

60-SECOND INTERVIEW



**JUSSI POHJANPALO**  
GROUP TREASURER, FINGRID PLC

#### How did you get into treasury?

Fingrid was looking for a new treasurer in 2014, as it was undergoing a transition phase due to ownership changes. I was recruited to help with reshaping the finance and treasury function. Before this, my career had been in banking and corporate finance. I had been thinking for a while of moving to the other side of the table, so the timing of this opportunity was perfect.

#### What do you like about treasury?

Being able to engage with both sides of the balance sheet: debt management on the one side, and engagement with colleagues working on investment planning, client and supplier organisations on the other.

#### What's the best thing about being a treasurer?

The broad network of finance professionals and excellent educational programmes, which provide access to international best practices in finance and treasury. And not forgetting the ACT Annual Conference!

#### How has your qualification benefited you in your career so far?

The MCT qualification has provided me with a solid basis and better confidence to take on new responsibilities and to implement best practices within our finance and treasury function.

#### What's the most unusual responsibility that you have as a treasurer?

Being a member of a steering group that oversees the group's travel expenses.

#### What's the most important lesson that you've learned during your career?

All situations can be resolved with the right team of people.

#### What would be your best piece of advice to someone else considering a career in treasury?

Invest in your professional qualifications, develop your communication and presentation skills, see behind the numbers and have a 'can do' attitude.

#### What's your ultimate career goal?

To become a CFO at some point in my career.

#### Who is your greatest inspiration and why?

Ted Turner's autobiography provided me with lots of inspiration during the financial crisis.

✦ If you would like to star in our 60-second interview slot, email [editor@treasurers.org](mailto:editor@treasurers.org). Please provide a photo of yourself, your email address and telephone number. We won't publish your details – it's just so we can contact you in the event of queries.



TRAINING, EVENTS  
& WEBINARS

#### 2017 TRAINING COURSE DATES

##### 4-5 October, London

##### Investing corporate cash

Principles and practices of effective investment management. Gain an overview of the key elements of effective investment management, including the significant factors that need to be considered when investing corporate cash.

##### 11-12 October, London

##### Mechanics of corporate funding

Raising debt financing is one of the most important roles of a treasurer, so we've designed this course to help guide you through the process. It looks at why companies borrow, provides you with an overview of the sources of debt funding and range of instruments available, and will examine the financial risks to your firm.

##### 16 October, London

##### Nuts and bolts of cash management

Develop an in-depth understanding of the basic principles and practices of cash and liquidity management, and its importance to the business and treasury function, at this one-day introduction to cash management.

##### 17-18 October, London

##### Advanced cash management

Delivered by seasoned practitioners from both banking and corporate treasury, this course offers a unique opportunity to see both the demand and supply sides of cash management. The comprehensive and detailed programme is broken down into modules, including live practice on exercises, real case studies and an emphasis on group work.

##### 31 October to 1 November, London

##### Treasury security, control and audit

Develop an all-round understanding of how to create a secure environment in which treasury transactions can be managed and carried out with minimum risk of fraud or error. Learn about assurance practices to effectively plan and execute a risk-based treasury audit that adds value and helps identify early-warning signals of potential problems.

##### 13-17 November, London

##### A-Z of corporate treasury

An intensive five-day overview of the fundamentals of treasury management. This is a perfect forum for new entrants to the profession, bankers and those working alongside the treasury.

✦ To view more courses or to book online, visit [academy.treasurers.org/training](http://academy.treasurers.org/training)

✦ For more information, contact Kelly Robertson at [krobertson@treasurers.org](mailto:krobertson@treasurers.org) or tel +44 (0)20 7847 2573

✦ Members of National Treasury Associations benefit from special rates on ACT-led training courses.

#### ACT EVENTS 2017

##### 27 September, Hong Kong

##### Asia Treasury Leaders' Forum

Join us this September in Hong Kong for the region's leading treasury event. Bringing together treasury and finance professionals from across Asia, this is the ideal opportunity to exchange ideas with your peers and find out more about the latest regional developments and trends in treasury.

[www.treasurers.org/asia2017](http://www.treasurers.org/asia2017)

##### 3 October, London

##### ACT Diversity and Inclusion Calendar: Bridging the gender gap

The ACT invites you to join us for the inaugural event on the ACT Diversity and Inclusion Calendar – an evening focusing on gender balance in the treasury profession. We'd like to welcome a broad range of attendees to the event to encourage open discussion and sharing of experiences.

[www.treasurers.org/gendergap](http://www.treasurers.org/gendergap)

##### 8 November, London

##### ACT Treasury Forum

This invitation-only event is the perfect platform for leading treasury professionals to convene, and share and debate the key issues of the day in an informal and interactive setting.

[www.treasurers.org/treasuryforum](http://www.treasurers.org/treasuryforum)

##### 8 November, London

##### ACT Annual Dinner

Taking place in the elegant surroundings of the Great Room at the Grosvenor House Hotel, this event will provide you with a fantastic opportunity to network with your peers while enjoying a superb three-course meal, fine

wine and entertainment in one of the most prestigious venues in London.

[www.treasurers.org/annualdinner](http://www.treasurers.org/annualdinner)

##### 21-22 November, Dubai

##### Middle East Annual Summit

Join us at the largest and most popular treasury event in the GCC. Bringing together the region's leading corporates, you can expect to meet more than 500 treasury and finance professionals, hear thought-provoking insights and best practice from over 50 speakers, and talk business with over 20 leading product and service providers, all under one roof.

[www.treasurers.org/middleeastannualsummit](http://www.treasurers.org/middleeastannualsummit)

##### 7 February 2018, Nairobi, Kenya

##### ACT East Africa Treasury Forum

Join us for a programme that looks at how treasury professionals can add increased value and deliver results to their business. It's a great opportunity to get involved and meet like-minded treasury professionals.

[www.treasurers.org/africa2018](http://www.treasurers.org/africa2018)

#### ACT WEBINARS

##### Giving direction on regulatory change and key treasury concerns

Led by the ACT's policy and technical experts, ACT webinars give direction on regulatory change and key treasury concerns direct to your desk, wherever you are in the world.

[www.treasurers.org/webinars](http://www.treasurers.org/webinars)

✦ To attend an ACT event or webinar, book online at [www.treasurers.org/events](http://www.treasurers.org/events). For more details, email [events@treasurers.org](mailto:events@treasurers.org) or call +44 (0)20 7847 2589