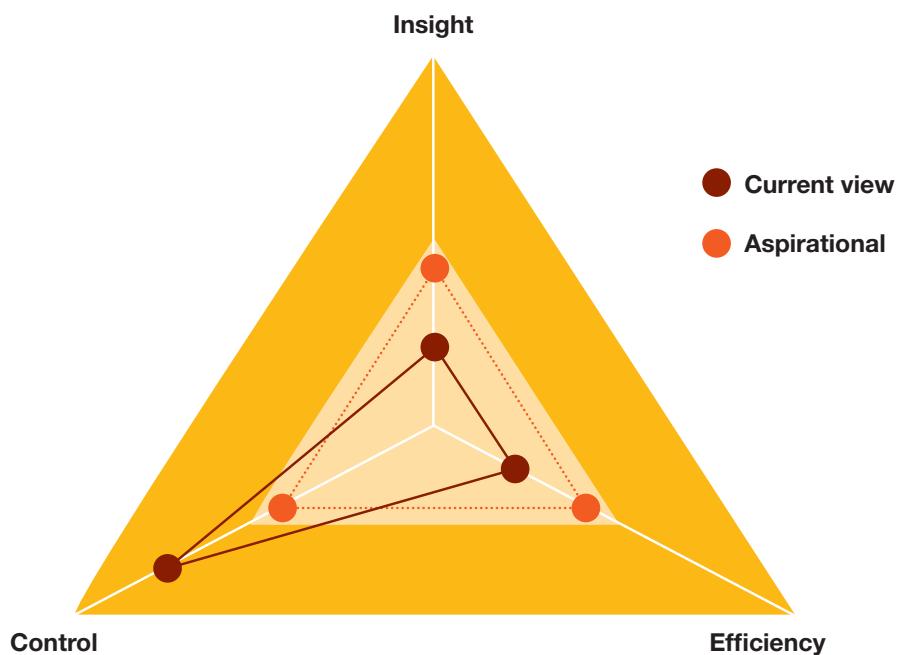
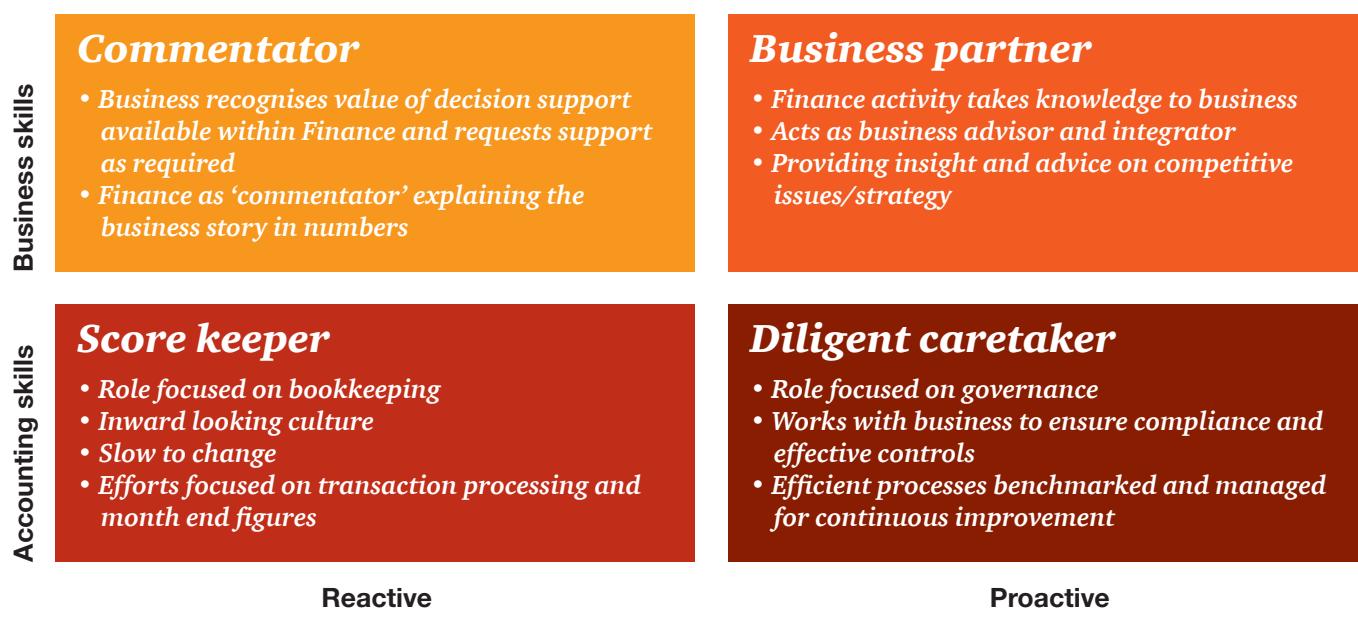


Figure 2



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