Crisis. Contained.





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### **Introduction To Arx Nova**

# Arx Nova exists for one reason... to bring clarity, control, and rapid leadership to organisations under pressure.

We are a specialist crisis management and business stabilisation firm, built to respond when mid-tier organisations with turnover between £1 million and £100 million face financial, operational, legal or reputational emergencies.

Where others deliver fragmented advice, we deploy an integrated crisis response team within 24 hours of engagement, aligning strategy, decision-making and communication from the outset.

Our founding team combines expertise in governance, commercial law, crisis communications and brand. Together, we cut through complexity, remove noise and create space for leadership to lead. We do not sugar-coat problems. We solve them.

In the early hours of a crisis, timing is critical. Delay amplifies damage. That is why Arx Nova operates with readiness, precision and a no-nonsense mindset. We give clients control when it matters most and stabilise the path forward with calm, clear and decisive action.

When your business is under pressure, we are the team you call first. We are Arx Nova.

# Why We Exist

Crisis is not just a communications issue. It is a point where financial pressure, legal exposure, operational breakdown, and reputational damage collide.

Our name is drawn from Latin and means new fortress. It reflects our purpose. To create a stronghold for organisations under pressure. A stabilising force. A trusted defence. A reset point when the path forward is unclear.

We are a boutique crisis management firm specialising in stabilising mid-tier organisations facing serious disruption. Whether the challenge is financial breakdown, legal exposure, operational failure, or reputational risk, we deliver fast, integrated support when stability matters most.

Where others offer siloed advice or reactive communications, we provide unified leadership across every critical function. No fragmentation. No delays. Just clear direction and full control at board level.

We are not observers. We are operators. Calm under pressure, commercially focused, and committed to getting your business back on stable ground. Fast.

We saw what happens when leadership teams are forced to navigate crisis with fragmented support, conflicting advice, or junior consultants who are not equipped to lead under pressure.

### **Our Services**

### Designed for crisis. Structured for recovery. Built to exit.

Arx Nova exists to help mid-tier businesses regain control when things go wrong. We don't do hypotheticals. We deal in high-stakes, real-world problems that require clear thinking, fast action and unshakable leadership.

Our service model is built to move quickly, deliver outcomes and leave cleanly. No dependency. No ambiguity. No dragging things out.

We offer a structured approach across three clearly defined phases. Each is designed to stabilise, rebuild or hand over with purpose and precision.

Whether you're facing a reputational crisis, operational failure or financial breakdown, Arx Nova embeds quickly, takes control and sets the course for recovery, or transition.

# Crisis Management & Stabilisation

# Strategic Partner Transition Scoping

# Strategic Partner Business Transformation



Stop the bleeding.

Regain control.



Targeted sprints to fix what matters most.

For long-term change, we hand over to trusted partners.

4-6 Weeks, Embeded Immediate Stabilisation Phase.

#### What We Do:

- Embed fast and take control.
- Triage and address the immediate crisis.
- Stabilise core operations, leadership and structure.
- Act like an emergency team, not long-term advisors.
- Work shoulder to shoulder with internal decision-makers.

#### **Deliverable:**

- A stabilised business, ready for the next stage.
- Handover to the internal team.

#### Outcome:

Arx Nova exits post-stabilisation unless further short-term recovery is required. If so, we move to Rapid Rebuild & Partner Transition Scoping.

# Tactical Sprints and Targeted Fixes. Capped at Four Months.

#### What We Do:

- Run short sprints focused on specific high-impact issues.
- Reduce chaos, strengthen systems and build resilience.
- Operate tactically, never embedding long-term.
- Maximum duration of four months engagement.

#### **Deliverable:**

- Clear understanding of transformation requirements.
- Sprint summaries with scoped priorities and transition guidance.

#### **Outcome:**

Arx Nova hands over to internal leadership team, or to Our Trusted Transformation Partner for long-term change.

# Seamless Handover To Our Trusted Transformation Partners.

#### What We Do:

- If long-term transformation is needed, we exit cleanly.
- Refer to vetted strategic partners.
- Provide a full briefing, including all insights and documentation.
- Ensure seamless continuity so the leadership team stays focused.

#### **Deliverable:**

- Strategic Partners hit the ground running.
- Leadership team stays focused.

#### Outcome:

Arx Nova fades out, Strategic Transformation Partner steps in.



# **Crisis Management & Stabilisation**



### Stop the bleeding. Regain control.

In a crisis, delay is damage. Arx Nova deploys within 24 hours to take decisive control across financial, legal, operational and reputational fronts. We embed directly into your leadership team to contain the threat, stabilise key functions and create the headroom needed for clear, confident decision making. No chaos. No silos. No passengers.

Stabilisation doesn't always mean recovery. It means confronting reality, fast. We work with you to understand what can be saved, what must change and where the risks are hiding. Our role is not to protect egos. It's to protect value, safeguard leadership capacity and give the business its best shot at survival.

We lead from the front. From on-site triage and functional control to aligning stakeholders and managing high pressure communications, we act fast and act decisively. We don't write reports. We solve problems. We do the hard work now so your leadership team has options later.

Every decision we make in this phase is designed to buy you time, create space to think and prevent avoidable loss. It's about restoring control when it matters most.

The outcome is a stabilised business, a focused leadership team and a clear next step. Whether that's rebuilding, restructuring or transitioning to a longer term transformation partner, we leave you ready to move forward with confidence.

Because in a crisis, what you do in the first 10 days can define the next 10 years.



# **Strategic Partner Transition Scoping**



### Fix what matters most. Prepare for what's next.

Once the immediate crisis has been stabilised, the priority shifts to clarity. Arx Nova runs short, focused sprints to scope the core issues that must be addressed to secure recovery, enable resilience and prepare the business for long-term transformation.

These sprints are designed to surface what really matters. No noise. No overreach. Just practical, high-impact insight that maps out the path ahead. We work closely with internal leadership to define what needs fixing, what needs scaling and what needs to change, and we do it fast.

We are not here to deliver the transformation. We are here to make it possible. That means leaving behind clear priorities, scoped requirements and leadership alignment, ready for internal delivery or seamless handover to one of our trusted partners.

Sprints run between two and six weeks, with total engagement capped at four months. Enough time to create structure and momentum. Not enough to become part of the furniture.

The outcome is a leadership team with clarity and confidence, and a transformation roadmap built on truth, not assumption. Whether you move forward internally or with a specialist partner, Arx Nova ensures you're ready to take the next step without hesitation.



## Strategic Partner Business Transformation



### When it's time for long-term change, we hand over with intent.

Arx Nova is built for the critical window. We step in during crisis, restore control and stabilise the business. But we are not here to stay. Once the business is steady and the real transformation journey begins, we step back, with purpose, not passivity.

Some businesses need strategic change. Others need full-scale restructuring or growth acceleration. In those moments, it is not about staying longer. It is about stepping aside for the right partner to take the baton, with everything they need to succeed.

We manage that transition with the same clarity and urgency we bring to crisis. No drift. No disruption. No missed handover. We brief the incoming team, equip them with everything we've learned, and stay close until momentum is secured.

Our role is to protect progress, maintain continuity and ensure your leadership team stays focused on the future, not lost in transition.

The result is a clean exit, a confident client and a transformation partner who hits the ground running. The business stays on track. The leadership stays out in front. And the momentum keeps moving forward.

## **People Of Arx Nova**

### Senior Experience. No Compromises.

Crisis is no place for theory, guesswork, or delegation. At Arx Nova, you work directly with the people who built the firm.

We are a senior-only crisis leadership team with expertise in governance, legal strategy, communications, and operational control. Every client engagement is led by our founding directors, ensuring you get the clarity, focus, and leadership that crisis situations demand.

This is a team built for pressure. We do not observe from the sidelines. We operate inside the boardroom, taking control when it counts. We are not just advisors. We are decision makers, stabilisers, and problem solvers. Calm, commercial, and committed to delivering results when your business needs them most.



# Chris Johnson | Director & Co-Founder





### Scan. Save. Sorted.

Your crisis contacts. Ready when Chris is a Chartered Legal Executive and former Partner with over 17 years of experience across the legal, asset management, and professional services sectors. As a Director and Co-Founder of Arx Nova, Chris leads on legal risk, governance, structural oversight, and organisational turnaround during periods of business distress.

Having progressed from legal assistant to equity partner and board director, Chris has operated at every level of leadership. For the past eight years, he has held Director and Head of Operations roles, overseeing legal, financial, and strategic functions across complex portfolios in both the UK and international markets.

At Arx Nova, Chris is the legal and structural anchor in crisis scenarios. He advises boards on governance integrity, regulatory engagement, capital restructuring, and strategic recovery plans. His calm, analytical approach ensures that legal frameworks align with operational realities, enabling businesses to stabilise quickly and move forward with clarity.

Chris brings experience in mergers and acquisitions, refinancing, litigation funding, and stakeholder negotiation. He has led corporate restructures, chaired board and investor meetings, and managed the rationalisation of distressed business units under pressure.

Known for building high-performing teams, coordinating cross-functional delivery, and engaging with regulators, legal counsel, and investors, Chris brings discipline and control to some of the most complex challenges organisations face.



Everything in business is cyclical. The wheel will turn. But as a senior leader, you must act. You cannot remain static.

# Simon Larkin | Director & Co-Founder





#### Scan. Save. Sorted.

Your crisis contacts.
Ready when

Simon is a Chartered Marketer and Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Marketing, with over 20 years of senior leadership experience across brand, digital, and stakeholder strategy. As a Director and Co-Founder of Arx Nova, he leads on crisis communications, reputational recovery, and executive messaging for organisations navigating complex and high-risk situations.

Simon has advised boards through critical events including regulatory investigations, leadership failures, financial distress, and public scrutiny. His calm, commercial approach helps organisations stabilise quickly and take control of the narrative under pressure.

He has operated at board level across the financial, real estate, and technology sectors and brings a strong understanding of regulated environments. His work bridges strategic messaging and digital infrastructure, ensuring integrated response across legal, operational, and reputational functions.

Simon also works proactively with leadership teams on crisis readiness, building message playbooks, stakeholder maps, and scenario planning tools to improve board preparedness and reduce response times when crises emerge.

His international experience spans the UK, US, Middle East, Asia, and Africa, equipping him to manage culturally sensitive issues and multi-jurisdictional risk with clarity and precision.



A crisis is not a moment for individuals to get on a soapbox. It is not a platform for positioning or self-preservation. It is a test of leadership. It is about damage limitation and stabilisation.

# Joseph Mawdsley | Director & Co-Founder





#### Scan. Save. Sorted.

Joseph is a senior executive with expertise in operational delivery, financial control, and governance across sectors including real estate, mining, logistics, and public services. As a Director and Co-Founder of Arx Nova, he leads on operational triage, financial clarity, and governance design during crisis and recovery phases.

Joseph has delivered large-scale transformation and stabilisation programmes in the UK, West Africa, and Canada. His experience spans project portfolio management, cross-jurisdictional operations, and crisis response leadership. He is known for implementing clear structures and reporting systems that allow boards to make fast, informed decisions under pressure.

At Arx Nova, Joseph works directly with boards and executive teams to restore operational stability and embed governance frameworks that drive performance and accountability. His ability to simplify complexity, re-establish financial control, and align teams behind clear deliverables makes him a critical presence in high-pressure situations.

He has led the financial and operational turnaround of overseas units, overseen international mining operations, and managed portfolios exceeding £200 million. His approach combines strategic oversight with hands-on delivery, ensuring both high-level governance and day-to-day execution are tightly aligned. Joseph brings the structure, pace, and board-level discipline that organisations rely on when stability is at stake.



Too often, businesses are forced to patch together advice from different consultants. Legal, financial, operational, and communications advisors, each working to different timelines, pricing models, and priorities. Arx Nova changes that!

## Contact Us | E: hello@wearearxnova.com | T: 0330 122 1117

### When your business is under pressure, time matters.

Arx Nova provides rapid, board-level crisis management across financial, operational, legal, and reputational challenges. We step in when clarity, leadership, and control are critical.

If you are facing a serious issue or preparing for one, contact the team that specialises in stabilising mid-tier organisations under pressure. We are ready to respond.

### What happens next?

Once you get in touch, we will arrange a free assessment with a Director of the Arx Nova team. This is a confidential conversation focused on understanding your situation and identifying immediate priorities.

If urgent action is required, we will move quickly. We can deploy within 24 hours of engagement, bringing structure, clarity, and senior leadership to stabilise the business. From the first call, you are speaking directly to the people who lead. No delays. No handovers. Just clear, commercial guidance when it matters most.

When pressure hits, you don't need a strategy deck. You need a stabilisation team. That's Arx Nova.



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