Cash Visibility Self-Assessment

A Practical Checklist for Private Markets Finance Teams

For CFOs, Treasurers and finance teams assessing how well they can see and control the firm's cash. Work through each area and tick only what is true today. Whatever is left tells you where to start.

1 Single Source of Truth

- [ ] We can see the firm's total cash position across all funds and entities in one place.
- [ ] One agreed view is treated as authoritative by everyone.
- [ ] A named person or team owns and maintains that view.

2 Coverage & Completeness

- [ ] Our view includes every bank account, entity and SPV.
- [ ] All currencies are captured and converted consistently.
- [ ] We are told when a new account or entity is opened.

3 Timeliness

- [ ] Our cash position is current to the last working day.
- [ ] We can refresh our cash position quickly when a decision depends on it.
- [ ] Balances flow in automatically rather than being keyed by hand.

4 Connectivity & Tooling

- [ ] Bank balances are pulled together through connectivity or a portal.
- [ ] Checking balances does not depend on manual logins to multiple bank sites.
- [ ] Our tooling is proportionate to the size and complexity of the firm.

5 Ownership & Controls

- [ ] Responsibility for the cash position is clearly assigned.
- [ ] No single person can move money without a second approver.
- [ ] A misplaced or fraudulent payment would be visible quickly.

6 Counterparty Awareness

- [ ] We know how much cash sits with each bank.
- [ ] Our concentration at any one institution is within limits we have defined.
- [ ] We track bank exposure as balances move, not just ad hoc.

7 Idle Cash

- [ ] We can identify surplus cash that could be earning a return.
- [ ] Idle cash is put to work within a defined risk appetite.
- [ ] We know the cost of balances left idle.

8 Resilience

- [ ] Our cash view would survive its key person being away.
- [ ] The process is documented rather than held in one head.
- [ ] We could answer an LP's cash-controls question with confidence.

Boxes left unticked are normal for a scaling firm. They usually point to how the firm has grown rather than to anything the firm has got wrong, and they are a useful map of where to focus next. Areas with no ticks are your first priority.

Alpha Alternatives helps private markets managers assess their current state, connect fragmented cash data, and build a clear, controlled view that scales with the firm.

Book a short call to talk through your results: alts-info@alphafmc.com