

LEIGH COWLING
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Former Director of Business Development for a film education charity, now AAT Level 4 Professional Diploma in Accounting qualified. An experienced, loyal and mature worker possessing a range of finance, business, interpersonal and leadership skills.

SKILLS PROFILE

- Understanding of accounting procedures in a business context.
- Excellent IT skills including Word, Excel, Salesforce, Microsoft Office and experience of Sage, Xero and Quickbooks.
- Setting departmental budgets and being accountable for expenditure, including reconciliation of monthly management accounts.
- Due diligence to ensure the highest financial standards.
- Management of a delegated Lottery fund.
- Implementation of revenue generation strategies to secure additional resources for the organisation.
- Effective reporting to senior colleagues and stakeholders on activity, performance and quality management.

EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

2013 – 2023 **Director of Business Development, Film Nation UK Ltd (t/a Into Film)**
Part of the senior team leading this UK-wide charity managing partnerships with major funders and stakeholders including public and private sector investors to support programme delivery.

2009 – 2013 **Chief Executive & Company Secretary, First Light Movies Ltd**
Management of a Lottery grant programme including setting assessment criteria, monitoring project delivery and authorizing staged payments against cost reports.

2001 – 2009 **Project & Finance Manager, Chief Operating Officer, First Light**
Budget setting, coding, authorisation of expenditure, petty cash for Lottery funded organisation and monitoring grant funded projects to ensure compliance.

1998 – 2001 **Arts Development Officer, Melton Borough Council**

1996 – 1998 **Community & Education Manager, Leicester Comedy Festival**

1986 – 1993 Early career included roles with the **Bristol Old Vic Theatre** (box office & community touring) and **Stroud District Council** (housing department)

OTHER APPOINTMENTS

Flatpack Film, Board member	May 2019 - present
BAFTA, Learning and New Talent Committee member	Sept 2018 – Sept 2020

EDUCATION

AAT Level 4	Diploma in Professional Accounting, awarded August 2022
Production Management	National Film & Television School, short course 2007
BA Hons (2:1) Arts Management	De Montfort University, Leicester Sept 1993 – June 1996
Workplace training including	Leadership Development Charity governance and compliance Influencing and Negotiating Media training Team Building Presentation Skills Safeguarding