

Vision 2022

Leaders driving growth

Yorkshire & North East England

In association with



Grant Thornton



Vision 2022: Yorkshire & North East England

The Vision 2022 Series, in association with Grant Thornton, recognises the best teams backed by private equity and venture capital, with judging criteria including growth, competitiveness, innovation and ESG factors.

Companies recognised will be revealed throughout 2022, with the top 15 announced at the BVCA's Gala Dinner on 1 December. At the Gala Dinner, we will also highlight four of the top 15, representing each investment stage: early stage, scale-up, medium-sized, and large businesses.

Further information regarding Vision 2022 can be found on the [BVCA website](#).

The judging panel

Chair:

David Menton, Managing Partner, Synova

Judges:

Dr. Manjari Chandran-Ramesh, Partner, Amadeus Capital Partners

Rhian Elston, Investment Director, Development Bank of Wales

Beth Houghton, Partner & Head of Impact Fund, Palatine

Ewan Mackinnon, Partner, Maven

James Marshall, Director, NorthEdge

Mo Merali, Partner, Head of Transaction Advisory Services, Grant Thornton

Andrew Priest, Partner, Inflexion

Jan Rutherford, Partner, Scottish Equity Partners

Dan Smith, Partner, Head of Yorkshire, LDC

Grant Thornton's private equity team provides a full range of services to assist private equity and portfolio firms maximise their growth potential

Our integrated approach brings together a team of professionals from advisory, taxation and assurance services who provide bespoke solutions from investment through the growth phase to exit. As well as acting for private equity houses, we advise private equity-backed companies, and management teams seeking private equity investment.

Visit [grantthornton.co.uk](https://www.grantthornton.co.uk) to find out more, or contact:



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Faradion

Recognised



Based out of Sheffield and Oxford in the UK, Faradion is one of the leading global battery technology companies. Faradion's sodium-ion technology provides significant advantages compared to lithium-ion technology, including: greater sustainability, safe transport and storage capability, and exciting opportunity for scalability.

Mercia made its first direct investment into Faradion in January 2017 and held equity stakes on behalf of its managed funds from the company's beginnings in 2010. Reliance New Energy acquired Faradion in December 2021 and will incorporate Faradion's technology at its proposed fully integrated energy storage giga-factory in Jamnagar, western India.

Faradion

Recognised



James Quinn,
CEO of Faradion, said:

“Faradion has been one of the first to champion sodium-ion battery technology. Mercia was an early investor in Faradion and held a position on the board since its inception and up until the acquisition by Reliance in December 2021. Becoming part of the Reliance group validates the incredible work our team has done in advancing sodium-ion technology. Sodium-ion batteries offer the UK an opportunity to take a global market-leading role. By building on current advantages, the UK can establish a large-scale domestic manufacturing capability creating new jobs, as well as economic benefits across the wider supply chain.”

Judges comments:

The judges were very pleased to recognise the team’s success at Faradion, from being a first mover in an area that will lead to cheaper, cleaner energy provision to their growth story and continuous innovation.

Recognised



iamproperty Group is the UK's largest residential auction service, founded by Jamie Cooke and Ben Ridgway in 2009. Based in Newcastle upon Tyne, the group helps estate agents across the UK through its unique digital platform, working with more than 3,500 estate agency branches.

LDC backed the management team of iamproperty in 2019 because they believed in their plans to grow the team and expand its digital platform further. By growing the services available under one roof, iamproperty allows a buyer to complete within 56 days, with a less than 2% fall through rate – far in advance of the industry average of 125 days and 30% fall through rate. Continuous expansion of their product offering and innovation of the platform has delivered significant growth and market share. Today they produce 1000 auction packs and complete on 400 properties every month.

A strong culture and support for staff underpins iamproperty's ESG vision and the company aims to be carbon neutral by 2030, taking steps such as digitising all auction brochures and reducing account managers' time on the road.

Recognised



Michele Gettins,
CMO of iamproperty Group, said:

"The investment has enabled us to grow at great scale and pace - one which we could never have imagined previously. Through this investment, we've been enabled to stay completely aligned to our corporate vision and values, working hard to modernise the UK property market and continuing to add real value for our Partner Agents across the country."

"We've grown exponentially since the investment, not just financially, but in our staff numbers; expanding teams, territories and skill sets. We've also significantly ramped up our investment in our ambitious innovation agenda with our expanding range of digital solutions for property professionals."

Judges comments:

The judges recognised iamproperty's strength as a great example of innovation, growth and adding value in a competitive and complex market.

Rosemont Pharmaceuticals

Recognised



Rosemont Pharmaceuticals, based in Leeds, is Europe's leading liquid pharmaceuticals business, producing medicines for patients suffering with swallowing difficulties, both in the UK and around the world.

Originally part of a US-listed manufacturer of consumer healthcare products, Inflexion purchased Rosemont in June 2020, because it saw a business that could flourish through independence. With funding and support, Rosemont has delivered rapid growth. Inflexion have invested in new finance and IT systems to smooth the transition from Rosemont's parent company. They have also helped with senior hires to lead a rapidly expanding team (headcount is now at 277, up from 206), as well as resetting the company's mission and values.

In 2022 Rosemont unveiled a new state-of-the-art R&D facility at its site in Leeds, which the company aims to build into a global centre of excellence. Rosemont has also already made several strategic acquisitions, with its first transaction closing in 2021, and is actively considering a pipeline of further acquisitions. The business has also completed numerous in-licencing deals to help expand the product range, on top of developing a raft of new products in house. These changes have supercharged Rosemont's growth. In the last year alone, sales are up 49%, exports have expanded into four new international markets and new product development continue to solve previously unmet patient needs through a number of recent exclusive launches. Its future growth plans are ambitious, too. Together, Inflexion and Rosemont will look to grow the portfolio of liquid pharmaceuticals, take on more staff and increase the size of the business through further acquisitions.

Rosemont Pharmaceuticals



Recognised



Howard Taylor,
CEO of Rosemont said:

“Bringing in Inflexion as an equity backer has given the management team at Rosemont, and the entire business, the resources, confidence, and freedom to stand on our own two feet and really take the business to the next level. We are most proud of the rejuvenation of our pipeline, and the culture shift to a dynamic, forward-looking business that has taken place over the last two years, and look forward to continuing our partnership with Inflexion on our journey to being a world class pharma business and market leader in liquid medicines.”

Judges comments:

The judges praised Rosemont’s success, which demonstrated what can be achieved across all areas of a business with new independence and new backing.



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