



## SWS Forestry – Financial Controller

### *Business overview*

SWS Forestry has its origins as part of the wider SWS group of companies which was established in 1953 and grew and diversified to include businesses across many sectors including renewable energy, business process outsourcing, auctioneering and waste to energy. SWS Forestry (“SWS” or the “Company”) is the leading private forestry company with a national presence in Ireland. Its main activities include the establishment of private forestry plantations, forest management and road building, through to plantation clear fell.

SWS Forestry has a reputation as a high quality operator in every business area and is profitable and well capitalised.

The role is based in our head office in Clonakilty and the new Financial Controller will work with a team of 20 to 25 staff reporting to the General Manager and the Board of Directors.

### *Duties will include:*

- Leading the Company’s finance and administration function to optimise the performance of the Company
- Joining the senior management of the Company and participating across all matters of strategic importance
- Taking control of the Company’s financial and administrative function
- Contributing fully to the development of Company strategy across all areas of the business, challenging assumptions and decision making as appropriate and providing financial analysis and guidance on all activities, plans, targets and business drivers
- Preparing annual budgets and monthly management accounts and provide ongoing performance monitoring
- Ensuring the company financial systems are robust and compliant
- Managing the annual audit function
- Acting as the point of contact with the Department of Agriculture’s Forest Service in relation to all forestry affairs
- Providing administrative support for a nationwide team of foresters and sales reps.
- Liaising with relevant 3<sup>rd</sup> parties to ensure the efficient running of the company and head office e.g. IT, software solution providers, building management, legal team etc.
- Producing detailed excel reports to each region based on in house information and Forest Service data.
- Managing the company’s debtors and creditors and optimising its working capital
- In conjunction with the company’s tax advisor, management and ensuring the company is fully tax compliance.



***Individual specification:***

- At least 5 years' experience in a senior managerial or financial position
- Possess a high degree of integrity and a commitment to good governance
- Be a qualified member of an accountancy body and/or holder of a relevant qualification
- Be commercially astute, technically strong and be able to drive business performance through the finances
- Have a good knowledge and understanding of the agricultural and/or forestry industry;
- Be an excellent administrator and have strong communication skills
- Be proficient in IT, particularly excel and Sage
- Be energetic, self-motivated and have an innovative approach to business growth and success
- Have a thorough knowledge and understanding of administrative and project management skills and systems