

Tier 1 Supplier

Crown
Commercial
Service
Supplier

***PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP in consortium with
HFW LLP, Howes Percival LLP and Sharpe
Pritchard LLP***

***Prospectus for Crown Commercial Service RM3786
General Legal Advice Services Panel***



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Delivering the best lawyer for you, not just the best in our firm

We are a consortium of four firms, **PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP, HFW LLP, Howes Percival LLP and Sharpe Pritchard LLP**, with broad reaching capabilities, working across government and the private sector.

We have a unique breadth and depth of expertise, people, scalable legal solutions and specialist knowledge from across four firms to deliver integrated expert support.

We have an advantage over traditional law firms due to the breadth of capability we can access, ensuring that we can provide you with the best legal service for your needs.

You will receive a seamless, unified service and can engage directly with our consortium, via our representative, Juan Crosby, or go directly to any single firm or lawyer that you want to engage.

In addition to this expertise, we are also able to bring an unrivalled range of specialist legal technology, managed legal service, law department transformation and project management capability from the wider PwC firm that enables us to provide technology enabled legal services to transform conventional legal workflows and activities.

This enables our consortium to rapidly structure large quantities of legal documents and related information, enhancing project delivery and driving efficiency.

We do this by using contract digitisation, document management review and Artificial Intelligence/machine learning tools and software.

Our firms



We offer next generation legal services with access to specialists from across the whole of the PwC legal network as well as scalable solutions using our PwC Centres of Excellence delivery centres. Whatever your commercial project, we'll have the right people with the right expertise to solve your business needs. We're the largest legal services network by geography with over 3,500 lawyers in 90 countries including immigration law services in 116 countries.



We have over 500 lawyers working across the Americas, Europe, the Middle East, Asia and Australia. We take a progressive approach to our roles in commercial business – thinking creatively and pragmatically to support our clients.

Whether we are solving complex issues within the construction, aviation or shipping industries, or providing advice across insurance, commodities and energy we are specialist lawyers here to add value to our clients. We think about the commercial solution first, and then underpin our advice with a solid foundation of legal expertise.



We are a leading commercial law firm and our clients range from individuals and families to global businesses and government departments. We offer a wide range of legal expertise and are constantly investing in new specialisms to ensure that we can offer excellent advice to our clients across all aspects of their business.



We specialise in acting for the public sector including central government, NHS Trusts, non departmental government bodies, local authorities, charities, housing associations and other not for profit bodies.

We combine expert legal advice with a high level of client service and have developed an outstanding reputation for our public law work. We build close working relationships with our clients and provide added value at every step.

How to engage with us

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Or our dedicated Consortium Manager, Holly Nessling, to be connected with the lawyer or lawyers best suited to your requirements:

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Contact a lawyer of your choice

You can contact one of our lawyers directly, either through finding their details in this prospectus or

Contact us via CCS

You can contact us via Crown Commercial Service's central processes.



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What we do

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Mandatory Specialisms

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Contracts

Our public sector clients need to demonstrate that they are getting best value both in the goods and services they are procuring and the contractual arrangements they enter into generally. We have specialist commercial contracts lawyers, with technical knowledge of all aspects of contract law with extensive practical experience of commercial and operational issues that arise before and after contract signature, across a broad range of sectors such as Energy, Industrial Products, Financial Services, Telecommunications, Transport and Water, including:

- advising on, drafting and negotiating agreements relating to commercial activities including supply of goods and services, outsourcing/contracting out of services, manufacturing, agency and distribution, consumer contracts, strategic alliances, shared services arrangements, joint ventures and grants;
- advising on rights and obligations post contract, on contract management issues such as changes, termination, and transition between suppliers, contract restructuring including novations, assignments and changes in ownership; and
- advising on public infrastructure regulation such as UK/EU regulation relating to energy, water, transport and telecommunication industries necessary to support commercial transactions and/or arrangements.

We can also bring deep technology capability using advanced machine learning tools to digitise and process high volume commercial contract reviews quickly and efficiently and use tools to help automate standard contract generation and management to improve risk management, MI, efficiency and consistency.

Juan Crosby

Partner

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Juan has more than 15 years' experience advising on large, complex contracting projects, including major regulated procurements in the energy, mining, retail and service sectors. He has received a number of industry awards including Best Advisor for his work on a strategic alliance with one of the UK's largest companies and two key global suppliers as well as putting in place a multi-party supplier ecosystem.

Juan advises key clients on global and local contracts including drafting and negotiating key issues in relation to delivery, remedies and liability and advising on contract model innovation, contract digitisation, large-scale programme management, and supply chain strategy and optimisation.

Jennifer Chambers

Senior Solicitor

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Jennifer has more than 10 years' experience as a commercial contracts lawyer, providing commercial and strategic advice to a variety of public and private clients across a wide range of sectors. Recent work for different central government departments includes: drafting and negotiating commercial contracts (including in connection with procurement programmes); managing contract review and remediation projects; assessing and advising on contractual compliance and management as part of an assurance process; and contract analysis and management projects.

Her experience includes advising on, drafting and negotiating agreements (relating to matters such as supply of goods and services, outsourcing/contracting out services, consumer sales, online trading and joint ventures), advising on contractual rights, obligations and ongoing contract management issues, reviewing clients' business processes and creating tailored template/standard contractual documentation and guidance.

Competition Law

We have core competition lawyers who cover the whole range of specialist advice on international, EU and national competition law, including cartels, abuse of a dominant market position, merger control, State aid and sector inquiries. They work with a diverse range of clients, including: governments, public bodies, large and small corporations and trade associations throughout the world. We can advise on competition issues in multiple sectors, including transport (air, rail, road and sea), commodities, construction, energy, electronics, financial services/ banking, food and drink, health and safety, healthcare, information technology, insurance and reinsurance, logistics, media and telecommunications, mining, pharmaceuticals, sports/entertainment. Senior lawyers within our consortium also have established excellent professional relations with competition authorities and are consulted on draft legislation by international and national bodies including the European Commission.

Case study - Advising a major logistics company on the competition law aspects of its role as supply chain manager for a prominent UK public body
- HFW provided advice to the client in connection with its customer and supplier relationships, which enabled the client to comply with competition law and meet the demand for increased efficiency from the public body. The outcome was that the logistics company achieved very significant savings for the UK public body, resulting in considerable benefit both to consumers and the public purse.

Anthony Woolich

Partner and head of Competition and Regulation

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Anthony specialises in competition law, public procurement, economic sanctions, export control, anti-bribery and anti-corruption, trade regulation, State aid and data protection/privacy.

He is on the City of London Law Society's committee on commercial law and its Brexit sub-committee, the Steering Committee of the Procurement Lawyers' Association and is a member of the Law Society's Competition Section, the UK Association for European Law and the Competition Law Association.

He has won industry recognition for his contributions on competition law and on Brexit. His experience includes advising a UK regulator on a complaint by a company which claimed that it was a competitor of the regulated entity; advising a UK local authority on a complaint by a newspaper publisher that the authority's ownership of a competing newspaper was anti-competitive; advising on State aid issues on privatisations, including related litigation in the High Court, Government grants and commercial agreements; advising on cartels and anti-competitive agreements, abuse of dominance and merger control, including internationally, and regulation of advertising.

Felicity Burling

Solicitor

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Felicity advises on competition law, multi-jurisdictional merger control, general EU law, public procurement and data protection / privacy.

She has drafted merger clearance applications to various competition authorities, including the Competition and Markets Authority and the European Commission. She advises clients on compliance with competition legislation and on the application of State aid rules.

Recent merger control experience includes advising an energy company joint venture on whether the acquisition of a major facility would require merger control clearance, securing clearance of transactions from the European Commission under the EU Merger Regulation, including obtaining a retrospective derogation from the requirement to obtain prior clearance, and advising a major shipping company on a multi-jurisdictional merger analysis in connection with a significant acquisition. On antitrust, Felicity advises clients, including industry associations, on issues such as information exchange at meetings, establishing anti-trust processes and policies, and on appropriate wording for public statements.

Construction Law

We advise on the full range of construction and infrastructure projects, from major energy and highways works to regeneration schemes, leisure and mixed use developments and multi-portfolio estates. Our team has long and varied experience of advising the public sector which means we understand its key concerns - including constrained budgets, political pressures and multiple stakeholder requirements - and can channel our expert advice accordingly. We work with all standard construction forms, including JCT (up to and including the 2016 editions), NEC (the full suite, including NEC4), PPC2000, TPC2000, GC/Works and FIDIC. We also prepare and advise on framework/ partnering agreements, professional appointments and all ancillary documentation. We offer the full range of services, ranging from advice on detailed points of law to strategic input on major construction projects. Our consortium includes teams of specialist construction lawyers across the globe.

Case Study - Major construction project - Our client required a state of the art energy from waste facility, capable of meeting its long term needs on a sustainable and cost efficient basis. The construction documentation was required to respond to these needs throughout the procurement, construction and delivery phases. They advised, negotiated and concluded the turn-key design and build contract, professional team appointments, performance bonds, parent company guarantees and collateral warranties. Their client set a very ambitious timetable and challenging output targets. Both of these were achieved, using a combination of highly tailored construction documents and strategic legal advice. A range of standard forms were used through the various tiers of contracting parties (including NEC, JCT and FIDIC).

Justin Mendelle
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Justin is a construction law specialist and head of the Construction group. He qualified and taught as an economist before training as a lawyer. He has over 15 years' experience of advising on high-profile and complex construction projects. His practice spans all major forms of construction projects across the UK.

He advises a wide range of public sector clients, including Central Government and regulated utilities. He advises on both contentious and non-contentious matters and regularly speaks at conferences and seminars. Justin is extremely familiar with, and advises on, all types of construction projects, from multi-billion pound new builds to high-profile refurbishment schemes. He has advised on construction projects in a wide variety of sectors, including waste, energy, healthcare, education, leisure, transport and commercial development. Recent experience includes advising Central Government on an NEC ECC for a multi-million pound landmark project and a Government department on a PPC2000 contract. Justin is a member of the Society of Construction Law, TeCSA and the Procurement Lawyers Association.

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Jane has over ten years' experience advising on public sector construction projects. She specialises in major projects in infrastructure, highways and the public realm. Jane is highly experienced in negotiating all forms of construction documents, including the JCT and NEC suites, ECI contracts, professional team appointments, performance and retention bonds, parent company guarantees and collateral warranties.

Jane provides strategic and commercial assurance support in addition to highly tailored legal advice. She regularly advises on procurement routes and delivery structures. Jane is a member of the Society of Construction Law and the Procurement Lawyers Association. Recent experience includes advising two highways authorities throughout the re-procurements of their highways maintenance contracts, the use of a national major works framework to appoint design and build contractors on a number of politically important and urgent construction projects (including in leisure, public realm and affordable housing) and advising a public authority on a complex and politically sensitive tripartite asset protection agreement with a developer and Network Rail.

Corporate Law

We have expert lawyers who advise on Government company structures and the sale of government assets as well as the management of Government trading companies. We can also help develop and provide strategies for procurement and development of commercial opportunities for the public sector and NDPBs.

We bring an extensive wider corporate capability that covers the whole range of corporate legal services, including all aspects of company law, public and private company transactions (including mergers & acquisitions and corporate finance), share acquisitions, disposals, capitalisations, entity selection, venture capital advice and operating agreements. Our consortium can provide company secretarial services and advise on all aspects of corporate governance, including directors' duties, securities and other related governance matters. We have dedicated solicitors working exclusively on restructuring of ownership and complex and innovative legal structures and initiatives.

Our clients include listed and unlisted multinational organisations, quasi-government organisations in various sectors including healthcare, technology, retail, financial services, media and pharmaceuticals. Specialists within our consortium also provide the above corporate legal services to local SMEs and start-up fast growing companies.

Case Study - Acquisition of Brookwood Cemetery for Woking Borough Council - The Council wished to acquire the shares in the companies which owned Brookwood Cemetery, the largest cemetery in Western Europe, which had been a cause of concern for some time. Specialists within our consortium advised on and negotiated the share transfer agreement, assisted in carrying out due diligence, established new companies to take over the cemetery, dealt with staff transfer and due diligence, and managed the completion meeting. The transaction has enabled the authority to acquire control over it and make plans for the future.

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Oliver is a Director in the corporate team based in London. He focuses on private equity and M&A and advises on both domestic and international transactions. He has considerable experience of, and specialises in, private equity, including acquisitions, disposals, and restructurings, and of domestic and international transactions.

He also advises on all aspects of M&A, including acquisitions, disposals, and joint ventures and equity arrangements.

Ben is a highly experienced corporate lawyer who specialises in advising clients on mergers, acquisitions and joint ventures, as well as on corporate structuring projects. His M&A experience is wide-ranging and covers a variety of transactions and clients – from large multi-national organisations to owner-managed businesses, always with a focus on maximising value and managing risk for his clients, who appreciate his calm, no-nonsense approach and intellectual rigour.

Ben has F1 experience, having worked on the team advising Honda of its purchase of the then BAR team. Prior to joining PwC, Ben trained and worked post-qualification at a large US law firm, before gaining further experience at a UK-led international firm.

Ben has a leading role in identifying and developing new technologies for use in providing legal services in innovative and more efficient ways.

Dispute Resolution

Our disputes specialists includes solicitors, lawyers qualified in foreign jurisdictions and barristers who together cover a broad range of Alternative Dispute Resolution procedures, including mediation and adjudication. Their expertise extends itself to early and strategic advice on disputes, including contractual resolution procedures and leverages deep forensic technology and AI machine learning tools to rapidly locate, process, structure and review large amounts of documentation.

We are able to handle all manner of post-transactional disputes including misconceived outsourcing agreements that are not fit for purpose as well as assistance in the residual transactional risks to avoid further disputes. For those reliant on business partners (e.g. supply, distribution, joint venture partnerships), we can also pursue and defend a wide range of contractual disputes to manage underperformance, exit bad relationships or expose fraud. For those clients who have suffered the impact of poor external support, we have significant experience in professional negligence matters relating to a range of disciplines, including legal, tax and accounting. Our clients include public sector bodies, corporates, high net worth individuals and partnerships.

Case Study - Financial Services - Operated on a multi-year contract to assist a large-scale remediation review governed by a regulator in the financial services sector. Using legal expertise to augment other PwC professionals, assisted with the response to hundreds of customers for claims against the organisation in relation to various retail products.

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Agnes joined PwC in 2001 from DLA. Agnes is a partner and the Practice Group Leader of PwC's Regulatory & Commercial Disputes Team, who have worked on a multitude of different disputes matters. Agnes has acted in high profile UK and international cases for a range of clients, including those in the UK Public Sector, engineering and construction, oil and gas, financial services and pharmaceuticals sectors.

Agnes has acted for a number of local authorities in relation to multi-million pound claims for compound interest brought against HMRC.

Dipti joined PwC from DAC Beachcroft LLP in 2016. Operating out of the London office, Dipti leads the Commercial Disputes Team. She has over 18 years' experience working in a number of leading law firms. Dipti guides clients through the often unfamiliar terrain of dispute resolution process whether it be arbitration, adjudication or mediation, or any other forum.

Dipti has experience of advising public sector bodies in respect a series of mediations and multiple adjudications. Dipti has experience of conducting arbitration proceedings to trial. In this matter (which remains confidential) Dipti successfully defended the individual.

Colin has significant experience advising on complex disputes and dispute avoidance for the public sector.

His work includes advice on commercial and contractual interpretation, commercial property disputes, strategic dispute avoidance work including acting for contracting authorities and utilities on procurement challenges and advising how to avoid them. Recent experience includes: advice to 2 SE England Police forces in an IT dispute referred to mediation; acting for a London Borough in a dispute concerning breach of/fraudulent operation of a waste collection contract; and, advising a utility on mitigating procurement challenge risk on an infrastructure project.

Employment Law

We have expert lawyers who provide specialist and commercially focused advice to help clients manage key areas of employment related risk. Senior lawyers in our consortium have close working relationships with tax, pensions, bench-marking and other specialists, which means they are uniquely placed to provide you with seamless end to end solutions on a multi-disciplinary basis. We handle all traditional areas of employment law with particular expertise advising on: employment litigation (including high profile discrimination litigation and large class actions), HR transactional matters including TUPE/COSOP and change management, redundancy and re-organisations, industrial relations, high profile investigations, disciplinary issues and terminations, and large/complex corporate transactions

We can leverage an interactive tool which comprehensively analyses salary data, models gender pay gaps allowing us to identify root causes of pay disparities. By combining this technological insight with detailed legal analysis, we work with clients in a legally privileged way to proactively identify and address any gender pay issues.

Case Study - Supporting Council with restructuring programme - PwC are currently advising a large City Council on the people aspects of its wide-ranging transformation and modernisation programme in conjunction with their HR consulting colleagues across PwC. They have been supporting the client with a large scale voluntary severance/early retirement programme. Their experience of public sector reorganisations and strategic approach have enabled them to provide practical advice in a cost effective way, delivering real value. A key element of their support has been effective stakeholder management including union consultation.

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Ed leads PwC's employment law team. Ed advises on major change and restructuring projects, has advised on one of the largest administrations of the past decade including the management of 900+ ET claims, he has a leading market position on gender pay, equal pay and diversity issues and has handled many high profile discrimination claims.

Ed has advised a number of NHS Trusts on day-to-day HR legal matters for the past five years, which includes drafting short-term contracts of employment for locum staffing requirements.

Ed has also led a sensitive investigation into the conduct of the Chief Executive of a large UK charity. This led to subsequent disciplinary proceedings and his termination. Ed subsequently handled resolution of his threatened claim.

Laura supports employers on a full range of people related issues including: contracts, policies, worker status, industrial relations, compliance and disputes. She has extensive experience advising public sector bodies and executive agencies, city councils, colleges, universities and police authorities.

Laura has advised an executive agency on the employment issues relating to the insourcing of its £1bn+ IT contract, including mitigating the effects of the legacy contract which included TUPE-plus provisions and poorly drafted indemnities, the approach to consultation and workforce integration.

Laura supported another executive agency in employment tribunal claims including from a serial litigant and relating to national security. She secured very successful outcomes (strike out and withdrawal).

Environmental

We have dedicated environmental specialists who not only advise on the due diligence aspects of deals but also take on stand-alone environmental work including advice on environmental permitting, waste and minerals law, representation in court and support to clients during prosecutions and investigations. Interviews and/or submissions under caution are a particular speciality. We understand that this is an area which can enhance reputations, especially in the public sector, if organisations can get it right, but destroy credibility if issues are handled badly.

Case Study - Advising the owners of an essential waste composting plant whose aim was to keep operating - Howes Percival used a two-pronged approach: reduce complaints and, in that context, convince the regulators that there was no breach of the environmental permit or any statutory nuisance due to odour emission. This work included liaison with the regulators and local liaison group. Howes Percival were able to achieve a reduction in complaints. It appeared that rumours of the site taking in certain types of food and animal by-product waste had galvanised objections. Visits to the site were arranged and the regulators agreed a means of reporting which reduced pressure on management. The site remains open.

Alan Millband
Partner
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For over 25 years, Alan has advised, assisted and represented clients in contentious environmental matters, including water pollution and waste, with extensive experience in respect of packaging waste cases.

He has represented clients in interviews under caution and in criminal courts. He provides advice, assistance and representation in environmental authority investigations and enforcement action. Recent experience includes acting for corporate and individual clients across the extractives and manufacturing industries, including multi-nationals in the aggregates sector; and members of large trade associations.

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Paul is the head of the Planning Team at Howes Percival and before joining them headed up the Planning and Energy and Natural Resources Teams at Eversheds.

He advises on all aspects of planning law and has been qualified for over 20 years. Acting for a Government agency, Paul led the planning and compulsory purchase work in connection with the Olympics and Legacy development in Stratford.

Jay Mehta
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Jay is an Associate Solicitor at Howes Percival and specialises in all aspects of planning and environmental law. Jay acts for many local authorities, national house builders and landowners and is known for providing pragmatic and commercial legal advice.

Jay regularly advises his clients on environmental issues in the context of securing permission for, and delivering, new developments and has extensive experience in defending claims for judicial review. Recent cases include the successful defence of a grant of planning permission in the Supreme Court on behalf of a local authority and the UK's largest malt distributor. This case is now the leading authority concerning the environmental impact assessment legislation, and the circumstances in which the Court should interfere in decisions made by public bodies.

EU Law

Our lawyers have extensive experience advising on EU law matters covering a diverse range of topics, with notable expertise in trade and financial sanctions, export control, customs, free movement of goods and services, public procurement, data protection and consumer safety regulations. They have experience of damages actions, debt recovery and public procurement litigation proceedings before the European and national courts. We also represent clients in standalone private litigation, in which they are able to take advantage of our unique combination of EU law and litigation experience, either to provide specialist advice and opinions, or to manage the dispute as a whole. Our consortium has extensive experience in representing parties under investigation and includes the World ECR Export Control (Europe) Law Firm of the Year 2017 and World ECR Sanctions (Europe) Law Firm of the Year 2017.

Our global Immigration team can provide a range of UK and EU specialist immigration services and includes the largest global network of in-house immigration specialists of more than 1,500 specialists in 154 countries. This includes teams in all EU Member States and excellent relationships with governments and immigration authorities globally. We are consulted regularly by the Home Office on UK immigration policy and we are in a prime position to advise public sector bodies on policy reform, compliance, practical implementation and enforcement. We can leverage innovative technology which offers clients the ability to manage all aspects of their global programme, drive efficiencies, and in turn, pass these cost savings onto our clients.

Anthony Woolich
Partner and head of Competition and Regulation
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Anthony specialises in competition law, public procurement, trade sanctions, export control, anti-bribery and anti-corruption, trade regulation, State aid and data protection/privacy. He is on the City of London Law Society's Committee on Commercial law and its Brexit sub-committee, has been a longstanding member of the Steering Committee of the Procurement Lawyers Association, a member of the Law Society's Competition Section, the UK Association for European Law and the Competition Law Association. He has won industry recognition for contributions on EU law and Brexit.

His experience includes advising a UK non-departmental public body (NDPB) on the merits under EU law of promoting a Buy British policy, advising UK government bodies on their obligations under EU law (including on public procurement, competition law, State aid and misleading advertising), advising a UK Government body on an international transaction, including conflicts between obligations under EU and UK law and under local law, and advising on the supremacy of EU law over national law in regulatory and commercial disputes, advising on the free movement of goods and services, and advising on EU legislation on sanctions and export controls. He is a regular contributor to the media on his areas of specialisation.

Julia Onslow-Cole
Partner, Legal Markets Leader and Head of Global Immigration
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Julia is a key expert in PwC's Brexit Taskforce and was appointed to the Mayor of London's Brexit Advisory Group. She has represented business at the Prime Minister's immigration stock take meeting and acted as an adviser to the Home Office on business, investment and growth. She has been liaising with Government and Business on immigration outcomes subsequent to the EU Referendum. Julia is co signatory of the ground breaking PwC / London First report on the impact of migrant workers in London released in March 2017 and a co signatory of the report on Regional Visas by PwC commissioned by the City of London Corporation.

Julia has provided advice to Brexit advisory committees covering a range of areas including financial passporting, people and social security as result of Brexit. This advice was provided to Number 10, the Home Office and the Department for Exiting the European Union. Julia leads PwC's unique crisis management services that PwC rendered during the Arab Spring and Algeria hostage crisis. Julia led the emergency evacuation of oil and gas sector employees from Egypt, Algeria and Libya; arranging special carrier exemptions and visa waivers to allow non-visa nationals to enter and remain in the UK whilst awaiting relocation to their home country / resolution of the crisis.

Information Law including Data Protection

We can provide cyber security and data protection legal advice which encompasses the spectrum of legal issues in this area and can broadly be broken up into contentious and non-contentious work, with significant experience in helping clients become ready for the EU General Data Protection Regulation (“GDPR”). The consortium contains one of the largest specialist data protection teams with a national and international reach and reputation, allowing us to provide a genuine insight into the UK business landscape for the changes under the GDPR. We have also built a leading reputation for contentious work in this space and have experience of some of the most significant cyber breaches, court cases and regulatory challenges in cyber security and data protection and can advise on the basis of the knowledge gained through this unrivalled experience.

The consortium can leverage market leading technology, including a GDPR Readiness Assessment Tool which provides clients with full visibility of their GDPR Readiness, reveals gaps in their compliance and provides a risk based approach for prioritising compliance work.

Case Study - GDPR readiness assessment for a public body - PwC were instructed by this public sector organisation, to consider a “top down” review of their data protection position with a view to transition to the GDPR in May 2018. They assessed the organisation against every aspect of the GDPR and highlighted the areas of strength and of weakness. They also highlighted the areas in which it is not ready for the GDPR and also benchmarked them against the UK market and against others in their specific business sector (on the basis of their proprietary GDPR benchmarking data).

Stewart Room
Partner & Global Head of Data
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Stewart’s pre-eminence within the field is evidenced by the fact that he has recently been identified as a leading authority in respect of Data Protection, and was sought out to provide evidence to the House of Lords’ EU Committee on the EU Data Protection regime and the relevant impacts of Brexit.

James Drury-Smith
Legal Director
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James works with some of the world's largest companies, as well as emerging technology companies, to help them navigate cross-border privacy issues and implement data protection controls globally. He regularly advises clients in the technology, financial and health sectors on a full range of privacy issues.

James has particular focus on the impact of data protection and cyber requirements on digital technology. James has extensive experience advising on data protection laws and the implementation of privacy governance models. James has served as a Data Protection Officer and acted as legal counsel within Barclays Bank Group’s Privacy function.

James Howarth
Partner
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James has been involved in various contentious data protection matters over the years, including a High Court trial, litigation for personal damages and rectification against a local authority and advising a regulatory body on a potential breach of highly sensitive personal data. James has handled various SAR applications (bringing and responding) and is Howes Percival’s GDPR compliance lead.

Information Technology

Our team members have been hand-picked from London's top IT legal practices, including NOA's Advisor of the Year. They lead or participate in many pan-industry initiatives including the National Outsourcing Association, ItchLaw & the Society for Computers & Law. The consortium can provide advice on all aspects of information technology law including IT and telecoms procurement and contracting; design, development, maintenance and support contracts; re-structuring of contracts and/or services; exit and migration/transition; and hardware purchasing, software licensing and software-as-a-service agreements, managed services, E-commerce, cloud based services, convergent technologies and the internet. Our specialist technology lawyers provide a combination of people and technology led solutions to meet customer needs with a deep technical experience and understanding of the issues drawing on experience having advised both customers and major suppliers in relation to IT contracts and issues. We also have extensive experience in advising central government departments, security and emergency services on all manner of IT and telecoms procurement including the creation of IPR and commercial opportunities arising therefrom.

Case Study - After winning the mandate to advise a major IT implementer of one of the world's largest enterprise software platforms in its strategic alliance with one of the world's largest global IT companies, PwC are engaged on an annuity basis to provide a managed legal service supporting all of their customer commercial contract negotiations for IT services. This arrangement has also enabled PwC to help the client to transform to a digital way of working using their contract digitisation, generation and management platform.

Juan Crosby

Partner

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Juan is the Head of PwC's Technology and Sourcing practice and has over 15 years' experience advising on major technology and business process outsourcings and sourcing strategies, including long term, high value strategic ICT arrangements, enterprise licensing, applications development and maintenance and cloud services. He is recognised as an expert in the field, is invited to regularly speak at UK and International IT legal events and has received a number of industry awards including Best Advisor by the National Outsourcing Association.

Juan has led a \$1bn technology transaction, transforming core technology underpinning a client's key business activities. He has advised a supermajor on their global IT Function and transformation programme including the re-engineering & standardisation of global IT processes, design and implementation of a new IT service delivery model, new platforms for performance management, globalisation and standardisation of IT processes. He specialises in creating contracts that reflect the service and drive better outcomes and risk management including incentive mechanisms.

Jonathan Nugent

Senior Solicitor

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Jonathan is a Senior Solicitor in our technology and sourcing legal team and has over 20 years' experience.

He specialises in commercial agreements and other legal issues relating to information technology, outsourcing and intellectual property. He has substantial experience of negotiating and advising on complex IT and other commercial agreements including master service agreements, system implementation, software development, Software-as-a-Service, alliances and joint venture agreements.

Jonathan has advised local authorities on procurement and customer agreements relating to development and deployment of an innovative SaaS solution for local authorities. He also has experience advising implementation and licence agreements with SAP for an integrated back-office ERP solution and IT services as part of a complex realignment and renegotiation of outsourced IT services. He also advises a number of fast-growth technology companies and provides a strong understanding of emerging technologies and the legal issues that need to be considered.

Intellectual Property Law

Intellectual property is a valuable and often under-exploited asset; digitisation and developing technologies in particular have made the role of IP in the provision of government services more critical than ever, as a mechanism for protecting government-funded innovation as well as a source of income from commercialisation and a potential risk from the threat of infringement actions.

Our experience covers a wide range of IP services across both soft and hard IP. We particularly specialise in IP licensing and commercialisation, R&D and collaboration agreements, IP acquisitions and disposals and IP audits and risk reviews (testing controls around IP). We advise on developing IP strategies, IP spin outs, IP disputes and IP protection, and have significant experience undertaking complex ownership reviews, devising new and innovative commercialisation / exploitation structures. We also work alongside non-legal IP specialists, who add significant expertise to our IP law projects (e.g. valuation experts assisting with pricing on licences and assignments).

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Latika leads PwC's Intellectual Property team and has over 20 years' experience in this field. She has a Diploma in Intellectual Property Law and Practice.

Latika's extensive experience includes: advising a British manufacturer on entering into IP licences with US and Chinese groups including protection of IP (copyright, know-how and designs) in China and how best to structure the licences to protect the value, secure an ongoing revenue stream and maximise the return (working alongside our IP Valuations experts); drafting licences and cost sharing agreements to support the European commercialisation of the IP of 2 US IP (patent and trade mark) owners by our UK client for a pharmaceuticals group; and advising a Government Agency alongside PwC's Consultancy practice on its valuable IP and how to commercialise it.

Raj is an Associate in Sharpe Pritchard's Data & ICT Team and specialises in Intellectual Property Law. He acts for clients both in the public sector (including central government and local authorities, to which he has additionally been seconded) and the private sector (particularly IP-rich technology start-ups).

Raj specialises in protecting and commercially exploiting clients' intellectual property, and frequently advises on copyright issues and trade mark registration and licensing, both domestically and internationally. Recent work includes: advising a global supplier of cloud-based business performance management software on its international trade mark and brand protection strategy; registering a variety of UK and EU trade marks (including for a statutory office holder connected with the Home Office, a major regional police force, and a regional industry cluster of scientific research organisations); acting for a local authority accused by a third party of IP infringement; and handling the assignment and licensing of copyright in world-famous street signs on behalf of a central London authority, providing ancillary advice on methods of enforcement and commercialisation.

Litigation

Our litigation specialists have skills which cover a broad range of civil and criminal litigation, including High Court, Court of Appeal and Supreme Court proceedings. We offer early and strategic advice on disputes, including ensuring that alternative dispute resolution is explored before initiating Court proceedings. We have specialist litigation solicitors, barristers and registered lawyers qualified in other jurisdictions.

We are able to handle all manner of post-transactional disputes including misconceived outsourcing agreements that are not fit for purpose as well as assistance in the residual transactional risks to avoid further disputes and challenges to public procurement processes. For those reliant on business partners (e.g. supply, distribution, joint venture partnerships), we can pursue and defend a wide range of contractual disputes to manage underperformance, exit bad relationships or expose fraud. For those clients who have suffered the impact of poor external support, our consortium specialists have significant experience in professional negligence matters relating to a range of disciplines, including legal, tax and accounting. In addition, our consortium has disputes specialists in the insurance and reinsurance sector with experience in high-value international dispute resolution. Our clients include public sector bodies, corporates, high net worth individuals and partnerships.

Agnes Quashie
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Agnes joined PwC in 2001 from DLA and is the Practice Group Leader of PwC's Regulatory & Commercial Disputes Team. Agnes leads complex cases from first instance through to the Supreme Court and European Court of Justice (ECJ). Recent cases include advising clients on contractual disputes, consequential loss claims, asset tracing & recovery, enforcement, injunctive relief, and Judicial Review.

Agnes remains a leading authority on legal professional privilege and acted for the Applicant in one of the UK's foremost cases on the subject, namely *R (on the Application of Prudential plc and another [Appellants] v Special Commissioner of Income Tax and another [Respondents] 2013 UKSC1)*. ("Prudential").

Dipti Hunter
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Dipti joined PwC from DAC Beachcroft LLP in 2016. Operating out of the London office, Dipti leads the Commercial Disputes Team. She has over 18 years' experience including extensive experience of proceedings in the Administrative Division as well as Chancery & Queen's Bench Division. She has experience advising a number of public sector bodies on a series of mediations, multiple adjudications and a High Court claim in respect of a disputed outsourcing agreement.

Dipti has previously conducted a number of judicial review applications for corporate clients. Dipti is the current Vice Chair of the Commercial Litigation Association and a member of the London Solicitors Litigation Association.

Christopher Cardona
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Christopher is head of HFW's insurance and reinsurance global group. He specialises in high-value international dispute resolution in the insurance and reinsurance sector.

He regularly lectures on insurance and reinsurance topics and advises the insurance market on policy issues, product development and policy wordings

Recent experience includes acting for London market E&O underwriters of a reinsurance broker in connection with alleged failures in securing back to back cover for its clients' insurance of a state-owned corporation under a US\$1 billion programme.

Non Complex Finance

We act for lenders, borrowers and security providers on a wide range of domestic and cross-border finance related matters including bilateral, club and syndicated loan agreements, finance leases, sale and leaseback transactions, guarantees and standby letters of credit, mortgages, debentures, receivables assignments and other security arrangements, letters of credit, ISDA swap agreements, export credit agency supported finance, asset finance, trade finance, project/infrastructure finance, Islamic finance, transfers of loan portfolios, regulation in the financial services sector, loan restructurings and loan, guarantee and security enforcement and other financial litigation.

We have an experienced team of dedicated finance lawyers who routinely deal with a wide range of finance matters, both in the UK and internationally, for a large variety of lenders and borrowers. We work across the full life cycle of a deal from the initial structuring through the documentation and completion stages and into any later amendment, sell-down, restructuring or enforcement phases. Our specialists in this area see many different deals involving many different parties and know that no two clients are the same. We work to understand the concerns of each individual client and deliver clear, practical advice which addresses those concerns.

Case study - Advising on novel trade finance securitisation - We advised on the establishment of one of the first securitisations of both existing and future trade finance receivables. The securitisation structure will enable Luxembourg-based asset manager Synthesis to access the capital markets (including retail investors) through a medium term note (MTN) programme established by three special purpose issuers, in order to provide trade finance to the commodities market.

Elinor Dautlich

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Elinor heads HFW's Travel and Leisure Group. She advises on ship and aviation finance, leasing, seller's credits and other forms of capital raising. She is Co-Chair of the International Bar Association's (IBA) Maritime and Transport Law Committee. She is the first woman to be appointed in the position of Chair of this Committee.

Her experience includes advising a UK Government body on international transactions, including conflicts between the body's obligations under EU and UK law and under local law.

Tony Rice

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Tony leads HFW's Finance Group and has extensive experience of advising clients in the finance, export finance, offshore and shipping industries.

Adam Shire

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Adam is a finance lawyer who specialises in asset finance. He acts for banks, other financial institutions and borrowers on finance transactions, including syndicated, bilateral and club loans and lease transactions.

Recent experience includes acting for Investec in relation to a loan to a major corporate customer to be used for three downstream investment projects relating to: an LPG distribution business in Kenya, an acquisition of a majority shareholding in a Bangladeshi LPG project and the construction of a three tank LPG storage terminal in Mauritius; and acting for Sonali Bank in connection with financing the pre-delivery payments for two Boeing 777 aircraft being constructed for Biman Bangladesh Airlines.

Outsourcing

We provide exceptional client service and practical, commercial legal advice. We know the industry, service providers and how to identify and resolve issues quickly, reducing deal time and transaction costs to bring forward ROI and savings, ensuring strong contractual rights & remedies. We lead/participate in pan-industry initiatives including the National Outsourcing Association, ItchLaw & the Society for Computers & the Law.

We provide: advice on all aspects of outsourcing arrangements, including first and subsequent generation transactions, renegotiations, variations and re-alignment, and insourcing; expertise across sectors, industries and models including large scale transformation projects, multi-vendor ecosystems, SIAM & Tower IT models, BPOs, finance & accounting, HR and F&M outsourcings; experience in advising on FS regulation and 'material outsourcing' rules; and a deep understanding of outsourcing arrangements and issues, including how best to structure global arrangements and issues eg liability, remedies and pricing mechanisms to drive better outcomes, collaboration and in-life supplier performance.

Case study - IT and Business Process Outsourcing, complex multi-national transition, transformation and operate project in respect of IT & HR Services - We supported a major global services transformation project involving re-engineering and standardisation of processes. We supported the strategy, RfP, procurement and contracting processes involving 3 leading global suppliers and negotiation of master and local agreements, advising on all aspects from service design, transition and transformation to cyber security (GDPR), global DP and commercial agreements in the context of a regulated industry. The transactions involved significant negotiations and integration/co-ordination of business, commercial HR and legal teams.

Juan Crosby

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Juan is Head of PwC's Technology and Sourcing practice joining from one of London's top Outsourcing practices where he was head of International Sourcing. He has 15+ years' experience, advising on major technology outsourcings and BPO strategies and long term, high value strategic ICT sourcing arrangements.

He is recognised as an expert in the field and has received a number of industry awards including the National Outsourcing Association's Best Advisor of the Year for his work done on a range of market leading multi-vendor outsourcing deals, following which he was appointed to the NOA council.

Nigel Wilson

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Nigel is a Senior Solicitor in PwC's Technology and Sourcing team with 15+ years' experience of leading outsourcing projects and negotiations for major public and private sector clients and has substantial experience of acting for customers and suppliers.

He has advised Defra, MoD, DfE, the NHS and Local Government. Nigel supported the ONS as the senior solicitor advising on the successful procurement and delivery of the 2012 Census. He regularly advises on complex procurement projects: IT, facilities management and other business services and he has just completed a multi-million pound procurement and outsourcing of HR and IT services.

Pensions Law

Our pensions team is made up of experienced lawyers with specialist knowledge in pensions law including corporate restructuring, litigation and public sector pensions. We advise on private sector defined benefit and defined contribution arrangements, public sector pension schemes and international aspects of pensions law. Our wide experience and deep technical knowledge allows us to communicate complex legal issues in a user-friendly manner.

Case study - Advising over 45 NHS trusts as part of a wider project to monitor and manage temporary staff costs (including pensions) - PwC advised various NHS Trusts concerning defined benefit pensions arrangements obligations in relation to temporary staff. This involved advising on Trusts' contractual arrangements with employment agencies and procurement rules affecting the engagement of temporary staff, as well as the automatic enrolment laws and their application to temporary staff employed within the NHS.

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Oliver heads up PwC's pensions legal team having established it in 2006 when he joined from the Pensions Regulator.

Oliver's wide experience includes:

- advising clients in relation to the Pensions Regulator's 'moral hazard' powers including defending actions and responding to regulatory enquiries;
- advising PwC on its transactions, which often involve public sector pensions considerations and outsourcing requirements; and
- pensions litigation including applications to the Court for clarification of scheme provisions, rectification and Hastings Bass claims, and resolving professional negligence matters.

Caroline joined PwC from Eversheds in 2015. Her extensive experience enables her to provide commercial, solution-driven advice on complex pensions issues.

Caroline's experience includes advising on the legal aspects of defined benefit and defined contribution schemes including:

- complex asset backed funding arrangements, reservoir trusts and other contingent assets;
- innovative solutions for distressed employers including negotiations with the Pensions Regulator; and
- liability management exercises including enhanced transfer value exercises, flexible retirement options, buy-ins and buy-outs.

Planning

We have specialists with vast experience in town and country planning work for the public sector, including large-scale s106 agreements, highways agreements and major public inquiries and appeals. We have expertise in a wide range of developments projects and schemes including commercial developments, regeneration projects, leisure and sports facilities and industrial buildings. We have also frequently advised on compulsory purchase orders and on tactics and the legal issues which can arise from the exercise of CPO powers such as blight and hope value.

Case study - Estate Regeneration – London - The Planning team is instructed by a London local authority in respect of the largest full planning application submitted in the UK. The team provides support on all planning aspects of the scheme, including on affordable housing, substantive highway and transportation improvements, securing parks and open spaces, meeting energy requirements and on CIL. The scheme is of crucial importance for the Council and brings forward much needed improvements to the largest estate within the borough.

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Brian was admitted as a solicitor in 1980 and joined Sharpe Pritchard in 2003. He leads the firm's planning law team. Brian's considerable experience as a solicitor encompasses both private practice and the public sector. This includes a period as legal adviser in the Land Claims Commission. Brian has extensive experience and expertise advising public sector clients on planning, highways, infrastructure and waste and environmental law.

His expertise also encompasses development consent orders on major infrastructure projects. He acts predominantly for public authorities, including on major schemes and developments in London and elsewhere. He is an experienced advocate in planning appeals and plan-making inquiries. Brian has recently acted for the National Trust in respect of a substantial development impacting a grade II listed building; has acted as lead partner on a number of high profile matters including Oval Cricket Ground, Deepcut Army Barracks, Thames Tideway Tunnel and Earl's Court Exhibition Centre.

Denise Stephenson
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Denise was admitted as a solicitor in 1999, joined Sharpe Pritchard in 2005 and is a partner in the planning law team. While in local government, Denise developed expertise in highway, planning and listed building issues and experience in planning inquiries and acting as legal representative at committee meetings. Denise specialises in highways, planning and environmental law and has led on many major regeneration projects, large redevelopment schemes and infrastructure projects.

She advises on affordable housing and viability issues, judicial review, heritage issues and environmental impact assessments, administrative law, CPOs and community infrastructure levy. Denise is currently lead partner on a number of significant estate regeneration projects in London and developments on land previously designated for greenbelt across the country. She was lead partner on the redevelopment of Wimbledon Greyhound Site (Plough Lane), providing a new football stadium for AFC Wimbledon and providing planning advice on a CPO compensation matter on the south west coast.

Projects / PFI / PPP

We have vast experience in town and country planning work for the public sector, including large-scale s106 agreements and highways agreements. We provide legal services to Central Government, NDPOs, delivery bodies and other public sector bodies across the UK. Our team is well-known and highly regarded for our work on some of the UK's most significant projects and programmes. We have substantial experience of providing end to end project advice and support from outline business case/strategy advice through to managing project close. Our consortium's services and expertise includes advice on governance and project strategy, drafting bespoke or amended documents and the procurement suite, advice on security packages and risk analysis, integration with other advisers and commercial assurance. We have advised extensively on complex delivery structures, including the creation of delivery bodies and their development, regulatory regime, associated governance and their relationship with Central Government. Our consortium advises on the delivery and management of whole PPP programmes, and specialists within our consortium are advising on programmes including the MoJ on the procurement, delivery and implementation of their Technology Transformation Programme.

Case study - Thames Tideway Tunnel: "The Super Sewer" - Sharpe Pritchard LLP acted for Thames Water Utilities Ltd from 2012 to 2017 on all aspects of this £4.2bn project from procurement of early enabling works contracts, drafting the main tunnelling contracts to the strategy and delivery of the infrastructure provider. Their work included advising on commercial strategy, complex drafting, advice on governance, on procurement and regulatory law, compliance, assurance negotiations and stakeholder management. They were embedded in the project team and provided on-site support through a flexible, highly experienced and extensive resource.

Paul O'Sullivan

Partner

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Paul is a highly experienced projects and contracts lawyer and has over 25 years' experience in the field. He has particular expertise in complex public sector project work for central government departments and other public bodies, across a wide range of delivery models and contract types including PPP, IPPP, PFI and frameworks. Paul has a detailed knowledge of complex tendering processes and methodologies across many sectors and is used to advising clients through all stages of a project's procurement, including communications with stakeholders and decision makers and managing wider teams of lawyers.

Roseanne Serrelli

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Ros is a projects, infrastructure, contracts and procurement lawyer with 25 years' experience advising public sector clients including infrastructure delivery bodies, Central Government, NDPBs and Utilities. Ros' particular speciality is devising new and innovative delivery solutions including a strategic approach to procurement, payment, integration, performance management and contracting. She is regularly "embedded" in project teams to bring together various strands from the technical, financial and commercial teams. Ros advises on all forms of contract (including PF2, SOPC, PPP, EPC NEC and bespoke models) as well as incentivisation, collaboration and alliancing.

Nicola Sumner

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Nicky is a contracts and procurement lawyer with over 20 years' experience of advising public sector clients including contracting authorities, utilities, infrastructure delivery bodies, Central Government and Local Government. Her core area of practice is advising on high profile and complex procurement processes for the delivery of infrastructure projects and PFI/PPP/PF2 projects. Nicky is highly experienced in project managing end to end procurement processes and drafting complex documentation. Significant projects on which Nicky has advised in recent years include Thames Tideway Tunnel and WLWA's £1.4B waste and rail infrastructure project. Nicky is currently working on a number of key projects and programmes cited in the UK's 'National Infrastructure Delivery Plan 2016 to 2021'.



Public Law

We bring market leading experience in the field of public law. We have advised a wide variety of public bodies on a range of constitutional issues. These include drafting, interpretation and advice on disputes with two of our consortium's partners being Roll A Parliamentary Agents.

We have significant experience in advising on powers relating to decision-making including steps needing to be taken to minimise the risk of challenges by way of judicial review. This includes advice on consultation and equality impact assessments. We also have long experience of acting in connection with election petitions and advising on the conduct of elections.

Case study - Advised on PCC preparing to perform fire and rescue functions - Sharpe Pritchard advised a Police and Crime Commissioner who wanted to perform the fire and rescue functions in their area on (i) the consultation requirements of the relevant legislation, (ii) whether the PCC's proposals satisfied those requirements and (iii) the steps needed under the legislation to prepare. The PCC was able to place itself in a good position with a well thought out plan to perform fire and rescue functions and launch a robust consultation exercise which complied with the legislation.

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A Roll A Parliamentary Agent, qualified in 1992. He advises clients on the interpretation of legislation and on public law generally, including vires and process. He specialises in promoting all kinds of legislation, including Parliamentary bills and secondary legislation.

Alastair has drafted and promoted a number of Acts of Parliament providing general powers to the London Borough Councils and TfL across many subject areas. Some of the legislation he has drafted (including road traffic and environmental legislation) has been picked up nationally by the government.

A Roll A Parliamentary Agent, Emyr qualified in 2006 and like Alastair Lewis, advises on general public law, including vires, consultation and statutory interpretation. Emyr also specialises in election law.

Emyr has advised a government department on the implications of environmental impact assessment on Parliamentary procedure and has promoted private bills in parliament for local authorities, including the London Borough Councils. He regularly acts for returning officers on electoral law cases.

Trevor Griffiths has over 30 years of specialist experience in judicial reviews and statutory appeals and has extensive expertise in administrative law, dispute resolution and public law.

He acts for public and local authorities in both commencing and defending judicial reviews and statutory appeals. He regularly advises on appeals to the higher courts on injunctions and costs and has advised various public bodies on some of the most high profile administrative law cases in the High Court, Court of Appeal and Supreme Court.

Public Procurement Law

Our public procurement practice covers all aspects of domestic and EU public procurement law and has advised on some of the largest, most high profile and complex government projects. We have extensive experience acting for UK Central Government departments, NDPBs, ALBs, UK utilities, local authorities, regulators and judiciary on major public procurement exercises.

Our procurement expertise spans the full range of public procurement work, including advising on procurement strategy and the procurement tendering process for the award of public contracts, advising on procurement issues arising from varying public contracts post award, setting up public sector controlled companies and bringing (or defending against) procurement challenges and advising on ways to minimise risk of challenges.

Case study - Advising on a major variation to a PFI contract - In 2015/16 Sharpe Pritchard were instructed to advise on a major variation to a PFI project in which they had previously acted arising from the agreed 'revised project plan' to address planning failure for the key facility. This variation was a significant project in its own right and involved a renegotiation of the PFI contract and advice on the position in relation to compliance with the public procurement rules. The project closed after significant and complex negotiations with the contractor in July 2016. The effect is that the client will be able to deliver significant new national infrastructure in accordance with the UK Infrastructure Plan.

Julia Rudin

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Qualified in 1992, Julia specialises in advising the public sector, including government departments, on commercial transactions, with particular expertise in PPP, PFI, shared services and running complex competitive processes. Julia is a joint Lead Partner advising MoJ on its major technology outsourcing programme to implement a disaggregated operating model for the delivery of ICT services.

Timothy Farr

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Tim is a projects, contracts and procurement lawyer with 20 years' experience of advising the public sector including Central Government, local authorities, and utilities. Before joining Sharpe Pritchard, Tim was the Solicitor to the Council at a major County Council and has an innate understanding of public sector outsourcing and advising on different delivery models be they public / private or public sector partnerships. Recent experience includes working with the ESFA in relation to their Adult Education and Non-Levy Apprenticeship procurements.

Paul O'Sullivan

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Paul is a highly experienced projects and contracts lawyer and has over 25 years' experience in the field. He has particular expertise in complex public sector project work for central government departments and other public bodies, across a wide range of delivery models and contract types including PPP, IPPP, PFI and frameworks. Paul has a detailed knowledge of complex tendering processes and methodologies across many sectors and is used to advising clients through all stages of a project's procurement, including communications with stakeholders and decision makers and managing wider teams of lawyers.

Partnership Law

We advise on all aspects of partnership law and includes specialists who routinely advise clients on limited partnerships, limited liability partnerships and general partnerships. Senior solicitors in our consortium work closely with other non-legal specialists to provide fulsome advice to clients when considering their partnership structuring options.

Our clients include high net worth individuals, listed and unlisted multinational organisations, quasi-government organisations in various sectors including healthcare, technology, retail, financial services, media and pharmaceuticals. We also provide the partnership legal services to local SMEs and start-up fast growing companies.

Case study - Advising an NHS Trust on a new LLP structure and the transfer of certain assets to the new structure - PwC advised the NHS Trust on the formation of the LLP, the LLP agreement and the issues that arose on the transfer of the assets that they proposed to transfer. The new structure created a vehicle through which the Trust could expand, develop and grow its research and innovation capacity on a commercial footing.

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Stuart is a corporate partner with a focus on entrepreneurs, private companies and mid-cap companies, advising on all aspects of investment, share capital reorganisations, shareholder returns, M&A activity and group reorganisations (domestic and international), including partnerships.

Stuart's experience includes converting businesses into LLPs across sectors such as real estate, retail and recruitment, setting up LLPs for investment structures and advising on dissolution and disputes between parties.

Michael is a senior solicitor based in London with over 12 years of corporate experience. Michael specialises in M&A and business reorganisations working closely with experts across PwC to deliver a fully integrated solution to clients.

Michael's experience includes advising general partnerships, limited partnerships and limited liability partnerships throughout their life cycles from establishment to dissolution with clients ranging from family owned businesses to corporate finance houses, public sector bodies and major corporates.

Real Estate and Real Estate Finance

Real estate – We have a highly regarded real estate department, specialising in property work for the public sector, including development agreements for public buildings, commercial leases of shops and offices and major regeneration projects. Our specialists have experience in advising on and negotiating lease renewals and dealing with litigation over commercial property and have advised public bodies on the disposal of buildings and major assets and have experience of drafting provisions to ensure that the needs and agendas of our public body clients are fulfilled. We have advised on competitive procurements, including competitive dialogues to secure the appointment of development partners, undertaken land assembly for large-scale redevelopments and advised on the exercise of compulsory purchase powers.

Real estate finance – We advise borrower entities on new financing arrangements, re-financings and bank consent requirements in connection with reorganisations and restructurings. We advise on both external and intra-group financing issues and specialise in real estate finance transactions in both the private sector and public sector for both commercial and residential property.

Case Study - Sharpe Pritchard acted for a public body on its high profile and political acquisition and development of a site for its new Central London office building which also incorporated a leisure centre and swimming pool, public library and customer service centre. Given the sums involved and the need to apportion major infrastructure costs across the wider estate, the funding arrangements for this transaction were complex.

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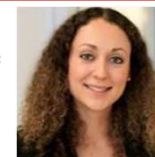
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Annalie Croney
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Jo is a property lawyer with over 20 years' experience of all areas of property law and is head of the firm's real estate department. Jo specialises in particular in large scale and complex development and regeneration projects.

Jo regularly advises public sector bodies on large scale and high profile sales and purchases as well as redevelopment and regeneration projects.

Michaela is a partner with over 20 years' experience in property development and occupational property, advising on real estate strategy and day to day issues for landowners, colleagues operational businesses and charities, nationwide. She advises on land development projects including acquisitions and disposals.

Michaela leads the team at Howes Percival, working alongside Sharpe Pritchard in delivering property legal services to the Houses of Parliament.

Annalie is a legal director in the banking and finance team and has expertise advising borrowers on new financing arrangements, re-financing and bank consent requirements in connection with reorganisations and restructurings, in particular in relation to development and real estate finance transactions.

Annalie regularly advises a large privately owned property management, investment and development group with a UK property portfolio worth c£800m on fund structuring and external and intra-group financing issues. In the last 10 years Annalie has acted for them on the establishment of various property funds/joint ventures as well as all their new bank facilities, the refinancing and amendments of the group's various existing bank facilities.

Restructuring and Insolvency

Restructuring

We have a worldwide team of specialist and dedicated international structuring lawyers combining a high quality service with local knowledge and expertise. We can offer an integrated approach alongside Tax, Consulting, Accounts, Treasury and HR team's results in a streamlined, efficient and cost effective service providing consistent and harmonised advice using the same language, methodology and processes and have the unique capability to work alongside global company secretarial compliance and governance experts worldwide.

Insolvency

Our specialists understand that public sector bodies are, in many insolvencies or potential insolvencies, the largest stake-holder in respect tax debts, fines, rates or other liabilities and are therefore able to provide quick and commercial advice as to: the options available to those bodies for enforcing and recovering those debts; taking appropriate recovery action to maximise the prospect of recovering those debts; ensuring that their interests are adequately protected once a debtor (whether personal or corporate) becomes subject to formal insolvency procedures; advising on the impact of insolvency or threatened insolvency on public sector bodies. We are always mindful of the reputational risks our clients could be exposed to and act appropriately to balance all the factors to ensure the optimum and proportional result.

Morris Peacock
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Morris has been the client Partner for all areas of work conducted for the Insolvency Service since March 2008 which includes director disqualification proceedings, investigations and also the winding up of companies in the public interest.

He has previously acted for directors in respect of both civil and criminal proceedings and also for insolvency practitioners on civil recovery actions.

Morris is an Advisory Editor to Mithani: Directors Disqualification, a member of the R3 Eastern Region Committee and leads a team described by Chambers as "incredibly effective in directors' disqualification matters".

Cases of note include Re Skyward Builders Plc, Re Crystal Palace FC (1986) Limited, Re Vintage Hallmark Plc, Secretary of State v Aaron & Others, Re Luton Town Football Club, Granville Technology Group Limited (Tiny Computers, Time Computers) UKLI, Wrapit and Tiuta.

Alison Kirby
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Alison has been involved in litigation for 20 years, and is the client partner for all areas of work conducted for the Commissioners for HMRC since January 2013, having been involved in that work since 2005. This included applying for the appointment of Provisional Liquidators and applying for Freezing Injunctions often without notice and responding to Appeals in respect of multi million pound disputes in the First Tier Tax Tribunal. She manages the team who advised and assisted Insolvency Practitioners with claims in liquidations against former Advisers and Directors.

She further manages the team responsible for preparing and presenting petitions to wind up companies in the public interest.

She has substantial experience of complex commercial disputes, including multi-jurisdictional disputes and substantial trial experience. Alison was appointed to The Law Society's Civil Litigation Section Committee in 2016.

Cynthia Chan
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Cynthia has dual-qualifications in England and Wales and Hong Kong. She has led a significant number of cross-border corporate structuring projects for US multi-national corporations and FTSE 100 groups, often working alongside other specialists in PwC in tax and accounting on such projects.

She has acted for clients across a wide range of industries ranging from manufacturing, technology, pharmaceuticals, health care, retail, financial services, property development; in particular, Cynthia has been working with a Fortune 50 technology group since 2011 and now leads the delivery of its corporate structuring affairs in 69 countries. Highlights include:

Acting for various international groups (pharmaceuticals, fashion retailer, electronics and insurance brokerage) on cross border mergers involving various jurisdictions (UK, France, Germany, Belgium, Spain, Portugal, Italy and the Netherlands)

Acting for a financial institutions in relation to the feasibility of their Brexit reorganization planning.

Tax Law

We have specialists in handling tax disputes that might arise with HMRC. This includes dealing with difficult audit issues and taking issues through the formal litigation process if necessary. Our team has dealt with tax disputes at all levels in the UK courts and European Court of Justice and has particular experience of public law judicial review issues.

- An overview of their capabilities to deliver panel service;
- Ability to litigate both direct and indirect tax disputes at all levels;
- Consideration and use of alternative remedies such as restitution and judicial review;
- Tactical management of disputes to avoid litigation where possible through alternative Dispute Resolution and informal mediation/settlement discussions where possible; and
- Relationships with senior stakeholders within HMRC.

Senior lawyers in our consortium have access to deep technical and industry specialists that allow us to provide depth of expertise through a seamless blended legal and tax team that brings the best of both worlds - more than just an accountancy firm or a law firm can offer in isolation.

Case Study - Large multinational - PwC assisted a large multinational with complex tax audit involving the transfer of intellectual property. Cross-border information requests and dealing with Revenue authorities in different jurisdictions. This included navigating HMRC's complex governance procedures. The outcome of this was the resolution of the dispute, the ability to restructure and the development of a successful relationship with HMRC.

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Mark is the partner who leads the PwC practice and has over 25 years' experience of tax disputes work. He began his career in the tax department of City firm Allen & Overy. He is a CEDR accredited mediator

Mark's experience includes:

- Handling large corporate tax disputes with HMRC including cross border; issues and alternative dispute resolution
- Litigating tax cases in all UK courts and the CJEU; and
- Judicial review challenges to HMRC.

Dave has 25 years of experience of indirect tax disputes work involving complex negotiations and litigation when necessary. He is recognised as a leading practitioner in his field. He covers VAT, customs duties and other indirect taxes.

Dave's experience includes:

- Handling indirect tax dispute issues (VAT, Customs duties and environmental taxes);
- Litigating indirect tax issues in UK Courts and tribunals (including taking cases to the European Court; and
- Public law challenges to HMRC.

Optional Specialisms

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Education Law

We have a dedicated unit focusing on advising the education sector on procurement, governance, strategy and infrastructure projects. This work spans major development and construction and other smaller contract and property instructions and our specialists therefore have experience of both the national issues and suites of documentation as well as wider issues within the public sector.

Many members of our team have previously held senior legal positions within local government. As a result, our specialists are highly regarded for our understanding of the budgetary and operational issues faced by the education sector.

Case Study - Education and Skills Funding Agency - Sharpe Pritchard is retained by the ESFA (Education and Skills Funding Agency), an executive agency of the Department for Education, under the CCS framework, to advise and assist in its procurements of training providers to deliver adult education and apprenticeship training for non-levy paying employers. Sharpe Pritchard's role has included an end to end service advising on the procurement strategy, evaluation and risk management.

Annie Moy
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Annie is immensely experienced in education infrastructure and construction projects and leads Sharpe Pritchard's work on academy and school projects, with deep expertise and knowledge of the public sector construction market in this field.

She has made academy conversions one of the firm's specialist areas and is adept at handling high value, high profile projects, including land transfers, pensions, lifecycle contracts, governance matters and data protection.

Catherine Newman
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Catherine is highly experienced in the education sector and has worked with the ESFA, Governing Bodies, Head Teachers and Local Authority Officers on a wide range of education issues.

Catherine has extensive experience of academy conversions and schools changing status, , including advising on the statutory requirements of the process, application of current DfE guidance on the relevant statutory regulations and the property work streams, retained local authority services, grants and children's centre facilities.

Dan Banton
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Dan has advised on the successful conversion of over 250 academies, all with a particular specialism in acting for large multi-academy trusts.

Dan's work with academies and multi-academy trusts includes development of governance structures, drafting schemes of delegation as well as providing practical change management advice. More recently Dan has advised on matters involving the re-brokering of academies, focusing on the legal aspects of the transfer (including assets and liabilities) from one multi-academy trust to another.

Child Law

Our specialists never lose sight of the fact that the welfare of the child is the paramount concern in all disputes affecting children. Early intervention in the form of clear advice can be crucial in preventing issues from escalating. Our consortium has experience in all Child Law proceedings including emergency applications. We focus on resolving conflict, supporting alternative forms of dispute resolution and managing cases cost effectively, conducting our own advocacy where appropriate.

Case Study - Advising individuals about adoption proceedings. Howes Percival guided step-parents and those seeking overseas adoption upon the legal framework and its application to their status. Howes Percival assisted in completion of application forms and considering reports, and representation at court where required. Ultimately this achieved stability and security for the child during its minority; full integration into the family of the adoptive parent.

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Justine Flack

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Amy has expertise in all areas of Child Law, representing parents and family members on issues such as adoption, care proceedings, residence and contact, and has significant experience of making emergency applications to court.

Her recent experience includes: Adoption, Special Guardianship Orders, Child Arrangements Orders, Declarations of Parentage, Schedule 1 Children Act 1989 and Prohibited Steps/Specific Issue Applications to include removal from the jurisdiction and change of name.

Justine has expertise in all areas of Child Law including advising on financial matters and past experience representing parents, grandparents and Guardians in care proceedings. She has dealt with residence, contact and recovery of children, sometimes on an emergency basis.

Her recent experience includes: Advising upon Child Arrangement Orders, Special Guardianship Orders, Schedule 1 Children Act 1989, Prohibited Steps and Specific Issue Applications to include removal from the jurisdiction, change of child's name and prohibiting contact with person considered to be a risk.

Energy and Natural Resources

We have advised the national oil company of a major oil producing state for many years on all legal aspects of its business, including negotiations with international oil companies and contractors, cross-border issues with neighbouring states and disputes with contractors. Other organs of government and state entities feature among the clients of our consortium's energy and natural resources practice, as do independent oil companies, service companies, traders, utilities, investors, financiers and insurers. Transactional and dispute resolution lawyers advise these clients on legal issues arising at every stage of the energy chain, from exploration and production, storage and transportation, LNG, refining, trading and sale of oil and gas, to electricity generation, energy management, renewable and carbon trading. The last few years have been a difficult time for companies in the oil and gas industry and for governments relying on revenues from oil and gas to provide public services. Partner-led teams offer reassurance to clients across the industry, but particularly in the public sector, where we are familiar with the tensions of working in a politically sensitive environment, but at the same time one which is subject to severe cost constraints. Our specialists offer clear advice and working in a team with public sector clients delivers the additional value of building capacity among the teams they advise. In the broader energy and resources sector, times have also been challenging. Our clients appreciate their ability to put together small and focused teams of hard-working specialists who are able to deliver a timely result.

Advice on a contract structure that would meet the legal, political and commercial requirements of the client - HFW worked with their client's multi-disciplinary team to develop contract terms by attendance at frequent meetings at the client's offices to outline industry norms and potential solutions to problems arising, focusing on key issues, and subsequently supported the client in a tender process and in meetings with the international oil companies. The outcome was that the client concluded contracts required to meet increased production targets (contract value US\$ billions).

Diana France

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Diana advises clients across the energy sector on upstream oil and gas, LNG, energy management, electricity and renewables. She previously worked in industry with British Gas Exploration and Production (now Shell) and then with Dalkia, the energy branch of Veolia Environment.

For many years, Diana has led a team of HFW lawyers advising the national oil company of a major oil producing state. She has drafted and negotiated agreements with international oil companies and contractors for this client, working closely with its in-house legal team and other experts.

Catherine Emsellem-Rope

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Catherine is a transactional lawyer who specialises in complex contractual arrangements in the energy, logistics and ports and terminal sectors, with a focus on major projects and supply chain issues.

Catherine advises on master agreements and general terms and conditions for use in her specialist sectors, EPC and EPCIC contracts and licensing agreements. She has extensive experience in contract drafting and negotiation on an international basis. Experience includes the acquisition of a midstream oil company with operations in the UK, and advising an Asian floating product storage and off-take vessel topside manufacturer on a joint venture with a state oil company for the local production of topsides.

Adam Topping

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Adam advises financial institutions, hedge funds, energy companies, utility groups and corporates on a variety of regulatory and transactional matters, including on commodities.

He advises on UK and EU financial services rules, commodity market rules, licensing and related compliance issues, and cross-border regulatory reform under MIFID II, EMIR, REMIT and MAR.

Food, Rural Affairs and Environment

We are able to advise on legal issues arising out of the food and rural affairs sectors and have extensive experience in advising on environmental matters and in particular waste management, sewage/waste water and energy matters. We also advise on numerous aspects of land use and undertake enforcement cases including those involving pollution. Parliamentary and planning teams within our consortium also handle consenting processes including Hybrid Bills, DCO, Special Parliamentary Procedure and land tribunals and advise on all manner of infrastructure and regulatory matters including waste on land, power generation and off take, contamination, disposal of wastes and clean –up, construction and decommissioning of environmental facilities. Our consortium includes leading specialists in waste management advice including collection and recycling contracts and policy and are the joint authors of Defra's model waste contract for use on waste PPP contracts (WIDP's Residual Waste Treatment Contract) and were appointed by Defra to provide advice and guidance on a number of associated matters including devising co-operation arrangements between waste authorities. The team has advised on a large number of waste management projects of all types including waste recycling, collection, treatment and disposal contracts and have advised on finance structures and shared solutions including the Thames Tideway Tunnel; a project within Defra's remit.

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Raechel is a contracts and public procurement specialist who advises clients in central and local government across a wide range of sectors including waste and infrastructure, IT, facilities management, health and social care and leisure services. She has extensive experience of advising on outsourcing projects conducted under the restricted, open and competitive dialogue procedures.

Her main focus is advising authorities on a range of environmental services contracts including waste collection, treatment and disposal; street cleaning; and grounds maintenance services. She provides strategic legal advice on all aspects of public procurement: the procurement route, vires, risk transfer and other issues which arise both during the procurement and contract preparation process and following contract award.

Raechel also has extensive experience working with legal and procurement professionals gained during her 5 years in the central procurement team at Defra which included advising core Defra as well as the Consumer Council for Water and Food from Britain on a range of procurement projects.

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Judith's experience includes advising a UK Government agency on producing innovative solutions on an international basis for the aquatic environment, biodiversity and food security.

Franchising

We have outstanding experience advising a range of clients in relation to franchising both in the UK and internationally. This advice includes helping clients assess how to approach new markets, establishing the optimal balance of roles and responsibilities between the franchisor and the franchisee and ensuring the parties have the right infrastructure in place to support the relationship, as well as advising on the actual drafting and negotiation, operation and termination of these complex agreements. Where our clients need help establishing the model and ensuring it works efficiently, senior lawyers in our consortium work alongside colleagues in consultancy, forensics, transaction services (due diligence) and valuations teams.

Franchising relationships are inevitably complex and a variety of expertise is often required to prepare both the franchisor and the franchisee to operate with the right amount of collaboration to enhance each other's reputation. It is essential that the agreement and other documentation in place between them reflect the blend of responsibilities needed to make this special kind of relationship work.

Our lawyers are experienced at negotiating franchising agreements and, working with colleagues in other non-legal teams, and have expertise addressing the full range of issues that arise.

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Latika leads PwC's Intellectual Property team and has over 20 years' experience working with clients on franchising and similar arrangements. This ranges from helping clients to assess the franchising model against other models, to negotiating franchise agreements, testing agreements against best practice and helping clients to terminate arrangements with under-performing franchisees.

Transactions of note include:

- advising a UK headquartered retailer over a number of years on terms of franchising agreements, selection of and negotiations with new franchisees;
- assisting a retail group with terminating franchise arrangements which were no longer working, including dealing with the resulting disputes and litigation; and
- working with an international coffee chain, alongside PwC's internal audit experts, advising on the extent to which its international franchising agreements and its processes in place for assessing and entering into agreements measure against best practice.

Jennifer Winterhalder
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Jen has been practising as an IP and franchising specialist at PwC since she joined from Hogan Lovells in 2012. She regularly advises clients on franchising and similar arrangements in the UK and internationally. Typically this involves drafting and negotiating contracts, reviewing business controls in place to support the model and helping clients to assess their roles and responsibilities, particularly where there are potential disputes.

Transactions of note include:

- producing a template franchise agreement for a fast food retailer to use to establish a franchise network in the US. This included helping the client to understand the requirements of its new market;
- drafting a series of franchise agreements for a worldwide entertainment group, dealing with a range of critical issues such as health and safety requirements, maintenance of premises, merchandising and continuous training, as well as control over branding and reputation and putting in place robust provisions on fees; and
- creating new franchising arrangements for a fast growing group which better reflected where the value for its franchisees came from.

Health and Healthcare

We provide legal services in respect of public sector healthcare including but not limited to healthcare commissioning, transactional, litigious and regulatory issues relating to Central Government and the NHS. We have considerable experience of providing a variety of legal services to multi-national private sector healthcare providers, including in relation to the NHS' procurement of large scale technology solutions, medical devices and other goods and services.

Case study - We provide a variety of legal services to a leading provider of healthcare and insurance services. These primarily relate to transactional, litigious and regulatory issues. We advise them on a wide range of matters, including Intellectual Property, Technology Solutions, Governance, Data Protection, Commercial and Regulatory matters and Cyber Security.

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Nigel is a Senior Manager in PwC's Commercial and IT practice with over 15 years' experience. Nigel has considerable experience of working on both public and private healthcare sector matters for a variety of global clients. He has recently undertaken a six month secondment to an industry leading healthcare and insurance services provider. Nigel has advised a number of NHS Trusts on their procurement of ERP and PACS systems. Nigel has also advised a leading healthcare provider on a series of IT and commercial procurement projects. Nigel has also advised another major healthcare services provider on the establishment of standard terms under which to procure IT, products, maintenance and other services.

Nigel's recent projects include supporting a healthcare provider on the strategy, RfP, procurement, creation and negotiation of the contract involving three leading global suppliers and the subsequent negotiation of the master agreements with the chosen supplier. He advised on regulatory requirements, HR, cyber security, global data privacy issues, as well as the substantive commercial agreements and risk management/allocation.

Jo is a Senior Solicitor in PwC's Employment team and has worked within the healthcare sector for over 7 years, providing both contentious and non-contentious legal advice and services to NHS organisations including NHS Trusts, Foundation Trusts, Ambulance Trusts, Clinical Commissioning Groups, Commission Support Units and Medical Practices. A significant focus of Jo's NHS client work involves being aware of the NHS landscape and challenges, including QIPP targets, 7 day services and staff shortages. Jo has a detailed knowledge of the NHS structure and key NHS frameworks and terms (e.g. Agenda for Change). She has considerable experience in defending and advising NHS and Ambulance Trusts in relation to their Employment Tribunal claims, varying from unfair dismissal, discrimination, breach of contract, workers status and unlawful deductions from wages.

She has also defended numerous equal pay claims against NHS organisations, achieving successful outcomes. Jo has also advised on the merits of settlement litigation which includes liaising with the NHS and the Treasury. Jo has also provided tailored training to NHS clients on a variety of key topics.

Health and Safety Law

We have vast experience in health and safety matters which includes fire safety and food safety/hygiene. Our specialist lawyers advise and assist clients with all kinds of issues, both contentious and non-contentious. This includes advising clients in carrying out investigations and in managing investigations by safety authorities, the police and public authorities and frequently representing health and safety clients in court, including criminal and coroners' courts and tribunals. Our consortium includes specialists acclaimed for their strategic thinking and pragmatic approach. We also advise other health and safety organisations and professionals on law and compliance.

Case study - Challenging public body enforcement action against client - Howes Percival advised a national health and safety services company in respect of enforcement action taken against it by the Health & Safety Executive (HSE). Howes Percival successfully challenged the action through HSE's formal dispute procedure. Howes Percival demonstrated that the HSE had incorrectly applied the law. This was a matter of the utmost seriousness because, had the client failed in its challenge, a precedent would have been set and it would have needed to review both its business model and services methodology for several thousand of its own clients.

Alan Millband

Partner

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Alan heads the health and safety team, and has specialised for 30 years in health and safety law. Alan is the Editor of a renowned health and safety law text book, a Guest university lecturer on safety law and a much sought after advisor on law and compliance issues to health and safety organizations and professionals, and industry associations. As such he is a frequent presenter on health and safety law and issues on public forums. Alan is a Member of Health and Safety Lawyers' Association.

Alan conducts his own advocacy in criminal and coroner's courts and tribunals, while advising in respect of health and safety and regulatory cases, appeals against enforcement notices and other compliance issues.

Recent experience has been acting for further education colleges and universities, ambulance services providers, healthcare services providers to primary trusts, and local authority officers in the retail, manufacturing, leisure and tourism, professional services and care sector.

Simon Kiely

Solicitor

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Simon was admitted as a solicitor in 2011 and joined Sharpe Pritchard in 2012.

Simon has a breadth of regulatory and enforcement experience with a firm background knowledge of health and safety law (including food safety) as well as in a wide range of other regulatory and enforcement areas, and regularly advises on Proceeds of Crime Act confiscation cases as well. Simon also has a background in handling frequently complex public law issues, involving both bringing and defending judicial review claims, and dealing with cases in the appellate courts.

Simon is a confident advocate who regular appears in the magistrates' court to prosecute on behalf of a wide range of clients, including a number of large public sector clients.

In recent months, Simon has been engaged in a part-time secondment providing legal advice and guidance to a statutory regulator.

Life Sciences

We have considerable experience of providing a wide range of legal services to our Life Sciences clients, in both public and private sectors. We provide advice across the industry, including but not limited to complex cross-border reorganisations, transactional, litigious and regulatory issues relating to pharmaceuticals, medical devices and biotechnology including purchase, sale, licensing and acquisition of new medical products, clinical trials, intellectual property issues including R&D joint ventures, collaborations and university spin outs. In addition to our legal expertise, senior lawyers in our consortium are also privileged to work alongside non-legal Life Sciences specialists, who (uniquely) add significant expertise

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Thomas leads our legal deals team in Healthcare providing commercial, timely, concise and robust corporate legal advice on fundraisings, investments, joint ventures and mergers & acquisitions that is of direct practical value.

He has over 17 years of legal experience in both large and mid-sized firms and in-house. He has advised: a NYSE-listed pharma group on its strategic syndicated US\$320m investment in a biotech, the largest private life sciences fundraise in the UK to date; a Fortune 500 on its multi-million dollar acquisition of an international CRO; a global pharma on investments in an Austrian prophylactic and therapeutic vaccine platform; a designer/developer of domain antibodies; a Belgian low cost biomanufacturer; a US HealthTech business; a wealth management company on the acquisition of a life sciences joint venture; and has advised on the formation, multiple investment rounds, expansion and acquisition of stakes in an AIM traded diagnostic company.

Public Inquiries and Inquests

Our experienced planning solicitors deal with appeals and plan-making by public inquiries. As part of this process, our lawyers would either lead the cases themselves, undertaking the advocacy required, or provide support while engaging counsel in more complex cases or inquiries listed for more than three days. We have extensive experience in leading on and project managing public inquiries, ensuring they comply with all steps required by the Inspector, including settling and submission of the statement of case and proofs of evidence, ensuring third party witnesses are appropriately briefed and securing submission of key documents (including any legal agreements required in connection with the appeal) within the required timescales.

Case study – Public Inquiry - Sharpe Pritchard had conduct of 3 joint appeals, involving an urban extension comprising up to 11,000 dwellings. Sharpe Pritchard instructed counsel, advised on evidence and negotiated three separate legal agreements. The inspectors refused planning permission for the 2 larger schemes but allowed the appeal on the smaller scheme. This was in line with the position taken by their client. The section 106 agreement for the scheme supported by the Council secured financial contributions and other measures to ensure a sustainable development for the 1,000 dwellings.

Aidan Dickinson

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Aidan was admitted as a solicitor in 1993 and has over 20 years' experience in all areas of property law including compulsory purchase.

Aidan specialises in urban/housing regeneration projects and development work with particular experience in compulsory purchase and site assembly and is head of the firm's specialist CPO unit.

Aidan has extensive experience of public inquiry work, acting on behalf of acquiring authorities on major regeneration schemes attracting a high level of public and political interest.

Rachel Hey

Senior Solicitor

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Rachel was admitted as a solicitor in 2008 and joined Sharpe Pritchard in 2006. She is a member of the Compulsory Purchase Association and Deputy Head of the firm's CPO unit.

Rachel specialises in planning, highways, commercial property and compulsory purchase law, having particular focus on regeneration schemes.

Rachel has acted on behalf of local planning authorities at numerous public inquiries.

Telecommunications

Our clients include leading communications providers, new communications technology business and financial institutions who seek out our solutions-orientated approach to a range of advice and transactions, including complex M&A, partnerships, joint ventures, exploitation and protection of intellectual property, network sharing arrangements, sourcing, regulation, disputes, licence bids, privatisations, financing and investment. Senior lawyers within our consortium work with assurance, consulting, tax and deals colleagues, which provides insight and access to the cutting edge of communications issues in the public sector on issues ranging from a paperless NHS to the impact of Brexit.

Case study - Advising on a major Telecommunications Public to Private project of strategic significance for the client's business - PwC advised a large telecoms multi-national on the corporate, structuring, commercial, regulatory, financial, contracting and procurement aspects of a bid for an international project involving the provision of government wide area networks and services, dark fibre, a data centre and broadband internet services for schools and community Centres.

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Juan Crosby is Head of PwC's TMT practice. Juan has more than 15 years' experience working in the TMT and other sectors, acting both for public and private sector clients, advising on large complex procurements, major technology agreements and long term, high value, dark fibre and telecommunications services arrangements. He has won a number of industry awards including Best Advisor for his work on a major ICT strategic alliance with two key global suppliers.

Juan has advised a major public utilities company on the procurement of dark fibre and operational communications services including drafting and negotiating framework arrangements with a leading telecoms infrastructure provider; and, acting for a global FTSE 10 company on strategy and documentation putting in place a multi-vendor ecosystem for applications development and maintenance work, creating annual savings of in excess of 20% of previous spend per year.

Thomas leads our legal deals team in Technology, Media & Telecoms providing commercial corporate legal advice on fundraisings, investments, joint ventures and international and domestic mergers & acquisitions. He has over 17 years of legal experience during which time he has worked on landmark telecoms transactions such as France Télécom/Orange, Wanadoo/Freeserve and the recapitalisation of Cosmarom.

Thomas' experience includes:

- Advising NewVoiceMedia Ltd on its multiple equity and debt fundraisings of +£150m from Eden Ventures, Notion Capital, MMC Ventures, Highland Capital, Bessemer Venture Partners, salesforce.com, Technology Crossover Ventures and Hercules, Inc.
- Advising on the sale of Coalition Development Ltd, an analytics business also part owned by a consortium of investment banks, to Irevna Ltd, a subsidiary of Mumbai-listed Crisil (itself listed), International Deal of the Year by The M&A Advisor.

Law of International Trade and Investment

We have experience acting for national governments and private parties on a broad range of topics within the field of international trade (including transport), investment and regulation and includes leading practices worldwide in shipping, logistics, insurance, commodities and aviation. Our specialists advise on investment protection, trade defence measures (anti-dumping, anti-subsidy and safeguards), Investor State Dispute Settlement, trade sanctions and export controls and have extensive experience advising on international financial regulation. We have lawyers with prior experience on advising Governments on a number of aspects of the law of international trade and understand the particular importance in this area of delivering advice in an efficient manner, and keeping up to date with political as well as legal developments. Our consortium includes the 2015 World ECR's Export Controls Law Firm of the Year (Europe) and the 2016 runner-up for this award. We also have a pre-eminent global specialist transportation practice, which has been at the forefront of legal developments in this sector for over three decades and advises on transactional issues, liability and disputes as well as key regulatory concerns.

Case study - Advising an Asian Government on investment protection provisions in Free Trade Agreements - HFW drafted a comprehensive study of issues surrounding portfolio investments in Free Trade Agreements (FTAs), including a detailed analysis of investment protection thresholds in FTAs. The client obtained a comprehensive document on a key aspect of the Law of International Trade for the purpose of ongoing trade negotiations. The study allowed the client to formulate its priorities in trade negotiations.

Craig Neame Partner

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Craig is HFW's Global Head of Shipping and particularly well known for his expertise in container shipping/multimodal transport and ports and terminals.

As well as litigation and insurance related matters, Craig handles transactional and regulatory projects in these areas. Craig has acted for ship operators and insurers on many of the biggest container vessel casualties, terminal incidents and container shipping line collapses.

Carole-Ann Burton HFW LLP

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Carol-Ann advises on financial services legislation. Her practice includes all aspects of asset management, consumer credit and the life and general insurance markets, covering capital requirements, supervisory issues, conduct of business, governance and regulatory powers.

Jeremy Kelly Solicitor

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Jeremy specialises in international trade and competition law. He has advised national governments on many aspects of international trade law; notably trade defence measures (anti-dumping, anti-subsidy and safeguards) and investment protection.

He drafted pleadings on behalf of a national Government in a landmark CJEU case on the extent of the powers of the EU Institutions to conclude trade agreements. He has also advised a supranational Parliament on a review of a major Free Trade Agreement. He has worked on a number of trade defence investigations initiated in the EU and other jurisdictions. Jeremy also has experience advising on customs law, sanctions, export controls and consumer protection including product labelling and packaging.

Public International Law

We have wide experience and capability in assisting states, state-owned groups and government ministries on public international law issues such as state immunity, treaty law, bilateral investment treaties, sanctions laws, state responsibility, pollution liabilities of international organisations, concession agreements and piracy.

Case study - Advising a state entity in the Middle East on rights in relation to a region over which sovereignty was disputed and in respect of which treaties had been entered into by the two sovereign states - HFW analysed the treaty and international case law as a matter of urgency and recommended that, in accordance with the treaty terms, steps could only be taken to resolve a dispute by reference to the treaty-appointed body. A number of conference calls were held at short notice (including over a public holiday) and formal advice was delivered clearly and promptly to confirm advice on the telephone. The client has embarked upon a negotiated agreement to address the issue which arose. Assuming that this is successful, it will avoid geopolitical repercussions and restore a significant revenue stream to the client.

Tom Walters
Partner
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Tom has advised on a large number of cases involving the law of sea and international maritime conventions. Tom regularly liaises with the Secretary of State's Representative on matters concerning vessels in distress and requiring salvage assistance, and with the Maritime and Coastguard Agency and the Receiver of Wrecks in the context of salvage claims.

Experience includes advice in relation to the Secretary of State's Representative's powers to direct an owner to accept salvage services if there is a threat of significant pollution within the UK's pollution control zone, territorial waters or coastline.

Judith Prior
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Judith specialises in commodities and international trade, with a focus on oil, sugar, biofuels and fisheries. She also has extensive experience in oil pollution.

Experience includes advising an intergovernmental organisation on a range of major oil pollution incidents, an EU agency in relation to the provision of oil spill response vessels and a Ministry of the Netherlands Government in relation to oil pollution issues.

She has also advised a UK Government agency on providing innovative solutions on an international basis for the aquatic environment, biodiversity and food security; and advised a Middle Eastern oil sector client on compensation claims made to the UN Compensation Commission.

Zohar Zik
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Zohar acts for airlines, tour operators and aviation insurers and industry associations. He regularly advises on international aviation conventions and bilateral air service agreements.

He has advised extensively on fleet management issues and on all types of agreement for the aviation industry. He is the former General Counsel – Aviation of a leading global tourist company and operator of one of Europe's largest fleets of aircraft. He is also a Accredited Mediator.

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Damian advises on international arbitration, banking litigation, fraud and commodities.

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