BUSINESS & FINANCIAL ADVICE INDUSTRY GUIDE

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This is a guide to some of the resources available within the British Library Business & IP Centre relevant to the business and financial advice industry, covering business advice, management/marketing consulting, public relations and financial advice services.

Inside you will find sources of information such as market research (statistics, trends, developments), key companies, trade magazines, newsletters, and Internet sources.

This guide will be useful to anyone starting a business within the business and financial advice industry and also for those wanting to further their knowledge within this area.
Start-Up Information

The Cobra database contains practical fact-sheets on all aspects of starting, running and managing a small business – including information on writing business plans, marketing, company structures etc. It also covers the practical aspects of how to start and run particular types of businesses – outlining necessary skills, regulations, licences and legislation etc. and highlights other sources of information and advice available.

Business Opportunity Profiles (BOP)

- Accountancy Practice: BOP124
- Bookkeeper: BOP075
- Business Adviser: BOP482
- Business/Management Consultant: BOP442
- Business Trainer: BOP492
- Executive Coach: BOP496
- Marketing Consultant: BOP415
- Independent Financial Adviser: BOP113
- Insurance Broker: BOP551
- PR Consultant: BOP110

Sector Guides (SEC)

- Financial and Accounting Services: SEC032

Business Information Fact Sheets (BIF)

- Applying for Authorisation as a Financial Services Provider: BIF033

Market Research & Statistics

If you are planning on starting a business you will need to be aware of the latest trends, developments and opportunities within your industry which can all be found from market research.

Market research also covers market size & forecasts, consumer demographics and attitudes, the key players and products and will often include SWOT and PEST analysis showing areas of strength, weakness, opportunities etc.

- United Kingdom - Management & Marketing Consultancy (MarketLine)
  Similar reports, published by MarketLine, cover other countries, Europe and the global market.
Please note that
YouGov reports are now only available via the British Library electronic catalogue

Please note that many articles about the business and financial advice industry (from business journals and newspapers) are available from our electronic sources: Factiva, Business Source Complete (EBSCO), EMIS.

Also, contact details and individual reports of companies in the business & financial advice industry are available from our electronic sources: Fame, Orbis, Market IQ.

Business News & Journals

In order to find the latest news on your topic it is always worth searching Factiva, Business Source Complete and EMIS.

You will find articles from specialist business and academic journals, as well as newspapers and magazines. You may also find market research reports and case studies. As well as profiles of leading industry figures.

You will also find articles covering recent developments, and predicting future trends in your industry.
Trade Magazines and Newsletters

Useful for gaining inside knowledge, recent trends, industry news, company profiles, reviews of new products and services. Some contain annual reviews and company contact lists. Ordered via Explore the British Library (please ask for help).

**Business Week** (McGraw-Hill) [(P) AL 011 –E (4)]
In-depth coverage of the latest trends in technology, finance and management; offering insight and analysis on global business.
[www.bloomberg.com/businessweek](http://www.bloomberg.com/businessweek)

**Financial Times** (London: Financial Times Ltd) [NEWS.REG191]
The latest UK and international business, finance, economic and political news, comment and analysis.
[www.ft.com](http://www.ft.com)

**Harvard Business Review** (Harvard University) [(P) AQ 00 -E(16)]
Brings its readers original research and first-hand perspectives from leading business thinkers around the world.
[https://hbr.org](https://hbr.org)

**Money Management** (FT Finance) [(P) AM 02 -E(6)]
The professional’s independent adviser, including renowned fund statistics, unique surveys and more.
[www.ftadviser.com/brand/money-management](http://www.ftadviser.com/brand/money-management)

**The Banker** (London Financial Times Ltd) [(P) AL 37 -E(1)]
The Banker’s primary focus is global financial comment and insight, featuring opinion pieces, profiles and interviews with leading banking and finance figures.
[www.thebanker.com](http://www.thebanker.com)
Directories

Directories contain lists of companies and industry contacts. Some have annual industry reviews, and specialist articles.

**Consultancy guide** (Association for Consultancy and Engineering, 2013) [(B) DIR 658.4602541 BUS]
Member listings and profiles, affiliated profiles, member geographical listings and consultancy classification tables.

**Consultants and consulting organizations directory** (Gale Research Co., 2019) [(B) DIR 658.46 BUS]
A reference guide to nearly 28,000 firms and individuals engaged in consultancy for business, industry and government, and operate in the U.S. and Canada.

**Marketing manager's yearbook** (AP Information Services, 2012) [(B) DIR 658.8 BUS]
Alphabetical list of the top 5,000 major UK companies, including profiles of marketing departments and providers of marketing services.

Internet Sources

Websites containing free sources of industry statistics, information and contacts.

**Association of British Mentors (ABM)**
The trade body for business mentors and business mentoring in the UK and Ireland.  
[www.associationofbusinessmentors.org](http://www.associationofbusinessmentors.org)

**Association of Chartered Certified Accountants (ACCA)**
The global body for professional accountants, with centres across the United Kingdom.  
[www.accaglobal.com](http://www.accaglobal.com)

**Association of Professional Financial Advisers (APFA)**
Represents professional financial advisers; membership benefits include a listing on the APFA’s searchable database, access to training and guidance on regulatory compliance.  
[www.apfa.net](http://www.apfa.net)

**Association of Independent Professionals and the Self Employed (IPSE)**
The largest association of independent professionals in the EU, representing freelancers, contractors and consultants from every sector of the economy.  
[www.ipse.co.uk](http://www.ipse.co.uk)
British Insurance Brokers' Association (BIBA)
A leading professional organisation representing brokers in the UK. www.biba.org.uk

Chartered Accountants Ireland
A membership body in Ireland representing 23,000 influential members throughout the globe, with the role to educate, represent and support its members. www.charteredaccountants.ie

Chartered Insurance Institute (CII)
The national body representing the insurance industry in the UK, with a separate faculty for insurance broking. www.cii.co.uk

European Federation of Management Consultancies Associations (FEACO)
Assists in the promotion and development of the profession of Management Consultancy in Europe, providing support to its constituent National Association membership, including 14 national member associations. www.feaco.org

Financial Conduct Authority (FCA)
A UK financial regulatory body, operating independently of the UK government and financed by charging fees to members of the financial services industry. www.fca.org.uk

Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales (ICAEW)
A world leading professional membership organisation that promotes, develops and supports over 144,000 chartered accountants worldwide. www.icaew.com

Institute of Chartered Accountants of Scotland (ICAS)
The professional body for more than 20,000 world class business men and women who work in the UK and in more than 100 countries around the world. www.icas.com

Institute of Consulting
An organisation within the Chartered Management Institute (chartered professional body, dedicated to management and leadership) with a core focus towards consulting professionals. www.icomconsulting.org.uk

International Council of Management Consulting Institutes (ICMCI)
An international membership organisation and network of the management advisory and consultancy associations and institutes worldwide. www.icmci-global.org

Management Consultancies Association (MCA)
Represents management consultancy firms in the UK; its members comprise around 60% of the UK consulting industry, employ around 30,000 consultants and work with over 90 of the top FTSE 100 companies and almost all parts of the public sector. www.mca.org.uk

Office for National Statistics (ONS) – Businesses
Provides UK business-related statistics, including business demographics; activity, size and location, research and development. http://www.ons.gov.uk/businessindustryandtrade/business

Office for National Statistics (ONS) – Business services
Provides UK statistics for business services, including summaries, publications and data tables. http://www.ons.gov.uk/businessindustryandtrade/business/businessservices

Personal Finance Society (PFS)
Represents financial planning professionals; sub-group of the Chartered Insurance Institute (CII), a professional association for the insurance and financial industry. www.thepfs.org
Please note that every effort has been taken to ensure the accuracy of the information contained in this document, however some recently acquired items may since have been added to the collection. Please ask for help at the enquiry desk or check the online catalogue “Explore the British Library” (http://explore.bl.uk) for more details.

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Analyzing Financial Data by Dave Dugdale from Superior, USA; licensed under CC BY-SA 2.0 via Wikimedia Commons.