

# **Our services to His Majesty's Government**

RM6179 Legal Services Panel  
**Lot 1: General Legal Advice and Services**

Version 5 – August 2023

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We have substantial resource in each of the mandatory legal specialisms covered by the panel and have outlined our expertise in each area (**click through for more information**):

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The use of information provided throughout the document (with particular regard to that given in case studies) is not commercially sensitive, and where it is not a matter of public record then appropriate permission has been sought for inclusion.



We have advised  
on over  
**1600**  
matters for HMG  
since 2017



**17000**  
non-chargeable hours  
invested in HMG  
relationship



Government Academy  
training sessions  
running regularly



# Supplier Introduction - About Dentons

## Our commitment to HMG

We have a commitment to and understanding of government business both in the UK and globally. This is in our DNA; it affects who we hire, how we train our people and the services we offer. We target work for governments, worldwide. Our UK team has long been known for its work for HM Government – 75% of our UK partners and approximately 350 lawyers have worked on HMG business. We have also advised over 40 governments outside the UK.

We live by our values of **Always Human, Stronger Together** and **Here To Win**. Which means when working with us you can expect us to be open, honest and empathetic, we will work closely with you to succeed together and we will be unapologetically ambitious and future-focused.

Our Government team, across all our legal disciplines, is trained in how to work with government. Our 35+ module **Government and Public Law Academy** means our people have real understanding of how government works and how to get business done. We welcome recruits from government legal teams and have several, senior ex-GLD lawyers in our team who are used to instructing OPC and writing SIs. We are approachable, pragmatic and focused on delivering solutions and VfM.

We are proud of our track record and our strong relationships with Government and would like to thank BEIS, the Cabinet Office, Defra, DCMS, DfE, DiT, DWP, FCA, FCDO, HM Treasury, the Home Office, the Ministry of Defence, Ofgem, Ofwat UKEF, UKGI, and our other HMG clients for the trust and confidence they have placed in us over recent years and the interesting projects in which we have been privileged to be involved.

## England, Wales and Scotland

Dentons has approximately 180 partners and 600 other lawyers and is fully equipped to advise HMG in England, Wales and Scotland.



We have acted for **66** HMG clients and advised on **1680** matters since **2017**

## Supporting HMG outside the UK

Our exceptional global reach has been valuable to HMG. **Dentons' lawyers have supported general legal advice and trade-related work for HMG in over 20 countries.**

Strong presence in **6** continents

### NextLaw Global Referral Network



**80+**

Languages spoken

**12,000+**

Total number of lawyers

**750+**

Member law firms

**82**

Countries

**207**

Locations

We combine the heritage of 250+ years' practice in the UK with the commitment to change of a challenger brand, seeking to reinvent the practice of law. Our geographic reach and cultural approach mean we can bring to bear, for the benefit of our Government clients, lessons learned from our work for other governments around the world, many of which face similar challenges. We can also offer practical support – from meeting rooms, secretarial support and local language skills to deep local law expertise, globally. We have founded the world's broadest and deepest law firm referral network and so can support HMG's selection of counsel in over 200 jurisdictions, worldwide.

# Team Structure



**6** former public servants in the team



We have been advising national institutions since **1811**



Over **75%** partners have worked on Government matters



Central Government has consistently been top **5** client for our UK business over the last **25** years.

## About Dentons and our key approved subcontractors

We can service all of the mandatory legal specialisms from our own resources.

We have a team of senior ex-GLD lawyers and others with considerable experience of instructing OPC, drafting SIs (and a team of people used to working with the SI templates), and advising on full legal risk assessments.

However to make the most compelling and comprehensive service offering to provide value for money across the widest spectrum of legal services we selected as our subcontractor partners two firms that are leaders in their own markets.



**BDB Pitmans** – Public law is a core aspect of BDB Pitmans' offering. It has a large, experienced team of specialists, advising on public law and related European Law issues, including judicial review and statutory appeals; public inquiries and inquests; human rights and equalities issues; the exercise of public functions and public law powers; the creation, constitution and governance of public bodies; statutory interpretation and legislative drafting and parliamentary matters, including Select Committee investigations and inquiries; planning law; and charities law.



**Geldards** is a full service commercial law firm based across the UK providing high quality and practical legal advice; established for over 100 years, recognised as a leading regional law firm and a market leader in Wales. We have a long history of providing a wide range of legal services to public bodies in central, devolved and local government, and our wide cross-section of clients includes local authorities, central government, NDPBs and regulatory bodies. We have a strong track record of delivering complex, high value, long-term, sensitive and challenging projects frequently involving collaboration between public bodies and between public and private organisations and which involve public and administrative law considerations.

## Get in touch with our relationship team:

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**Security cleared team** – 22 members of our team have security clearance at all levels. We can field a cleared team of experts for projects, IP, IT, procurement, real estate and employment across a range of seniorities.



# Social Value

We are committed to delivering Social Value through our services and our work. We recognise the lasting impact and benefits to individuals, communities and the environment, and ensure we promote understanding, raise awareness, plan activities and report on Social Value aims and outcomes.

## Diversity & Inclusion

D&I is core to our strategy of tackling inequality and improving diversity at Dentons. We monitor and report on D&I and provide equal opportunities for all.

**Activities:** Our D&I committee meets quarterly and reports to the Board. We ensure our workforce reflects an inclusive and diverse society: **Gender** – 30% target for women partners/leadership by 2025; **Race** – our Accelerating Race Strategy promotes awareness and advances ethnic talent; **BAME** – trainee acceptance rate for ethnic minority candidates was 44% in 2021; **LGBTQ+** – we are Stonewall Diversity Champions, with 84% staff saying they can be their authentic self at work; **Social Mobility** – Rare's Contextualised Recruitment System increased applications from underrepresented groups to above legal market average; **Disability** – plan to partner with Purple Space to improve representation of disabled people; **Recruitment** – Now to Next BME Scholarship Programme provides 2 annual scholarships for law degree to BME students, with mentoring; **Working Policies** – we support flexible and agile working, and regularly review/update our policies for D&I.

**Awareness:** Our induction includes an inclusive leadership module to engage & promote an inclusive work environment; our Board has mandated 12 Inclusive Leadership Actions & objectives. Our **Big Inclusion Project** involving 22 teams of 225 diverse staff accelerated D&I. We have **6 internal diversity networks**, open to all, to inspire and challenge stereotypes – and encourage identification of D&I role models. We conduct an **annual D&I survey**, with regular pulse surveys, and Gender & Ethnicity Pay Gap Reports, publishing targets and progress. We provide regular training, events and webinars, and support reverse mentoring.

## Commitment to climate change

We are committed to understanding and mitigating the impact our operations have on the environment. We were one of the first law firms to be **certified as a Carbon Neutral company** in the UK. To achieve carbon neutrality, all our energy usage, waste & travel is converted into tCO<sub>2</sub>e and the total figure is used to offset – investing through Natural Capital Partners in the Sub-Saharan Africa water infrastructure project. We commit to environmental & sustainability **ISO14001** and **ISO500001** schemes. We report on energy, water, travel, waste and paper consumption, and work with facilities suppliers to reduce carbon emissions. We provide **mandatory online training** on effective environmental stewardship, and collaborate on CSR activities, incl. projects to help; local communities and green spaces.

## Health & Well-being (H&W)

The physical and mental H&W of our people is extremely important to us. We place great emphasis of assessing, supporting and improving H&W of our workforce.

**Activities:** Our **Wellbeing Committee** co-ordinates our activities and reports to the Board. We signed the **Mental Health at Work Commitment, Time to Change Employer Pledge**, and collaborate with CBI and City of London Corporation to share insights/best practice on H&W. We have a **dedicated counsellor & 18 Mental Health First Aiders** at all staff levels. Our leaders are trained to identify signs of mental health issues & respond. We promote Mental Health Awareness Week & World Mental Health Day, run lunch & learn sessions and mindfulness training. To promote **physical health** we offer virtual yoga/fitness classes, gym membership allowance, support various sporting/social activities, and encourage walk & talk team meetings. We provide life assurance, virtual GP appointments & private medical insurance. In 2020/21 we provided 20+ hrs of training on H&W to over 265 people.

**Awareness:** Our **Wellbeing hub** takes prominent position on our staff portal, providing details/links on our extensive resources & support incl; a calendar of our planned H&W events, access to Wellbeing Committee & Mental Health First Aiders, a safe space to discuss H&W and share experiences, and content in 12 H&W categories. We conduct regular **Wellbeing Surveys** to identify and address themes/concerns (eg. wellbeing, hybrid working, home/life balance) and publish reports. We engage with staff on the **Mindfulness Business Charter**, collaborate with clients on H&W, and provide regular training/communication on all H&W issues.

# Competition law | 25+ lawyers

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## Service overview

We advise on all aspects of EU and UK competition law. HMG benefits from our insight and market knowledge gained from the private and public sectors. Our experience includes:

- **Subsidy control/State aid** – Analysing financial assistance to determine if subsidy control laws are engaged, granting subsidies in compliance with UK/EU/WTO law, advising on legacy state aid issues, advising on subsidies in the context of privatisations and disposal of state-owned assets. Our experience spans: banking/finance (including key financial institutions during the crisis), road, rail, telecommunications, energy (including recent market interventions as a result of high wholesale prices, education and regeneration. We also advise on subsidy control challenges, availability of exemptions, SPEI/SGEI, de minimis.
- **Abuse of dominance** – supporting market-leading organisations on how to avoid accusations of abusing dominance, or how to respond to complaints or investigations. These issues can be important in Government projects where monopoly suppliers can be prevalent.
- **Merger control** – our experience enables us to spot potential issues during procurements, transactions or structural market reform projects and give timely advice on the impact on your project.
- **Foreign direct investment (FDI)** – we regularly advise clients on whether their transactions need approval under national FDI regimes (including the UK's National Security & Investment Act), and help clients obtain necessary approvals.
- **Commercial agreements** – we help clients navigate a path that combines competition law compliance with achieving their key business aims. We understand the issues that often arise in relation to Government contracts.
- **Litigation** – advising claimants and defendants in competition law disputes means we see both sides of the picture and identify and advise on the range of complex and important issues and challenges faced by each party.
- **Cartels** – we have experience of advising on cartel-related issues, including bringing claims against clients impacted by cartels (third-party claims).

**For help and support in Competition law please email:**

[HMGRelationshipTeam@dentons.com](mailto:HMGRelationshipTeam@dentons.com).

Your email will reach our core HMG team. We will respond immediately and coordinate with all relevant team members.

**Other clients include:** Aggreko, Avis Budget Group, Barclays, Cabinet Office, John Lewis, Lloyd's Banking Group, Network Rail, Sainsbury's, Stagecoach, Wizz Air

Dentons

**BEIS:** Subsidy control and competition advice in relation to 2022 government interventions in the energy markets, and the Energy Prices Act 2022, in light of high wholesale prices

**MHCLG:** The state aid aspects of ERDF funding (£9m+) for the low carbon innovation fund LCIF2.

**Transport for London:** Competition aspects of contracts for the provision of 5G and fibre connectivity on the London Underground.

**DCMS:** Subsidy control, competition and regulatory issues arising in relation to the Outside In gigabit capable broadband infrastructure scheme.

**DfE:** Subsidy control issues across a variety of recent matters, some related to COVID recovery and on applying the emerging UK regime.

**British Business Bank (BBB):** Advising BEIS on the design and State aid approval for the BBB.

**DfT:** State aid aspects of proposed arrangements being contemplated as part of a DBFO contract.

**Network Rail:** State aid issues arising in relation to the insolvency of British Steel.

**Acorn:** Competition advice in relation to collaborative arrangements participation in BEIS, CCUS cluster sequencing process.

**Highlands and Islands Enterprise:** Successful defence in the Court of Session to a challenge on state aid grounds in relation to infrastructure funding.

**MOD:** Competition law aspects of the c.£10bn FMSP programme.

**Total:** EU merger clearance for TOTAL's acquisition of Orsted's B2B retail gas and power business, creating the UK's largest supplier.

**World Fuels:** Clearance by the UK, German, Austrian, Colombian, Icelandic, Cypriot, and Australian competition authorities for its acquisition of UVAir European Fuelling Services.

**Special merger regime Rail franchises and water companies:**

Competition aspects/ merger clearances for approx. 30 bids for passenger franchises and advice to Ofwat on water mergers.

**Royal Mail Group:** Competition law aspects of its long term Mail Distribution Agreement with Post Office.

**AO Retail, Spar and others:** Competition damages claims against Visa and MasterCard in relation to interchange fees.

**Skyscanner plc:** Successful challenge in the Competition Appeal Tribunal against an OFT decision to accept commitments and close an investigation into the online hotel booking sector.



# Construction law | 35+ lawyers

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## Service overview

We act for governments and other public sector bodies in the UK and internationally, as well as for project companies, developers, banks, investors, multilateral agencies, contractors and suppliers, offering HMG the widest domestic and international perspective. We work on all common forms of [construction contract](#) (NEC, JCT, FIDIC, IMechE, PPC and ICC) and contract management. We have advised on over 200 [PPP/PFI](#) projects. We are highly rated for [energy](#), transport and infrastructure work, which relies heavily on construction. We advise on the principal contracts, warranties and indemnities, completion guarantees, operation and maintenance, facilities management and decommissioning. We understand the critical issues and help minimise risk to achieve favourable outcomes. Our work spans water and wastewater, conventional and renewable energy, nuclear, transport, oil and gas, [property development](#), [healthcare](#), [education](#), prisons and secure training centres and other social infrastructure. Our [contentious](#) team handles both routine and portfolio disputes work and the most complex infrastructure and construction disputes. We recently defended a client in the largest High Court construction dispute listed by *The Lawyer* as one of the Top 20 cases of that year. We use our experience in resolving [disputes](#) across the supply chain to help you avoid disputes before they arise. This includes working with your [procurement](#) teams to ensure risk is properly managed at the outset or as project counsel for projects in delay and distress.

For help and support in Construction law please  
email: [HMGRelationshipTeam@dentons.com](mailto:HMGRelationshipTeam@dentons.com).

Your email will reach our core HMG team. We will respond immediately and coordinate with all relevant team members.

**Cabinet Office:** The creation of the Construction Playbook, a key policy and procurement document which sets out key policies and guidance for how public works projects and programmes are assessed, procured and delivered.

**China Nuclear Power Eng. Co.:** The responsible designer contract for the Bradwell B nuclear power station.

**MOD:** 15 years' work for Ministry of Defence on c. £25billion procurement/contracts for: a nuclear submarine; in-service (nuclear) engineering support for the UK's nuclear submarine fleet; O&M, hard & soft facilities management and significant construction at all the UK's (nuclear) RN dockyards, including extensive work on principal and supply chain nuclear indemnities.

**Acorn:** advising Shell, Harbour and Storegga as developers of the c. £4.5 billion Acorn CCUS project

**Fluor-Toshiba, Babcock International and others:** bids and operational work in NDA's nuclear decommissioning programme.

**EDF:** Past work on its participation in the French bid for new build NPP in the UAE.

**Network Rail:** £650m national railway infrastructure project to modernise and upgrade key junctions and infrastructure, electrify the main Edinburgh to Glasgow route.

**Network Rail:** The alliancing contract for the Crewe Area Works project which involves at least £1.5bn of infrastructure works intended primarily to facilitate the connection between HS2 (the new high speed rail network) and the existing railway West Coast Main Line.

**National Grid Gas:** Advising on construction of the South Hook and Isle of Grain LNG terminals.

**TfL:** Delivery partner contract for the £250m programme of London Underground track maintenance and renewal works.

**TfL:** £280m integrated project delivery team contract for the provision of technical facilities management and upgrade services.

**Network Rail:** The "enterprise" alliancing project for the construction project in connection with the re-opening of the branch line to Levenmouth.

**A range of world-scale construction projects**, e.g. Canada LNG (construction under English law advising prime construction contractor), the world's largest current refinery project (Tuban, advising developer), Dubai metro (advising construction contractor).

**Carillion:** Advising HMG on construction aspects of Carillion's insolvency and service continuity.

**London Luton Airport:** Construction contracts relating to aspects of Luton Airport's expansion.

**FCDO (previously DFID):** Advising: (1) on the continuity of construction, operation and maintenance obligations at St Helena Airport following the insolvency of its contractor; (2) in relation to the construction of the new Muga Humla link road in Nepal under the UK's Rural Access Programme Phase 3, (3) in relation to the design and construction of a project to rehabilitate the water supply in Freetown, Sierra Leone via the upgrade of the Guma Valley treatment works; (4) together with Willis Towers Watson in the creation of an insurance framework for all of FCDOs projects internationally including the creation of boilerplate insurance clauses for standard form contracts used across different regions.

# Contracts | 195+ lawyers

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## Service overview

Dentons works on all types of commercial contracts, from the most specialised (e.g. for MOD to purchase a nuclear submarine) to the most commonplace. Our work includes [procurement](#), drafting and negotiating, advising on interpretation, portfolio and individual contract management, [disputes](#), terminations and exits. We have a substantial practice in the regulated economy so often advise on contracts in the context of industry and EU regulation, e.g. energy, water, transport, broadcasting, [data](#) and telecommunications.

## Contracts we work on

Agency, distribution, licences  
Alliancing  
Commodity trading  
Confidentiality and NDAs  
Construction and FEED  
Consumer credit  
Contracts for difference  
Data processing  
Debt factoring  
Energy supply and services  
Facilities management  
Finance of every type  
Franchising  
Grants  
Guarantees, indemnity/warranty  
Intellectual property  
IT and telecoms

Joint ventures and partnerships  
Leases, easements  
Loans, mortgages and charges  
Manufacturing  
Operation and maintenance  
Outsourcing/contracting out services  
Projects, PPP/PFI, concessions  
Shared services  
Sale/supply of goods  
Security  
Sponsorship and advertising  
Supply of services

## Commercial contract services

Advice on rights/obligations  
Assignment/transfer/novati on/change of supplier/change of control  
Change in law  
Changes to contracts  
Confidentiality and data transfer  
Contract portfolio restructuring  
Contract/portfolio management  
Default  
Disputes  
Price reviews  
Standard terms and conditions  
Regulatory approvals  
Termination and exit

**For help and support in Contracts law please email:**

[HMGRelationshipTeam@dentons.com](mailto:HMGRelationshipTeam@dentons.com).

Your email will reach our core HMG team. We will respond immediately and coordinate with all relevant team members.

**Other clients include:** Avis Budget Group, Barclays, BEIS, DCMS, DFID, Home Office, HMT, John Lewis, LCCC, MOD, MTR Corporation, Network Rail, Nokia, RBS, Royal Mail, Sainsbury's, Total, Virgin .

## Spotlight on our team's experience

**Cabinet Office:** Confidential project, including analysis of aspects of the contracts between strategic suppliers and HMG.

**LCCC:** Advising on a range of possible contracts disputes.

**BEIS:** Periodic updating of the industry standard Contract for Difference.

**DfE (Institutes of Technology):** Advising on design and ongoing award of 22 Institute of Technology licences (including capital grant funding).

**DfE (National Tutoring Programme):** Assisted with structuring and procuring the National Tutoring Programme contracts over its lifecycle (year 1 grant funding to year 2 prime supplier & years 3/4 lotted providers)

**KKR:** Review of commercial contracts in 100+ countries.

**DfE (Home Learning Environment apps):** Advising on contracts and procurement aspects of the HLE app initiative.

**DHSC:** Contingency planning in relation to defaulting supplier, including review of 40 contracts.

**MOD:** Advised on the £5.2 billion Future Maritime Support Programme (in-service support for the UK's fleets of nuclear submarines and surface warships, and FM of the UK's (nuclear) naval dockyards and associated naval bases) and currently advising on the Marine Systems Support Transformation (MaST) Programme.

**HMG and Official Receiver:** All aspects of Carillion's contracts with suppliers and customers, including potential liabilities and set-off and the possible termination and/or transfer of over 250 HMG contracts.

**MOJ:** Advising on re-negotiation and extension of probation service agreements with 21 suppliers. Recently appointed to advise on the prison education service procurement across England

**Creative Scotland:** Developing funding and grant agreements. Creative Scotland distribute funding from the Scottish Government and the National Lottery.

**Cabinet Office:** Through FLA and in collaboration with another Tier 1 firm we assisted in developing a series of advice notes and FAQs on range of topics relevant to the disruption caused by COVID-19.

**Cabinet Office:** supporting investigations of conduct of strategic suppliers Serco and G4S, including advising on the consequences of their conduct under their contracts with HMG.

Advising on [Government Grant Schemes](#).



## Service overview

We have a substantial corporate practice which advises on public and private company matters. Work includes all types of M&A, joint ventures, restructuring, public company, capital raising/investment, corporate governance and compliance and covers domestic and cross border transactions. We have advised on numerous privatisations since our first for HMG in 1990 (often drafting or reviewing transfer schemes) and often advise governments on wholesale industry restructurings, new schemes of regulation and subsequent privatisation. Many of our structuring projects are first in country or region and of international significance. We have a renowned insolvency and restructuring practice and have formed several GovCos.

- Privatisations
- Risk Management
- Insolvency and Restructuring
- Statutory transfer schemes
- Government Companies and Equity Interests (including PF2)
- Corporate Structures and [Tax](#) Planning
- Company law
- All forms of corporate finance
- Joint Ventures
- Mergers & Acquisitions, public and private
- Private Equity
- Venture Capital
- Stock Exchange Listings & IPOs
- Debt Capital Markets
- Equity Capital Markets
- Public Company Reporting
- Company Secretarial
- Partnerships and Mutuals

**For help and support in Corporate law please email:**

[HMGRelationshipTeam@dentons.com](mailto:HMGRelationshipTeam@dentons.com).

Your email will reach our core HMG team. We will respond immediately and coordinate with all relevant team members.

**Other clients include:** Aberdeen Asset Management PLC, Investec, John Lewis Partnership, John Menzies, Low Carbon Contracts Company, MOJ, MTR Corporation, Network Rail, Nokia, Royal Mail, RPC Group, Sainsbury's, Stagecoach Group, The Weir Group plc, Total, Virgin.

## Spotlight on our team's experience

**LCCC:** Governance and Framework Agreement issues.

**BEIS:** Advising on establishment of Future System Operator, including acquiring National Grid ESO, statutory transfer schemes, establishment of new Govt Corporation, framework agreement & governance arrangements.

**Cabinet Office and MOJ:** Setting up 2 GovCos in connection with the Carillion liquidation.

**MHCLG:** Assessment of a funding request from a County Council under the EU funding requirements, in connection with a low carbon fund.

**BEIS:** Advising on the sale of the Green Deal Finance Company. BEIS was a stakeholder in the company. It was the principal lender (and a junior lender) to the company.

**Railway transfer schemes:** Advising separate clients on approximately 30 statutory transfer schemes in connection with passenger rail franchises.

**Essex County Council and 3 other authorities:** Establishing 4 joint venture companies to develop three garden communities in North Essex.

**PRS REIT plc:** Advising on Main Market Listing with market capitalisation of £250 million.

**Aberdeen Asset Management:** Advising on its £11bn recommended all share merger with Standard Life plc.

**Transport for the North/Midlands Connect:** Establishment of these subnational transport bodies.

**British Business Bank (BBB):** Investments into debt funders to provide debt finance to UK small businesses, a series of complex finance transactions.

**KKR:** €6.825 billion acquisition of Unilever's spreads business, closing July 2018. The business is active in 100+ countries and we advised through our offices in most jurisdictions. The acquisition was agreed 24 hours after KKR became preferred bidder. The complex/time-pressured transaction, required establishment of a business the size of a FTSE100 group. We led global legal due diligence; assisted on structuring and negotiation of transaction documents; establishing a group wide new IT system and licences and permits for the global business. This was Europe's 2nd largest food & beverage PE deal over the last three years.

**Government Grant Schemes:** Advising: HMT on Funding of No Interest Loan Scheme (NILS) launched by Fair4All Finance to support those made financially vulnerable due to COVID; DECC on establishing the Green Deal financing structure & disposal of the Green Deal finance company; DfE on negotiation of brand licences, state aid and grant funding (incl security & clawback) for Institutes of Technology (12 consortia successful so far); BEIS on the design and State aid approval for British Business Bank, to increase the supply of credit to UK SMEs. EU approval was secured for the mandated arm of the BBB to be funded by up to £6bn on a non-commercial basis; Creative Scotland developing funding and grant agreements for Scottish screen/creative industries & Scottish Investment Bank on grant, debt & equity funding for early stage and community interest companies and similar community enterprises, including co-investment arrangements.



# Dispute Resolution | 170+ lawyers

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## Service overview

When a dispute arises you need proactive, cost-effective and strategic advice; a commercial view based on a detailed analysis of the likely outcomes and risks; and highly responsive advisers. Using early evaluation techniques, we will help you to press claims when appropriate and to avoid a dispute if that is the better course.

If proceedings are inevitable, we will help you opt for the best means of resolution. Our experience includes arbitration, mediation, expert determination and other forms of alternative dispute resolution, such as bespoke dispute boards. We can also help you to put cases back on track when all is not going to plan. We are assertive in our methods, but we understand that each case is unique and requires its own approach. Dentons may work with BDB Pitmans and Geldards, depending on the subject matter of a dispute. Please refer to the separate page about [litigation](#). Our specialisms include:

Abuse	Occupational disease	Health, safety & environmental
Catastrophic injury	Policy advice	Information technology
Costs	Product liability	Outsourcing
CRU appeals	Psychiatric injury	Projects/PPP/PFI
Data	Public liability	Intellectual property
Employers' liability	Small claims	Pensions
Failure to educate	Sports	Planning
General liability	Commercial contracts	Real estate
Highway claims	Construction and infrastructure	Regulatory investigations
Investigations, including fraud	Employment	Restructuring, insolvency and bankruptcy
Motor liability	Energy and natural resources	Tax
MOJ portal	Financial markets disputes	Trade

**For help and support in Dispute Resolution please email:**

[HMGRelationshipTeam@dentons.com](mailto:HMGRelationshipTeam@dentons.com).

Your email will reach our core HMG team. We will respond immediately and coordinate with all relevant team members.

**Other clients include:** Aviva, BBC, Cabinet Office, DEFRA, EDF Energy, Educational Institute of Scotland, Esso Petroleum, Foreign and Commonwealth Office, Home Office, LCCC, Lloyds, National Crime Agency, Sainsbury's, Shell, Total, UK Borders Agency, Virgin, WL Gore & Associates (UK) Limited.

## Spotlight on our team's experience

**Central government department:** Advising on recovery of considerable overcharges (£50m+) by a key publicly listed supplier under a substantial long-term contract following an audit by external auditors. Dispute involves how eight separate categories of overcharges breach the services agreement and included advice on behavioural issues and irregularities identified during the audit. The dispute was successfully resolved.

**Cabinet Office:** Project Tamsin. Advising on investigation of separate allegations of fraud by Serco and G4S in provision of electronic tagging services, in parallel with SFO criminal investigations. Procurement and public law, contract analysis and complex interface between civil law/criminal burden of proof, remedies and processes, including self-cleaning. SFO entered into deferred prosecution agreements with contractors

**Cabinet Office:** advising on investigation of and possible remedies in respect of KPMG's conduct following adverse findings of serious misconduct by regulator.

**Low Carbon Contracts Company Limited:** Advising on a Change in Law claim arising from the introduction of locational allocation of electricity system transmission losses as a result of the CMA's EMR in 2016 and amendment P350 to the BSC.

**Private equity firm:** Conducting an investigation into a UK-wide hotel chain at the request of its private equity partner. The case involved allegations of significant financial mismanagement on the part of a senior manager. The case was handled swiftly and confidentially to enable the business to recoup its losses and address its systems and controls failings.

**Oil major:** Advising on long running and extremely high value arbitration (in excess of US\$9 billion) involving complex issues of fact and law across several jurisdictions and 19 parties in total, including government entities. Our client succeeded in all of its claims.

**Republic of India:** Successfully defending a US\$130 million claim under the UNCITRAL Rules pursuant to the UAE-India BIT brought by the Ras-al-Khaimah Investment Authority concerning a bauxite mining and refining project in India.



## Service overview

We work proactively with our clients to advise on disputes and, where possible, mitigate loss. We work closely with our clients to identify the potential outcome of any litigation and, if desirable, press claims or avoid disputes if that is the better course. If court is the appropriate forum for the dispute, our Commercial Litigation lawyers not only focus on court matters but are also solicitor advocates and CEDR accredited mediators, which enables us to provide a rounded perspective whatever the nature of the dispute. Dentons' integrated Commercial Litigation team provides a flexible resourcing model across England and Scotland to ensure that we structure relevant scale, expertise and price points to provide a bespoke service suited to the nature of the dispute. Dentons may work with BDB Pitmans or Geldards, depending on the nature of any litigation. Our team has experience both for and against the public sector challenging or defending decisions. We also routinely advise on court action relating to commercial contracts, professional liability, fraud and corruption, and judicial reviews. We also have experience in freezing injunctions and search and seizure orders.

Abuse	Product liability	Infrastructure projects
Catastrophic injury	Psychiatric injury	Intellectual property
Costs	Public liability	Pensions
CRU appeals	Small claims	Planning
Employers' liability	Commercial contracts	Professional negligence
Failure to educate	Construction	Projects and PPP
General liability	Employment	Real estate
Highway claims	Energy and natural resources	Regulatory investigations
Motor liability	Financial markets disputes	Restructuring, insolvency and bankruptcy
MOJ portal	Health, Safety and environmental law	Tax
Occupational disease	Information technology	
Policy advice		

**For help and support in Litigation please email:** [HMGRelationshipTeam@dentons.com](mailto:HMGRelationshipTeam@dentons.com).

Your email will reach our core HMG team. We will respond immediately and coordinate with all relevant team members.

**Other clients include:** Avis, Aviva, BBC, DEFRA, EDF Energy, Esso Petroleum, FCA, FSCS, Homebase, LCCC, National Crime Agency, National House Building Council, Network Rail Infrastructure Ltd, RSA Insurance Group, WL Gore & Associates (UK) Limited.

## Spotlight on our team's experience

**Government department:** Advising on a dispute relating to a major communications upgrade in the emergency services. Advising over considerable period on termination of high cost project and associated damages claim against supplier, including recovery.

**Listed outsourcing company:** Advising on high value claims (exceeding £100m in total) relating to transition of services to third party supplier. The claims relate to adjustment and non-payment of charges and delays and disruption caused by transition.

**Major UK retail bank:** Advising on a substantial claim, valued at between £400-£700 million, arising out of the aborted issuance of Commercial Mortgage Backed Securities by what was then one of the UK's leading accommodation providers. Includes: alleged mis-selling of a 15 year rollercoaster swap pegged to LIBOR; alleged mis-treatment of customers by our client; and various other claims of alleged misrepresentation relating to LIBOR.

**PwC:** Acting for PwC in relation to a significant claim (£50m+) for breach of confidence relating to advice given about the high value acquisition of an entity.

**Big six energy company:** Acting in a complex claim in restitution following significant overpayment of charges. The claim also involved claims relating to potential liability of another Big Six energy company arising from breaches of inter-connected agreements.

**Major UK bank:** advising on one of the most prominent money laundering cases in the banking sector, which was heard in the Court of Appeal in 2017. The case involved a review of the money laundering provisions in the Proceeds of Crime Act 2002 and the impact of those provisions on a bank when it suspects a customer of being engaged in money laundering

[Lehman Litigation insolvency work](#)

[Cabinet Office work](#)

## Service overview

We have experts in all areas of employment law, large-scale outsourcing projects, restructures and reorganisations. We defend complex court and tribunal litigation. We advise HMG departments and agencies, other public sector organisations, banks, multinationals and large corporates on high-risk / sensitive employment and HR issues.

We advise on board-specific matters such as governance, executive and non-executive director appointments and executive severance arrangements.

We advise on TUPE and employee transfer issues in outsourcing and insourcing projects, change of service providers and on acquisitions and disposals.

The team is experienced in dealing with industrial relations issues and the particular sensitivities these give rise to. Our advice includes handling trade union negotiations, collective bargaining and industrial action. Our recent experiences have included pilots, baggage handlers and postal workers' industrial action and action short of a strike. We also regularly represent employers in trade union backed [litigation](#).

Apart from our stand-alone employment work, we often provide wider Dentons teams with significant input to major transactions and [procurements](#) for government clients.

**For help and support in Employment law please email:**  
[HMGRelationshipTeam@dentons.com](mailto:HMGRelationshipTeam@dentons.com).

Your email will reach our core HMG team. We will respond immediately and coordinate with all relevant team members.

**Other clients include:** Aegon, Bank of China, British Steel, Educational Institute of Scotland, Interpublic, John Lewis, Scottish Police Authority, Societe Generale, Spotify, Virgin.

## Spotlight on our team's experience

**BEIS:** advising on employment law aspects of the establishment of the Future System Operator and nationalisation of National Grid ESO.

**Department for Education:** providing TUPE and wider employment advice to the Department on plans to extend the academic mentoring scheme and National Tutoring Programme

**Confidential government client:** sourcing international employment advice.

**Cabinet Office:** Significant project as part of HMG's response to the COVID-19 crisis.

**Royal Mail:** Complex employment and TUPE issues arising from a major outsourcing project.

**Network Rail:** We advise 3 UK regions on employment law matters including discrimination, tribunals and disciplinary matters. As a public body, compliance with Treasury requirements is essential for Network Rail.

**Home Office:** Employment aspects of the Emergency Services Mobile Communications Programme, a major multi-towered and sourced ICT procurement for critical national infrastructure.

**Transport Scotland:** Advising on retendering of the trunk roads maintenance contract including obtaining and providing information for tenderers and subsequent negotiations.

**University and College Union:** Acting in the UCU's Supreme Court appeal on collective consultation requirements and fixed-term academic staff.

**Confidential client:** Advising on a major IT multi-sourcing re-procurement programme and the associated TUPE aspects of such negotiations.

**MOD:** Application of TUPE provisions contained in existing commercial contracts and the subsequent renegotiations and drafting of TUPE and employment provisions in new agreements.

**DFID:** Application of TUPE to the proposed re-tendering of both the International Growth Centre and the Centre for Disaster Protection.

**Official Receiver as Liquidator and PwC Special Managers:** Advised on complex employment issues arising from the collapse of Carillion plc including:

- The impact of liquidation on employment contracts and requirement to continue providing services.
- TUPE and the transfer of services to new providers in the context of liquidations and provisional liquidations taking account of the different insolvency rules in England and Scotland.
- Supported the special managers communications to employee representatives and employees.
- Colocated with the special managers in the immediate aftermath to support the liquidation.



## Service overview

Our Environment team is recognised as a practice that balances transactional support with a strong regulatory reputation. Not only does the team advise on the implications of environmental law and liabilities in the commercial context, but it has a long track record of formulating and drafting the regulations and guidance that underpin the practical implementation of law. HMG has benefited from this full service practice for the past 15 years as the team has acted on disposals, remediation projects and enforcement action and drafted laws, rules and guidance. Both the key leaders of our team, Stephen Shergold and Helen Bowdren, have been involved in these mandates having practised in our team throughout this period.

HMG clients have included the Environment Agency, the Ministry of Defence, the Department of Enterprise, Trade and Industry (Northern Ireland), the Department of Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, the Local Government Association, and several local authorities. Our team:

- drafted the Administrative Rules for the CRC Energy Efficiency Scheme;
- dealt with contamination legacy on the sale of DARA;
- drafted the Renewables Obligation Order for Northern Ireland;
- drafted the Enforcement Manual for the Contaminated Land Regime;
- trained all local authority enforcement officers across England and Wales on the implementation of the Contaminated Land Regime; and
- advised several regulators of enforcement decisions.

**For help and support in Environmental law please email:**

[HMGRelationshipTeam@dentons.com](mailto:HMGRelationshipTeam@dentons.com).

Your email will reach our core HMG team. We will respond immediately and coordinate with all relevant team members.

**Other clients include:** Eurotunnel, National Grid, Ofgem, Royal Mail, Sainsbury's, Total, Virgin.

## Spotlight on our team's experience

**Amazon:** Advising on all aspects of Environmental, Health & Safety and Sustainability law for Amazon across all continental European countries.

**BEIS:** Advising on the environmental law implications under retained EU environmental directives of HMG's winter 2022 energy market interventions.

**Acorn:** advising Shell, harbour and Storegga on environmental permitting for the c. £4.5 billion Acorn Carbon Capture Storage project

**Arkema:** Advising a French chemicals company on risks presented to its business if the UK implements a separate REACH regime post Brexit.

**Network Rail:** Advising on the application of the EPC regime to Network Rail's business including the implications of the new Minimum Energy Efficiency Standards (MEES) Regulations and the Assessment of Energy Performance (AEP) regime for non-domestic properties.

**KKR:** Advising KKR-owned Calsonic Kansei, a Japanese car parts maker owned by US private equity firm KKR, on its €5.8 billion acquisition of Fiat Chrysler Automobiles' component maker Magneti Marelli.

**Ministry of Defence:** Advising on environmental aspects of Maritime Support Delivery Framework and the Future Maritime Support Programme.

**The Defence Aviation Repair Agency (DARA)** was an executive agency of the UK Ministry of Defence, responsible for the maintenance and repair of Royal Air Force, Army and Royal Navy aircraft. Dentons advised on the sale of DARA including two large heavily contaminated sites. We continue to provide support to MOD in connection with radioactive and chemical contamination clean-up and liability issues including waste management, threatened contractual claims and strategy for site exit and liaison with numerous interested parties.

**Environment Agency of England and Wales:** Advising in connection with the CRC Energy Efficiency Scheme.

**Department of Environment Farming and Rural Affairs (Defra):** Training all local authorities in England and Wales on the implementation of the Contaminated Land Regime and drafting a practical guide for use by all local authority enforcement officers.

**Department of Energy and Climate Change (DECC):** Advising on the environmental law aspects of the Government's pioneering Carbon Capture and Storage project.

# Information law including data protection | 28 lawyers

## Service overview

We advise UK Government, public sector bodies and authorities, as well as some of the world's best recognised manufacturers, retailers, transport and mobility companies, [energy](#) companies and [technology](#) suppliers. Our team also includes members with security clearance and experience of acting on sensitive matters.

Our UK team is led by recognised leaders in their field. We are known thought leaders and "plugged in" to the privacy and cyber security community including lawmakers, lobbyists, controllers, processors and industry groups. We provide a full service on practice leveraging technology-enabled delivery platforms that includes:

- Information, data protection and cyber security law compliance including General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR), Law Enforcement Directive and NIS Directive
- Global data privacy framework design and implementation
- Data sharing compliance assessments and remediation
- Regulatory investigation support and including engagement with data protection regulators
- Cyber risk preparedness assessments, remediation and training
- Cyber and data incident response
- E-privacy advice including compliance work relating to device tracking, adtech and location data
- Strategic CRM and e-marketing advice – on both local and international basis
- Product and business process compliance including data protection impact assessments
- Freedom of information EIR requests and governance
- Global data transfer solutions (model contracts, privacy shield applications, binding corporate rules (BCR) applications)
- [Privacy litigation](#) and e-discovery
- Data subject rights supporting, including tech-enabled document review platform

**For help and support in Information law including data protection please email:**

[HMGRelationshipTeam@dentons.com](mailto:HMGRelationshipTeam@dentons.com).

Your email will reach our core HMG team. We will respond immediately and coordinate with all relevant team members.

**Other clients include:** Delta Airlines, EDF Energy, John Lewis, Network Rail, News International, Sainsbury's, SITA, Virgin Atlantic, Virgin Media, Wizz Air.

## Spotlight on our team's experience

**Avis Budget Group:** We were appointed in 2016 as global privacy counsel for Avis, Budget and Zipcar. We have advised on all aspects of data protection across multiple jurisdictions on issues ranging from e-Privacy compliance to connected car technology. We recently supported on a submission to the European Data Protection Board on connected car issues.

**BEIS:** advising on complex data flows re HMG's energy prices interventions under the Energy Prices Act 2022

**BEIS:** advising on data flows and data legislation in relation to the establishment of the Future System Operator

**Major UK retailer:** Assisting with the development of their data protection Brexit preparation plan.

**HMG:** Advising on the data protection aspects of the proposed government workforce exchange programme as part of the response to COVID-19.

**BEIS:** advising on data law and regulation in context of establishment of the Future System Operator and nationalisation of National Grid ESO

**UK Police Forces:** Acting as primary external counsel on legal issues arising from cyber incident affecting leading provider of forensics services to UK forces.

**First Data:** Advising on data protection compliance following successfully obtaining approval for its BCRs for data processors from European Data Protection regulators. We have acted on multiple other BCR applications – including managing applications through the Brexit process.

**Delta Airlines:** We are Delta's preferred external data privacy counsel. We deal directly with Legal and the privacy leads in Atlanta (Delta home hub).



## Service overview

Our team has handled over 75 significant pure technology projects over the last two years alone with an aggregate value of almost £30 billion. Since 2000, we have worked with HMG including MOD, Home Office, HM Treasury, Highways Agency, Defra and the FCO on significant IT projects. Through our experience in advising a wide range of participants in the technology ecosystem, from emerging growth software and IT companies to multinational technology suppliers, we deliver creative solutions that stand out, help you achieve strategic objectives and minimise risk.

- Technology [procurements](#)
- The structuring, negotiation, development, drafting and implementation of licensing arrangements
- Collaborations, [joint ventures and M&A](#)
- Privacy policies and terms of use
- E-commerce/internet for online sales
- [Outsourcing](#)
- Data centres
- Email marketing campaigns and outsourcing
- Website development and hosting
- Cloud computing

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**Other clients include:** Delta Airlines, EDF Energy, John Lewis, Network Rail, News International, Sainsbury's, SITA, Virgin Atlantic, Virgin Media, Wizz Air.

## Spotlight on our team's experience

**Home Office** (see [outsourcing](#))

**FCO, DFID and British Council:** Supporting the FCO, as well as the DFID and the British Council, on the procurement of their global fixed and mobile voice and data telecoms network and services contract, covering – among other things – UK offices, as well as their ever-expanding overseas embassies, consulates and other offices in over 170 countries around the world.

**TfL** (see [Telecommunications](#))

**Defra:** Advising on the £1.6 billion UniTy Programme that consisted of five parallel competitive procurements of IT services for over 21,000 end users, involving the disaggregation of IT services for various HMG departments in challenging timeframes including the re-negotiation of incumbent agreements and drafting and negotiating contracts for the new suppliers.

**Scottish Widows Investment Partnership:** Advising on all IT aspects of its acquisition from Lloyds Banking Group.

**Rail operator:** Tender process for the procurement of train control systems to meet the current and evolving European standards, as well as provide guidance on the contracts which will govern the life-cycle of the control system, including arrangements for maintenance and development of the relevant technical standardisation.

**Major Multinational:** Advising on a high value business critical re-procurement project related to the outsourcing of a major enterprise-wide IT system.

**HMT's Core ICT 2015 programme:** A complex, mission-critical programme to put in place a new operating model for the provision of IT services; the first major implementation by HMG of the tower / disaggregated tower model.

**Virgin Atlantic:** Contracts for a suite of "AIR4" passenger service systems – a strategic procurement of best in class systems, perhaps the most important IT project for Virgin in recent years.

**Home Retail Group:** Contracts for application maintenance and application development services from Wipro. These were core to the sales and logistics functions for stores. Our representation of HRG on its most significant technology investments supports our credentials as the UK's leading digital retail legal adviser (alongside our work for Sainsbury's, John Lewis and ASOS).

**The Restaurant Group:** Advising on the implementation of core IT solutions (hardware, software and support) at its headquarters and across its estate of approximately 500 UK outlets, including UK airport concessions.

**Jaguar Land Rover Limited:** Advising on high value global outsourcing arrangements for a number of IT service areas (including end user services, data centres, security and projects) and coordinated among several IT providers worldwide.

## Service overview

The UK IP team has acted on some of the most high-profile IP disputes and IP non-contentious deals in recent years and has run some of the most important and complex patent litigation in the UK. Part of one of the largest IP teams in the world, with 600 lawyers, we work on a wide range of IP services in the UK, Europe, CIS, US, Canada, China, Singapore and Australia. The UK IP team covers all areas of IP, including all types of IP disputes, advisory work and transactional work (with a particular focus on cross-border IP licensing and complex IP acquisitions or securitisations). We also have patent trademark designs prosecution teams which provide clients with an in-depth understanding of IP issues, particularly in view of the focus on technology in the industrial strategy. The team works alongside our IP colleagues in Europe and worldwide.

- Advertising
- [Commercial](#) agreements
- Communications
- Copyright
- [Data protection](#)
- Defamation and reputation management
- Designs
- Intellectual property litigation
- IP and the internet
- IP contracts, assignment and licensing
- Patent litigation
- Patent prosecution
- Post-grant proceedings
- Strategic IP planning
- Trademarks
- Unfair [competition](#)

**For help and support in Intellectual property law please email:**

[HMGRelationshipTeam@dentons.com](mailto:HMGRelationshipTeam@dentons.com).

Your email will reach our core HMG team. We will respond immediately and coordinate with all relevant team members.

**Other clients include:** ASOS, Daily Mail Group, Delta Airlines, EDF Energy, Fox, Herz, Hunter Boots, Jamie Oliver Restaurants, John Lewis and Waitrose, Ministry of Defence, National Theatre of Scotland, Network Rail, Nokia, Pringle of Scotland, Royal Mail Group, Sainsbury's, Sanofi, The Restaurant Group (whose brands include Frankie & Benny's and Garfunkel's), Total, VeriFone, Virgin.

## Spotlight on our team's experience

We have advised HMG on IP for 20+ years and have particular experience in helping clients reach agreements with industry that ensure that Government does not pay twice and has the necessary rights, while at the same time encouraging innovation and recognising legitimate private sector interests. A recent example is our work for DECC on its **Carbon Capture Storage Project**. We ensured appropriate knowledge transfer was achieved and that industry was able to obtain licences to any inventions on FRAND (fair and reasonable non-discriminatory) terms. We devised innovative approaches which we helped DECC negotiate and agree with industry.

**IP disputes – Positec:** Acting on a complex, cross-border patent litigation case. This case is in relation to an action between Positec and Husqvarna.

**Cabinet Office:** Advising upon intellectual property licensing arrangements.

**DfE:** Advising upon the intellectual property aspects of the establishment of the Institutes of Technology programme.

**Skykick:** Acting for a Seattle-based technology company in a contentious High Court trademark dispute relating to allegations of infringement to the Sky brand.

**Virgin:** Regularly advising on a wide range of IP matters (disputes, licensing, advisory), often on an international basis.

**Edinburgh Woollen Mill:** Advising on its acquisition and commercialisation of its Jane Norman, Peacocks, Internacionale, Rosebys and Austin Reid brands.

**Lottoland:** Advising on an ongoing High Court trade mark infringement action involving complex issues surrounding comparative advertising.

**Starkey Labs:** Managing patent portfolio of the largest hearing air manufacturers in the world.

**Virtual IP Assets ("888" gaming company):** Managing trade mark portfolio and enforcement of rights in their brand 888 (and others) and dealing with number of active oppositions against infringers.

**Hasbro, Inc.:** Acting on international IP licensing matters.



# Non-complex finance and investment | 160+ lawyers

## Service overview

Dentons is privileged to be seen as trusted legal adviser to world's banks and financial institutions, and to have places on the lending panels of many of the world's largest financial institutions. Our global Finance practice has a presence in all the major financial centres of the world, and our Finance sector is the largest sector in the world's largest law firm. Our practice spans all service lines – from general corporate lending and project finance through to derivatives and securitisation. We advise lenders, borrowers and public bodies. Our offices in the emerging markets has enabled us to have much experience working with DFIs and government agencies in export credit, often alongside commercial financing, to secure investment in particular sectors or technologies.

- Acquisition and leveraged finance
- Aviation finance
- Asset finance
- Debt capital markets
- Derivatives
- Government and related guarantees
- Export credit financing
- Financial services regulation and investigations
- Islamic finance
- Project finance, [PPP/PFI](#)
- [Real estate finance](#)
- Reserve based lending
- Restructuring/workouts
- Structured finance/securitisation
- Shipping finance
- Syndicated/global lending
- Trade and commodity finance

**For help and support in Non-complex finance and investment please email: [HMGRelationshipTeam@dentons.com](mailto:HMGRelationshipTeam@dentons.com).**

Your email will reach our core HMG team. We will respond immediately and coordinate with all relevant team members.

**Other clients include:** African Development Bank, African Export-Import Bank (Afrexim), BNP Paribas, Crédit Agricole CIB, Development Bank of South Africa, FCA, HSBC, Lloyds, MUFG Bank, Natixis, Société Générale, Standard Chartered.

## Spotlight on our team's experience

**Republic of Ghana:** Advising on a high-profile issue of sovereign bonds and related tender offers. The Republic issued US\$750 million 9.250 per cent Amortising Notes due 2022 which were listed on the Irish Stock Exchange. This was combined with two separate cash tender offers for its outstanding 2017 Notes. This deal recently won "Best Sovereign Bond in Africa for 2016" at the EMEA Finance Annual Achievement Awards.

**Stenn International:** Advising alongside our top-ranked trade finance team, we advised Stenn on its US\$200 million trade finance securitisation. Stenn is a UK-based, non-bank trade finance provider to suppliers across the globe. We used our unparalleled global office network to provide advice in many of the supplier jurisdictions.

**Dentex Healthcare Group:** Advising Investec Bank plc and two Apera funds as mandated lead arrangers, original lenders, the agent and security agent on its £68 million acquisition facility to Dentex Healthcare Group, a Mauritian private equity backed buy and build business acquiring and operating dental practices across the United Kingdom.

**UK Export Finance (UKEF):** Acting for UKEF and Standard Chartered Bank on the €380m UKEF-backed financing of a project in Angola to construct three hospitals. This was UKEF's first support into Angola, creating significant opportunities for UK healthcare and construction suppliers.

**Financial Services Compensation Scheme:** Advising on the £18 billion rescue of Bradford & Bingley depositors and on the multi-billion-pound rescues of depositors in collapsed Icelandic banks Kaupthing Singer & Friedlander, Heritable and Landsbanki. Working under intense time pressure with teams representing HM Treasury, the Bank of England and the Financial Services Authority to develop both innovative commercial solutions and emergency legislation to protect depositors.

**Be-Spoke Capital:** Advising Be-Spoke Capital on its debut CLO, Alhambra SME Funding 2019-1, a €280 million securitisation of a portfolio of senior unsecured Spanish SME loans. The cross-border nature of the transaction and the novelty of the asset class, together with the involvement of the European Investment Bank make the transaction particularly noteworthy.

**HMT:** appointed as HMT's main external counsel for 2021-22

## Service overview

Our team specialises in large-scale [procurement](#), strategic sourcing and outsourcing projects and [contracts](#) and has advised on many of the first-of-their-kind sourcing deals across a range of industry sectors. We have advised HMG on many complex outsourcings over the last 15 years. Our team is integrated with regulatory specialists in our key industry areas, providing us with a key differentiator from our niche competitors.

Our London partners have more than 150 years' experience between them. Many of them have worked previously as in-house lawyers for service providers, so have an unparalleled understanding of the commercial and legal issues facing customers and service providers.

**For help and support in Outsourcing law please email:**  
[HMGRelationshipTeam@dentons.com](mailto:HMGRelationshipTeam@dentons.com).

Your email will reach our core HMG team. We will respond immediately and coordinate with all relevant team members.

**Other clients include:** ASOS, Avis, EDF Energy, Homebase, Home Office, John Lewis, Royal Mail Group, Sainsbury's (Argos), Virgin Atlantic.

## Spotlight on our team's experience

**Cabinet Office:** Advising on the Outsourcing Playbook, the Construction Playbook, Digital and Data Playbook and the Consultancy Playbook.

**Cabinet Office:** Supported on developing the Procurement Bill 2022: drafting instructions to OPC on parts of the current Procurement Bill, critiquing instructions already drafted by CabO, co-ordinating advice on international comparisons

**Home Office:** Advising on a £3.1 billion high-profile outsourcing programme led by the Home Office, involving IT and telecoms services and delivering a cheaper, cost-effective and smarter communications network that will enable more effective use of police, fire and ambulance resources, significantly improving on the current infrastructure. The programme involved EE and Motorola and forms part of the UK's critical national infrastructure.

**EDF Energy:** Advising on an innovative and very high-value project to outsource management cloud services from TCS to form an efficient dynamic management layer between EDF Energy's operations and multiple cloud service providers.

**Maritime and Coastguard Agency & Department for Transport:** Advising on its outsourcing for the multi-lotted £3.1 billion UK Search and Rescue Helicopter service. A hugely complex deal run under the competitive dialogue procedure using lean sourcing principles which completed in record time for a procurement of this size.

**Edinburgh Airport and London Luton Airport:** Advising on the agreements for their respective appointment of their air traffic control service provider.

**MOD:** Advising on c.£10bn FMSP outsourcing - an 11-lot mixed competitive and single source procurement programme.

**MOD:** Advising on a £3.2 billion Maritime Support Delivery Framework Contracts with Babcock and BAE for maintaining and repairing the Royal Navy's ships and submarine fleet and providing services to Clyde, Devonport and Portsmouth naval bases.

**Defra:** Advising on its UnlTy programme, a highly complex and high-value ICT outsourcing programme to replace the current ICT system.

**Sainsbury's Bank:** Advising on the outsourcing of its IT platform and related business process services and providing ongoing support for the development and rollout of its new bank transformation project.

**Nynas AB UK:** Advising on the outsourcing of its UK bitumen supply transport arrangements with Imperial Tankers (subsequently acquired by Suttons).



# Partnership law | 25+ lawyers

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## Service overview

Our [Corporate](#) team regularly advises on the full range of partnership law, in relation to all types of partnerships (including general partnerships, limited liability partnerships, limited partnership, Scottish partnerships, and overseas partnerships, including those incorporated in Luxembourg and the Channel Islands) and related [contracts](#):

- Formation
- Partnership agreements/deeds
- Fund raising
- Partnership management
- Corporate governance
- Appointing/removing
- Regulatory
- Investments by partnerships (including co-investments)
- Risk management
- Litigation / disputes
- Insolvency
- Restructuring
- Sale of partnership interests

A great deal of Partnership Law practice is focussed on investment funds structured as partnerships, in particular limited partners, under English and Scottish law, but also applied to funds domiciled globally, where the strong and deep-rooted experience we have of the private equity fund market in the UK allows us to serve our clients across the globe. The work includes establishing funds and carried interest vehicles as partnerships, advice on fund restructuring and disputes, advising on fund finance and security arrangements associated with interests in partnerships, specialist regulatory and tax advice on these fund structures, acting on the acquisition and disposal of partnership interests (secondaries transactions), and advising the managers and investors in funds structured as partnerships throughout their life cycle.

We also advise on long-term partnering and alliancing agreements in the [PPP/PEI](#) and [outsourcing](#) markets. We have expertise of professional services partnerships from our own governance and partnership structure. Dentons is the largest law firm in the world, by lawyer headcount; our business has grown since 2010 through a large number of "combinations"/acquisitions in which numerous legacy firms have come together under a Swiss Verein structure, with a complex series of underlying partnership and other structures.

**For help and support in Partnership law please email:**

[HMGRelationshipTeam@dentons.com](mailto:HMGRelationshipTeam@dentons.com).

Your email will reach our core HMG team. We will respond immediately and coordinate with all relevant team members.

**Other clients include:** British Business Bank, LetterOne Energy, Omnes Capital Partners Group.

## Spotlight on our team's experience

**Global fund manager:** Advising one of the largest fund of fund managers in the world, on 20+ investments into a variety of private equity, real estate, infrastructure and debt funds (all of which were structured as limited partnerships in jurisdictions including England, Jersey, Guernsey, Luxembourg and US) including funds managed by Infracapital, Exponent, ECI Partners, Capvis and Graphite Capital.

**TwentyFour Asset Management:** Advising on the sale of 60 per cent of the partnership to Vontobel. This involved complex documentation including an acquisition agreement and a substantial revision of the existing partnership deed. It also involved putting in place a series of options for the acquisition of the remainder of the equity interests over an eight-year period, both call options for the buyer and options exercisable on the departure of any individual partner.

**Target Global:** Advising on this UK and Berlin headquartered fund manager on its innovative evergreen private equity fund, structured using a Cayman limited partnership, raising \$100m at first close, from a range of US and European investors (including tax and regulatory advice).

**Accountancy:** Advising on exit arrangements from a partnership, including on rights and obligations under the partnership agreement, the effect of variations to it, negotiating exit terms, negotiating and enforcing obligations on repayments of capital.

**European fund of funds:** Advising in relation to the launch and operation of a EUR 250 million European private equity fund of funds, structured as a Scottish limited partnership and raising capital from European HNW and institutional investors.

## Service overview

Our UK Pensions team is part of the wider, global Pensions, Benefits and Executive Compensation group. The group deals with complex and high-profile pensions issues for central and local government, pension scheme trustees, employers, [financial institutions](#), insolvency practitioners and [outsourcing](#) providers.

Our Pensions team is trusted by many Government departments, household brands and multinationals to advise on their pensions plans.

We advise on outsourcing issues, pension scheme funding issues, scheme amendments, [disputes](#), contracts (for scheme advisers and administrators), governance and [data protection](#) issues. We have handled pensions disputes from Ombudsman through to the Court of Appeal and Supreme Court.

We believe we have unmatched experience in dealing with the complex pension issues that can arise out of the [procurement](#) and retendering of Government [contracts](#) and in producing solutions to deal with them within the context of the legal frameworks under which Central Government operates and the key stakeholders involved.

We have extensive experience of New Fair Deal and an effective understanding of the options available to Government entities under the current public sector pensions legislation.

**For help and support in Pensions law please email:**

[HMGRelationshipTeam@dentons.com](mailto:HMGRelationshipTeam@dentons.com).

Your email will reach our core HMG team. We will respond immediately and coordinate with all relevant team members.

**Other clients include:** Allied Irish Bank, Bank of China, Delta Airlines, ICAEW, JCB Finance, KKR, MTR Corporation, National Express, SITA, Ultra Electronics, Virgin Atlantic Airways.

## Spotlight on our team's experience

**BEIS:** advising, in close cooperation with GAD, on complex pensions issues, including SI drafting, in relation to the statutory transfer to HMG of the National Grid ESO

**GLD:** Appointed as one of 3 GLAS panel firms to advise on all pensions matters.

**MOD MSDF:** A retender of a number of historical outsourcing agreements into a single agreement. This contract included New Fair Deal issues and the transfer of several thousand former MOD staff back into the public sector pension schemes from their GAD certified provider scheme and involved extensive commercial negotiation and liaison with GAD and MyCSP around transfer and shortfall liability issues.

Appointment to the Legal Services Panel, forming part of a wider **National Local Government Pension Scheme Framework**.

**Major petrol and oil operation:** Advising on the pensions aspects of a sale of an oil refinery, a highly complex transaction involving five pension schemes with funding, risk and liability issues.

**Home Office:** Advising on outsourcing issues and implementation of New Fair Deal.

**DfT and East Coast:** Advising on PPF risk-based levy issues and whether exempt from levy because of Crown Guarantee or alternatively whether failure scores are unlawful.

**Government client:** Advising on a re-outsourcing of an existing ICT contract.

**Railways Pension Scheme:** Advising on a complex re-structuring of its £21 billion unitised pooled fund structure including establishment of several new CIVs and the merger of existing pooled funds. We advised on pensions law and trustee duties, governance arrangements, liaising with HMRC for approval, and providing AIFMD and implementation advice.



## Service overview

Dentons works with BDB Pitmans on planning law and infrastructure consents. Individually we are leading planning practices, experienced in all aspects of planning law in the residential, regeneration, retail, hotel, energy and infrastructure sectors and recognised for our skills in town centre, mixed-use development, community infrastructure levy, compulsory purchase, viability and funding structures. We work for the public and private sectors, brokering legal and commercial solutions that work for all parties.

- Environmental and biodiversity net gain
- Obtaining infrastructure consents: DCO, TWAO, planning permissions and other environmental (including EU issues) and highways orders
- Strategies for obtaining consents
- Garden villages and sustainable urban extensions proposals
- Land acquisition, including by compulsory purchase
- Public inquiry work
- Judicial review
- Community Infrastructure Levy and development viability/affordable housing

The team can advise on the statutory authorisation of major projects, with strengths in the drafting and promotion of **Special Development Orders** (SDOs) under the 1990 Act regime and Development Consent Orders under the **Planning Act 2008** and **Transport and Works Act 1992** Orders.

The Planning Magazine 2022 recent survey rates Dentons as one of the Top 6 planning teams (and BDB Pitmans as the second largest) in the country.

**For help and support in Planning law please email:**

[HMGRelationshipTeam@dentons.com](mailto:HMGRelationshipTeam@dentons.com).

Your email will reach our core HMG team. We will respond immediately and coordinate with all relevant team members.

**Other clients include:** Sainsbury's, Taylor Wimpey, Places for People, Telereal Trillium, Kier.

## Spotlight on our team's experience

**DLUHC:** Advising the SoS on the use, drafting and implementation of Special Development Orders for critical infrastructure projects, including Brexit and Refugee Accommodation initiatives. Also supporting DLUHC with DiT on inward investor initiatives. Includes Habitats, EIA and propriety advice.

**SSE:** Advising on the DCO application for a new power station on Humberside.

**Storegga:** Advising on complex planning and permitting issues in relation to the c. £4.5 billion project development of the Acorn CCUS project

**Network Rail:** Advising on Transport and Works Act Order strategies for Bermondsey underground cables, Ordsall Chord, level crossing rationalisation, DCO representations, drafting Orders, advising on the TWA procedural rules and screening requirements, and negotiating S106 and other infrastructure agreements.

**Airports Commission:** Advising on the need for additional UK airport capacity and recommendations on how this can be met in the short, medium and long term, assessing EU environmental issues, pros/cons of the potential consent processes, deliverability of a noise authority and a range of other issues.

**Airports:** BDB's DCO experience of working for airports has included working for major clients involved in or affected by airport projects. Advising on airport operators on Manston, Luton and Gatwick proposals.

**Highways England:** Advising on planning aspects of several highways schemes.

**Lower Thames Crossing:** Advising on all aspects of the consenting for the Lower Thames Crossing, a new road tunnel between the M25 and M2 east of London and the largest road project in the UK since the M25. Our large team of lawyers is perfectly suited to such a significant project in terms of its capacity and capability.

**North Essex Authorities:** Working to create garden communities (3,000 up to 26,000 homes) across the North Essex region, advising on planning policy, property and local development vehicle issues.

**The Esso Petroleum Company, Ltd:** Advising on the longest DCO to date, a 97km replacement fuel pipeline from Esso's Fawley refinery in Southampton to its West London Terminal near Heathrow.

**Third parties:** BDB advised third parties affected by DCOs including windfarms, power stations, a pipeline, a 'supersewer' and a tidal barrage. Our clients in this area include Transport for London, the then DECC, a London borough and a major landowner.

**Nuclear power:** Advising East Suffolk Council on the Sizewell C nuclear power station DCO application including DCO and s106 drafting.

## Service overview

Our Projects/PFI/PPP practice combines legal expertise with sophisticated marketplace knowledge. We act for governments and other public sector bodies, project companies, funders, investors, multilateral agencies and contractors in all infrastructure sectors worldwide including: airports, bridges, defence, [education](#), [energy](#) (including energy efficiency), [health](#), housing, [information technology](#), ports, prisons, public buildings, rail, roads, tunnels, wastewater, waste and water.

We support public sector clients in [procurement](#) schemes, for use on single or multiple projects, in procuring projects, advising on equity and investment in projects, managing [contracts](#) once awarded and in [dispute resolution](#) and [litigation](#) when things go wrong. We also have significant expertise in secondary markets and acting in sales and purchases of operational projects.

We have worked at the forefront of the development and deployment of all of the principal types of contract model for private sector participation, – concessions, DBFO, BOO, BOT/BOOT, franchises, management [contracts](#) – including frequent advice on novel delivery models such as NPD and MIM. Our UK team has worked on over 200 closed PPP/PFI contracts, many for the public sector and many in the UK. In addition to acting for the public sector, we advise the private sector on dozens of operational PFI/PPP projects, including a number of complex projects which are entering/have completed handback (in areas such as MoD, education and highways).

**For help and support in Projects/PFI/PPP please email:**  
[HMGRelationshipTeam@dentons.com](mailto:HMGRelationshipTeam@dentons.com).

Your email will reach our core HMG team. We will respond immediately and coordinate with all relevant team members.

**Other clients include:** 3i, Amey, Dalmore, IML, ISS, Morgan Sindall, Resolis, Semperian, various banks.

## Spotlight on our team's experience

**Cabinet Office:** Advising on the Outsourcing Playbook, the Construction Playbook and the Consultancy Playbook.

**Acorn CCUS:** Acting as developer's counsel on the c. £4.5 billion Acorn Carbon Capture & Storage and Blue Hydrogen project

**SEAH Steel:** Advising on development of offshore wind components factory

**TfL:** Advising on the procurement of TfL's emergency services 4G LTE mobile communications programme.

**MTR Corporation:** Advising on successful bid to Transport for London for the £1.4 billion concession to operate Crossrail.

**RHSC & DCN NPD:** Advising the Health Board on all aspects of this £430m project for a new children's hospital and associated facilities.

**University College Hospital, London:** Advising on all operational matters including contractual issues, settlement agreements, replacement of FM guarantor, lender approvals and potential refinancing.

**Envac:** Advising on the development of an automated waste collection system for 10,000 homes at Barking Riverside, London.

**Carillion:** Advising HMG on contingency planning before and the preservation, management and service transfer of Carillion's substantial PPP/PFI portfolio after its insolvency.

**MOD:** Advised on over 20 high-value, complex, competed (and single source) ships, submarines & naval base support and procurement contracts within the shipping domain, from 2006 to date including MaST, FMSP, MSDF, Devonport WSMI, BAE and BM ToBAs, Astute Boat 4, FSC design, SSSA FM/logistics contracts with industry.

**Acute Hospitals PFI:** Projects include Kings College Hospital, St George's Hospital, University College London, St George's Hospital, Queen Elizabeth Hospital Birmingham, University Hospital of North Durham, Edinburgh Royal Infirmary, Stobhill and Victoria Hospitals Glasgow, Victoria Hospital Kirkcaldy and Hairmyres Hospital.

**Highways PFI:** Projects include M25, Mersey Gateway Bridge, A249, M1/A1, M40, AWPR, M8/M73/M74, A69, and various highways maintenance projects.

**Custodial PFI:** Projects include Thameside, Fazakerley, Moreton, Pucklechurch, Peterborough, Ashford and Kilmarlock

**Education PFI:** Advising on over 50 closed education PPP projects with a value in excess of £5bn, and projects procured through BSF and hub initiative.

**Cabinet Office:** due diligence on numerous PPP projects as part of a wider investigation re two strategic suppliers

**DECC:** advised on the c. £8b Carbon Capture Storage Commercialisation Competition.



# Public law | 59 lawyers

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## Service overview

Dentons and BDB Pitmans advise HMG on domestic and [EU](#) public law, including: vires/powers; equalities matters; statutory interpretation; propriety; misfeasance claims; negligence/breach of statutory duty; parliamentary investigations, commissions and inquiries; human rights law; [judicial review](#); [competition](#); [procurement](#); and public law duties in relation to the exercise of decision-making discretion. We have advised on many statutory transfer schemes and on the powers of devolved assemblies. We frequently advise on public law/regulation in [energy](#), water, transport, [information/data law](#), [technology](#), [IP](#), [environment](#), infrastructure and [planning](#), often on highly politically sensitive matters.

We bring industry knowledge to bear on HMG's work and understand the political and policy dimensions in which our clients operate. BDB's strength as Parliamentary Agents enables our consortium to advise on the interplay between judicial and parliamentary processes, including questions of parliamentary & legal privilege, and on constitutional law. We often advise where public law interfaces with commercial contracts, civil law & criminal law. GLD will often lead on public law but, where necessary, you can be assured that we have the experience and understanding to advise. We are very comfortable supporting GLD colleagues to provide a seamless public law service. Our team contains 6 former government legal advisers, so we have a genuine appreciation of how HMG assesses public law matters. We have instructed OPC on three major Bills in 2021/22 and drafted Statutory Instruments.

We have advised HMG and 40+ other governments on sectoral market reform and privatisations, write laws to establish functions, powers and duties of public bodies, e.g. regulators, to facilitate transfer schemes to restructure industries and effect their restructuring and privatisation.

**For help and support in Public law please email:**

[HMGRelationshipTeam@dentons.com](mailto:HMGRelationshipTeam@dentons.com).

Your email will reach our core HMG team. We will respond immediately and coordinate with all relevant team members.

**Other clients include:** DCMS, Defra, FCO, Highways England, MHCLG, MTR Corporation, NAO, National Grid, Network Rail, Ofgem, Royal Mail.

Dentons

## Spotlight on our team's experience

**BEIS:** advising on the Energy Prices Act 2022, including on legal aspects of the design of Energy Price Guarantee and Energy Bill Support Scheme, Energy Bill Support Scheme in NI, instructing OPC, drafting and reviewing 9 SIs, full legal risk assessments

**BEIS:** Advising on establishment of Future System Operator as an HMG corporation, which will be the first recent solvent nationalisation. Includes advice on framework document/articles, regulatory and funding structure, acquisition transaction/transfer scheme, employment & pensions, legislation, interface with existing energy regulatory structures.

**Ofgem:** advising regulator on [energy market volatility](#)

**Cabinet Office:** Outsourcing Playbook, the Construction Playbook, Digital and Data Playbook, the Consultancy Playbook and supporting on the [Procurement Bill 2022](#)

**Scottish National Investment Bank:** Advising on its establishment.

**LCCC:** Governance and related public law issues.

**Carillion liquidation:** see [Restructuring and Insolvency](#)

**BEIS ERICs:** see [Public International Law](#)

**DHSC:** 2 senior lawyers on secondment to support preparations for No Deal Brexit. They undertook delicate and complex advisory & drafting tasks, including leading on secondary legislation reoverseas charging. The direction of travel on policy changed often (the regulations to be drafted were not only within the DHSC's remit but were influenced by the evolving Home Office policy on Brexit), and the legal context was particularly complex.

**Cabinet Office:** Substantial COVID-19 matter and on a confidential project involving procurement and criminal law.

**Rail nationalisation:** Advising private sector clients on the renegotiation and termination of the East Coast & Northern rail franchises and the COVID-19 renationalisation programme.

**Ofwat:** Public law, competition, procurement and contractual mandates across a number of strategic work areas for Ofwat.

**Iraqi Fatality Investigations:** Paralegal on secondment as Secretary to the IFI team, now led by Baroness Hallett, including preparing cases for public hearings, liaising with Baroness Hallett & counsel to the Investigations, court staff, interpreters, family/friends of Deceased.

**Employment Judge Kurrein:** Proposed judicial review of the decision by the President of the Employment Tribunals (England & Wales) to compromise proceedings arising from a complaint about Judge Kurrein from an advocate previously before him.

**NAO and Comptroller and Auditor General:** HMG proposed that, NAO be appointed as the BBC's financial auditor. BDB advised the NAO, including drafting clauses of the Charter and associated framework agreement between BBC & SoS for DCMS, negotiating with DCMS and BBC before the Charter's publication, ensuring C&AG's position as an officer of Parliament was clear & NAO's powers properly exercisable.



## Service overview

Procurement law compliance is critical for teams awarding contracts and driving projects forward. The consequences of getting it wrong can be serious, in terms of costs, delays and public perception. Sound advice is therefore essential. We are trusted to work on some of the largest and most high-profile projects delivered by HMG: for the Home Office, DECC (BEIS), MOD, HM Treasury and the FCDO. Our clear, succinct and practical advice takes account of the circumstances, risks and consequences of successful challenge. We give quantitative and qualitative advice about what to do, rather than just reciting the risks.

We work with Government in various ways, giving discrete, ad-hoc advice on specific issues, working with in-house lawyers as a single integrated team (as we do with Ofgem on its OFTO programme), or as part of a wider team. We recognise that GLD lawyers will often lead in this area and can "drop in" to support a procurement at any stage of the process. We draft and advise on all project documents, from PINs, contract notices, selection questionnaires and invitations to tender/negotiate/dialogue and debrief documents. We know the issues that commonly occur, such as: eligibility, scope change, conflicts of interest, evaluation questions, and can therefore defend claims. We also advise on direct awards, giving clients the confidence to proceed without a competition.

We advise on procurements regulated by the Public Contracts Regulations, the Utilities Contracts Regulations, the Defence and Security Public Contracts Regulations, Concession Contracts Regulations and on unregulated procurements. We also advise on procurement litigation. Our work for bidders means we bring a broad perspective to our work for HMG.

**For help and support in Public Procurement law please email:**

[HMGRelationshipTeam@dentons.com](mailto:HMGRelationshipTeam@dentons.com).

Your email will reach our core HMG team. We will respond immediately and coordinate with all relevant team members.

**Other clients include:** Areva, Babcock International, CH2M, DCLG, DFID, DHL, DHSC, Greater London Authority, John Laing, Keir, LCCC, Network Rail, Ofgem, Sainsbury's, Sellafield.

## Spotlight on our team's experience

**TfL:** Advised on a competitive dialogue type procedure to select a concession partner to invest in and deliver a telecommunications commercialisation strategy in London.

**Cabinet Office:** Appointed as overspill lawyers in respect of public procurement. Advised on the Sourcing Playbook, Construction Playbook, Consultancy Playbook, Digital & Data Playbook and PPN02/2020. Supported Cabinet Office on the Procurement Bill 2022

**Home Office:** Advising on the multi-lot Emergency Services Network programme (£1.2 billion).

**MOD:** Advising on single source and competitive end to end procurement of 11-Lot programme for submarine & warship engineering and facilities management of naval bases.

**FCDO:** Advising on time-critical procurements of goods and services necessitated by the Covid-19 pandemic.

**DfE:** Advising on time-critical delivery of National Tutoring programme for academic years 2020/21 and 2021/22.

**Ofgem:** Advising on procurement and public law issues on offshore transmission licences. Projects are bundled into "tender rounds" and require careful project management.

**DfE:** Advising on the process to appoint/licence Institutes of Technology as part of this flagship programme.

**HMT:** Advising on the time-critical procurement of a multi-tower ICT refresh project.

**MHCLG:** Advising on procurement, state aid and EU funding issues for the establishment of a low carbon innovation fund.

**Virgin/Stagecoach:** Advising on the high-profile, £multi-billion termination of the East Coast passenger rail franchise.

**DECC (BEIS):** Advising on the £multi-billion **Carbon Capture and Storage Competition**. Developed a unique and highly innovative unregulated procurement process which involved (1) multi-stage bidding/evaluation, (2) detailed risk reduction by means of long competitive dialogue and partially-funded front-end engineering and design work before final investment decisions and (3) a portfolio evaluation mechanism.

**DCLG:** Procurement compliance audits on over 100 contracts supported by ERDF funding across the North East, West Midlands and East Midlands.

**Nuclear decommissioning procurements:** Advising Babcock Dounreay Partnership on successful bid for the NDA's Dounreay tier 1 nuclear decommissioning contract & Fluor-Toshiba on bid for £17bn Sellafield Tier 1 contract.

**DCMS:** Procurement advice on three routes to market procurement strategy (including UK-wide DPS) to deliver gigabit-capable broadband in final 20% of UK.

[Procurement law challenges / disputes](#) for or against Cabinet Office, FCO, DfT, DHSC, DFID, Defra, NDA and Network Rail.



# Real Estate and Real Estate Finance | 220+ lawyers

## Service overview

We have deep wide understanding of the property market. We proactively advance ideas and find solutions, using our expertise in infrastructure, energy, transport, retail, leisure and other sectors. Our leading practice represents a broad spectrum of clients whose primary business is real estate or relies on a significant real estate base. It has expertise across: all areas of commercial property; investment; development and regeneration; real estate finance; funds; hotels and leisure; energy, nuclear and renewables; water; retail; transport and PPP/infrastructure; corporate occupiers; high-end residential; property dispute resolution; construction and planning.

Clients include owners, occupiers, developers, investors, borrowers, lenders, retailers, hoteliers, contractors and the private and public sectors (including joint ventures between public and private sectors). We are known for our strength in complex developments and have experience of acting for sovereign wealth funds, multinationals, family offices and high-net-worth individuals. We can handle every type of real estate transaction, management of real estate portfolios and the transfer of real estate assets within HMG (by statutory transfer scheme or otherwise). This can be supplemented by BDB Pitmans and Geldards. We also bring an extensive Scottish real estate capability.

**For help and support in Real Estate and Real Estate Finance please email:**

[HMGRelationshipTeam@dentons.com](mailto:HMGRelationshipTeam@dentons.com).

Your email will reach our core HMG team. We will respond immediately and coordinate with all relevant team members.

**Other clients include:** Barclays, Frasers Group, MK Development Partnership, MOD, Northamptonshire County Council, Sainsbury's/Argos, Sports Direct

## Spotlight on our team's experience

**DWP:** Appointed to look after DWP's entire portfolio from 2018, as it exited from a 20 year PFI contract. Ongoing portfolio management, major Capex projects, HUB acquisitions and related advice. Advised on more than 730 matters.

**DWP:** Advising on Healthcare Transformation Project.

**Fraser Centre Point:** £50 million site acquisition for East London development (GDV likely to be c. £200 million). Successfully challenged registration of asset at a community value (it is let to London Metropolitan University pending redevelopment).

**The Housing Finance Corporation Limited and Affordable Housing Finance PLC:** Advising on the acceptance by lenders into charge portfolios of properties held by housing entities that have entered into loan facilities.

**North Essex:** Advising Colchester BC, Braintree DC and Tendring DC, supported by Essex CC, working jointly to create several garden communities: from 3,000 to 26,000 homes across North Essex.

**MOD:** advising on real estate aspects of c £10bn FMSP 11-lot procurement.

**GLA:** Beam Park is a major (£1bn+) housing and regeneration project on former industrial land originally acquired from Ford Motor Company Limited in Dagenham. Following a procurement procedure under the London Development Panel (LDP) GLAP entered into a conditional development agreement with Countryside Properties (UK) Limited (Countryside) and L&Q New Homes Limited as subcontractor responsible for the affordable housing element in July 2017. The tendered scheme envisaged 2,750 homes with 35% affordable housing. Post-contract changes mean that there will be at least 3,000 dwellings and 50% affordable housing. The scheme includes a new network rail station. Due to its history, the site is impacted by historic contamination issues. GLAP has provided a loan to assist with remediation works as well as grant funding to Havering Council and Network Rail (NR) in support of the new station works.

**Lightsource BP:** Advising on title matters including the preparation of a certificate of title for a Solar Farm and easements across multiple parcels of land for associated cabling.

**Middle East Investor:** Acting on the cash purchase and subsequent financing of two prime investment assets comprising mixed retail and office space, with an aggregate value of approximately £125 million, including due diligence into historic, complex title matters.



# Restructuring and Insolvency | 49 lawyers

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## Service overview

Restructuring needs are no longer purely domestic. We live in a global marketplace and our clients need advice wherever they may trade or invest. They need lawyers who can advise with confidence on competing jurisdictions around the world. We meet those needs through our core team in all of the major financial centres of the world. We regularly advise our clients not just on the legal framework in different countries but also on how to protect their interests by identifying those jurisdictions and laws that are best suited to address their needs. Our group is supported by a team of lawyers from the fields of finance, corporate, litigation/dispute resolution, real estate, intellectual property, employment and pensions. The international nature of insolvency means we often work with other lawyers in our 179 offices in 79 countries worldwide.

**For help and support in Restructuring and Insolvency please email:**

[HMGRelationshipTeam@dentons.com](mailto:HMGRelationshipTeam@dentons.com).

Your email will reach our core HMG team. We will respond immediately and coordinate with all relevant team members.

**Other clients include:** MOD, BEIS, HMT & a Police Authority

## Spotlight on our team's experience

**Confidential key HMG department:** advising on contingency planning and possible HMG interventions for a supplier of critical national importance.

**Project Civet:** advised CabO on the potential failure (and ultimate compulsory liquidation) of UKCloud.

**Ofgem:** on regulation and public law aspects of the 2021/22 energy market volatility. Includes detailed advice on special administration and supplier of last resort regimes, licence modifications and specific interventions designed to manage insolvency of suppliers and to protect consumer interests when suppliers become insolvent

Advising AIM listed oil **Hurricane Energy plc** on proposed restructuring plan with bondholders. This was the first of its kind to seek to implement a debt-for-equity swap, the first to include a plan meeting of shareholders as a separate class, and the first plan in which the Court declined to exercise its new cross-class cram down powers.

**British Steel:** Advising its largest customer on collapse of the company and sale of business to Chinese investors.

**Carillion:** Advising **Cabinet Office & MOJ** on contingency planning for Carillion's failure. Including the transfer of contracts to GovCo, procurement, insolvency, employment, pensions & public law. Advising the **Official Receiver and Special Managers** on liquidation, including continuity of supply & transfer of contracts to other suppliers/HMG.

**Edinburgh Woollen Mill:** Advising on complex and high profile restructurings during 2020.

**Cabinet Office:** One of the "Project Birch" COVID-19 potential bail-out matters.

**Virgin Stagecoach:** Termination of East Coast Main Line passenger rail franchise, including possible £multi-bn variations to and renegotiation and/or early termination of the franchise; public law, procurement, judicial review, litigation, financing & solvency issues, tax, pensions and communications strategy (incl. Parliamentary proceedings).

**Mriya Agro Holding plc:** US\$1.3 billion Ukrainian agricultural restructuring. Advising Cypriot liquidators on debt restructuring of this Ukrainian agro-industrial group. Involved a group-wide re-organisation of the industrial asset and land bank holding companies of the group & innovative financial restructuring.

**DHSC:** Contingency options regarding a waste disposal supplier.

**ShEx and DBIS:** Advising in lending £4m to the UK coal group to support a managed wind-down of the group's last 2 deep coal mines.

**DFID:** Advising on serious issues in a British Overseas Territory arising from insolvency of a principal contractor on a £multi-m airport project.

**Special administration of financial institutions:** Acting for the FSCS on its position as major creditor in the special administration of Dunfermline Building Society.

**BDO LLP:** Acting for the Joint Trustees in Bankruptcy of individuals connected to Capital Alternatives Limited, who are subject to a judgement in favour of the FCA in restitution for their roles in unauthorised collective investment schemes.

**Petroplus:** Advising the administrators, PwC, on the administration of two of the UK subsidiaries of Petroplus, which owned and operated a refinery at Coryton and a storage facility in Teesside.

**ShEx and DBIS:** Advising in lending £4m to the UK coal group to support a managed wind-down of the group's last 2 deep coal mines.

**Hatfield Colliery Partnership Ltd:** Acting for coal mine operator on series of financial restructurings.

**FSCS:** Advised on the nationalisation of Bradford & Bingley, including assisting in drafting emergency legislation and transacting a loan of £15.65 billion by FSCS to B&B. Currently advising on ongoing asset disposals.

**Lehman insolvency:** Advised administrators of Lehman group company on a priority dispute (Waterfall litigation) concerning \$10bn surplus in UK group insolvency.



# Retained EU law and EU law | 65+ lawyers

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## Service overview

While Brexit brought about the single most significant change in modern British legal history, EU law remains relevant to many aspects of the UK legal system and a detailed understanding of the impact of EU law across our areas of sectoral expertise is essential. We have invested time on drafting changes to domestic law and in seconding our people to HMG (BEIS, DIT, UKGI) to understand EU civil changes in law. We have also advised several HMG teams on related matters. Our experience includes:

- Rules allowing for cross-border investment and the free movement of capital
- Public interest regulation, such as consumer protection, economic regulation of utilities and provision of public transport services by private companies
- Financial services regulation
- Rules on state aid and governing public procurement
- European structural funds (including claw-back/irregularity issues)
- Environmental regulation
- Powers etc of the European Commission to advise against the UK
- on EU Exit
- Energy and climate change
- Intellectual property
- Data privacy and protection
- Information technology
- Tax
- Technical standards and safety and other matters to do with free movement of goods
- Employment, immigration and things associated with the free movement of people
- Operation of the single market, in particular competition.

We understand both the EU law principles that underpin business and how the EU works, having represented clients (including UK Government departments and other Member States) at meetings with key institutions. Our team includes former Commission officials and two members of the Law Society's EU advisory committee. We have substantial Brexit experience, and our dedicated Brexit unit is advising clients with cross-border business on the implications of Brexit.

**For help and support in Retained EU law and EU law please email:**  
[HMGRelationshipTeam@dentons.com](mailto:HMGRelationshipTeam@dentons.com).

Your email will reach our core HMG team. We will respond immediately and coordinate with all relevant team members.

**Other clients include:** Cabinet Office, C&C Group, DCMS, Mitsui, MTR Corporation, National Grid, Network Rail, Republic of Cyprus, Royal Mail Group, Total, Virgin Group.

## Spotlight on our team's experience

**BEIS:** Advising on changes required to the CfD terms and conditions to manage issues relating to Retained EU law and subsidy control.

**BEIS:** Advising on agreements for the UK to remain participants in over 30 European Research Infrastructure Consortia (ERICs) and similar inter-governmental bodies; including identifying the powers of the Commission on EU exit and the UK's liabilities applying GLD's risk based analysis.

**BEIS:** advising on international law aspects of Energy Prices Act 2022

**UK Government body:** Advising with managing authority responsibilities in relation to the audit of EU-funded EDRF projects. The audit outcome resulted in irregularities which had a potential cost to the UK of c. £100 million. We advised the Government body on challenging the findings, represented the UK in a formal hearing, and were able to massively reduce the clawback sought.

**Several Member States (including HMG in England and Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland):** Advising on implementation of EU single market energy directives.

**DCMS:** Advising on subsidy control, competition and regulatory issues arising in relation to the Outside In gigabit capable broadband infrastructure scheme.

**Ofgem:** Advising on the application of state aid rules to funding used to offset the cost of electricity in Northern Ireland, and levies to support public service obligations.

**DfT:** Advising on structuring proposed arrangements as part of a large DBFO contract, to reduce the risk of state aid issues.

**Various food and drink clients:** advising on the impact of the UK's exit from the EU in relation to a range of issues, such as labelling, contracts and impact of tariffs.

**MHCLG:** Advising on the compliance of ERDF funding to support LCIF2, a low carbon innovation fund, with public procurement, state aid and ERDF rules.

**Scottish National Investment Bank:** Advising on the assumption of responsibility for European Investment Bank loans.

**Ellexon:** State aid advice in relation to a proposed electricity industry code modification to seek to manage the suspension of the Capacity Market when state aid approval was quashed.

## Service overview

Dentons' Tax team advises on all aspects of UK and international tax. Tax is a key driver as to how transactions are structured and we provide strategic advice to clients at the early stages of any transaction to ensure that the deal is implemented in a tax-optimal manner. Our team has a depth of experience advising across numerous industry sectors – from private equity, capital markets, technology, insurance and finance to energy and real estate. In contrast to our accounting competitors, we offer a one-stop shop – offering not only pragmatic tax consultancy and advisory services but also the legal expertise to ensure that the planning is documented and implemented in a tax-efficient manner.

In our work with many HMG teams, we have often worked with you to anticipate the private sector's concerns and structure procurements and contracts efficiently from their perspective.

### For help and support in Tax law please email:

[HMGRelationshipTeam@dentons.com](mailto:HMGRelationshipTeam@dentons.com).

Your email will reach our core HMG team. We will respond immediately and coordinate with all relevant team members.

**Other clients include:** Aberdeen Asset Management, Argos, Dalmore Capital, Keir, Nokia, Petronas, Railway Pension, Sainsbury's, Scottish Equity Partners, Sony, The Edrington Group, The PRS REIT, Total, World Fuel Services.

## Spotlight on our team's experience

**Imperial Brands:** Advising the private equity purchasers on the acquisition of Imperial Brands' hand-rolled cigars business for £1.1 billion.

**Total SA:** Advising on all aspects of its back-to-back \$9 billion acquisition from Occidental of the African assets of Anadarko (in turn acquired by Occidental via its 2019 merger with Anadarko Petroleum Corporation).

**KPS Capital Partners:** Advising on its acquisition of Glasgow-headquartered Howden from Colfax Corporation for an enterprise value of US\$1.8 billion.

**Autonomous Research LLP:** Advising in connection the disposal of the partnership interests and shares in the members of the Autonomous Research group to AllianceBernstein.

**Network Rail:** Advising on the tax issues of various property transactions.

**Ofgem:** Advising on the second transitional tender round for offshore electricity transmission.

**Transport for London:** Advising on property transactions.

**Highways Agency:** Advising on the tax aspects of the £6.2 billion M25 Design, Build, Finance and Operate Project.

**Atom Bank:** Advising on its second public residential mortgage-backed securitisation transaction, valued at £500 million+.

**Be-Spoke Capital:** Advising on the Alhambra Funding 2019-1 transaction (and the warehouse that preceded it), a first of its kind Spanish SME securitisation consisting of a portfolio of 52 non-investment grade senior unsecured Spanish SME Loans.

**Hyundai Asset Management:** Advising on the acquisition and financing of a Jersey Company owning property in Glasgow which is let to the NHS on long leases expiring in 2029.

**Sports Direct PLC:** Advising on the sale and leaseback of its headquarters and principal logistics centre at Shirebrook in Derbyshire to the Malaysian Employees Provident Fund.



## Service overview

Our Aviation practice has significant experience acting for all industry participants including airlines, manufacturers, lessors, investors and financial institutions. We cover a broad range of disciplines, including: finance (including ECA-supported and capital markets financings), litigation and dispute resolution, restructuring and insolvency, corporate (including restructuring, joint ventures, M&A, divestitures and corporate governance), commercial, employment, regulation, and sanctions.

We also have experience in advising on airport related matters. Our experience includes acquisitions (we advised TAG on acquisition of Farnborough airport from the MoD), state aid issues (we have advised the Airports Commission), design, construction and operation of airports, competition issues, regulation, detention & sale of aircraft, and project financings. We have experience in a variety of jurisdictions including the UK, Africa, the Middle East, and Europe.

**For help and support in Aviation and Airports please email:**

[HMGRelationshipTeam@dentons.com](mailto:HMGRelationshipTeam@dentons.com).

Your email will reach our core HMG team. We will respond immediately and coordinate with all relevant team members.

## Spotlight on our team's experience

**Civil Aviation Authority:** Appointed to advise on Heathrow price control.

**TUI Group:** A series of JOLCO financings and operating leases for its Boeing 737 family and Boeing 787 aircraft for over 15 years.

**Qatar Airways:** Advising for over 15 years on its ongoing re-fleeting/fleet expansion programme, including acting for the airline on the PDP financing, delivery financing, leasing and refinancing of over 100 Airbus, Boeing, Gulfstream and Bombardier aircraft.

**Ryanair:** €5 billion EMTN Programme, the first MTN to be subject to the new Prospectus Regulation.

**TUI UK:** TUPE and other employment issues arising from TUI's proposed acquisition of landing slots from another airline.

**Virgin Atlantic Airways:** Acting in defence of a class action style claim initiated by Cabin Crew employees in respect of equal pay, national minimum wage, direct and indirect sex discrimination.

**Package Travel Directive:** Advising EU and non-EU carriers on their obligations to offer package travel and linked travel arrangements under the UK implementation of the EU Package Travel Directive.

**Leading global aircraft manufacturer:** Disputes with airlines arising under several purchase agreements and related financing arrangements for new aircraft, resulting in the termination by consent of certain of the purchase agreements and rescheduling of payments and deliveries for other aircraft.

**SITA:** US\$1 billion-plus international product development and distribution arrangements as well as a series of commercial projects.

**Airlines and airline leasing companies:** Advising on the impact of UK, EU and US sanctions, and export (and re-export) control restrictions, in relation to operating flight routes between Europe and sanctions-targeted countries such as Cuba and Iran.

**Nigerian Ministry of Transport:** Privatisation through concession arrangements of 4 airports.

**Bugesera Airport Company Limited:** Concessional award to design, construct and operate the New Bugesera International Airport in Rwanda. Drafting and negotiation of a Concession Agreement, EPC Contract, Fuel Supply Contracts, Ground Handling and Catering Sub-contracts as well as initial development finance loan agreements with local lenders and the international project financing package.

**Glasgow Prestwick Airport:** Advising on its sale by BAA, through BAe to Ayrshire Community Airport Project Limited; the purchase and subsequent sale by Stagecoach; and the sale by Infratil to the Scottish Government.

**Heathrow Airport Holdings and AGS Airports:** Acting for over 10 years re Glasgow, Aberdeen and Southampton Airports on real estate, including airside & landside development, leasing, franchise & commercial agreements, incl. deals with Emirates, British Airways, Swissport & Bristow Group.

**Glasgow Airport:** State aid guidelines as they might apply & possible ways the airport might benefit from public support which did not obviously qualify as state aid.

**Auckland Airport:** Major price setting event under an economic regulatory model of continuous disclosure, incl. the complexity of forecasting an allowable rate of return while smoothing the significant capital expenditure of construction of a new runway over multiple price setting periods.

# Charities | 13 lawyers

## Service overview

BDB Pitmans' Charities and Not For Profit team is recognised as one of the leading practices in the country, acting for more than 500 organisations. We have over one hundred years' experience and expertise in advising charity and not for profit clients, including various organisations with a global reach and those focused on environmental and sustainability matters and organisations providing and receiving social impact investments.

We have experience in the following:

- setting up charities with various legal structures
- working with the private sector, Government and bi-laterals
- social enterprise and investment
- charity tax issues
- charity insolvency issues
- fundraising and legacies
- reputation management
- charity litigation and proceedings

We are committed to the charities and not for profit sector. We run various thought leadership events for charities and philanthropists, e.g. our recent webinars about impact investments and environmental philanthropy, available on our BDB Pitmans YouTube channel. We also publish a regular charities blog available on the BDB Pitmans website and, as a key member of the Charity Law Association, are instrumental in policy and legislative developments.

**Our clients include:** London Transport Museum, Prison Advice and Care Trust, Police Care, Cancer Research UK, GOSH Children's Charity, The Landmark Trust, Nuffield Health, Blind Veterans UK, The Stroke Association, The Royal Navy & Royal Marines Charity, The Vaughan Williams Foundation, ABF The Soldiers Charity, St John Ambulance

## Spotlight on our team's experience

Recent examples of our experience include:

- **London Development Corporation:** instructed to establish The Foundation for Future London which will oversee the redevelopment of the Olympic Park into a cultural and leisure centre in east London.
- advised **Crossrail** on the establishment of the **Crossrail Art Foundation** which commissioned new works of public art for each of the new Crossrail stations. In each case the art works were funded by a collaboration between local private sector companies and the City of London Corporation.
- We have provided regular advice to the high profile charity **The HALO Trust** for over six years. HALO is one of the world's leading landmine charities, which employs nearly 9,000 people across the globe.
- **C40 Cities Climate Leadership Group:** C40 is a US headquartered charity connecting 97 of the world's greatest cities to take bold climate action, leading the way towards a healthier and more sustainable future. We have been supporting C40 since 2016, as well as its related UK registered charity, on UK legal matters.

**For help and support in Charities please email:**

[HMGRelationshipTeam@dentons.com](mailto:HMGRelationshipTeam@dentons.com).

Your email will reach our core HMG team. We will respond immediately and coordinate with all relevant team members.



## Service overview

Dentons have worked with DfE since 2018 on a wide range of matters, including on grant funding arrangements. That has involved us becoming familiar with DfE's current standard grant funding terms and in one case assisting to transition a major grant recipient charity away from bespoke grant funding terms to the new standard terms.

Other work includes commercial contract advice, academy grant funding terms, emergency grant funding to a FE College (later transitioned to loan funding), trademark advice, procurement advice, GDPR advice and advice on running a competitive process for grant funding for a major collaborative programme (to achieve value for money as the programme did not include the award of public contracts).

We have also recently been appointed the DfE's PMO mini-legal panel, to assist with investigations and where educational institutions find themselves in financial distress.

On the disputes front, we have advised DfE on a number of high-profile procurement challenges involving proceedings in the High Court including in relation to COVID-related critical procurements.

Geldards' experience includes advising all tiers of education including secondary, academies, FE and HE institutions. We have also advised Welsh Government on educational policy matters. Our experience includes advising on a large number of academy conversions on behalf of various primary and secondary schools and multi-academy trusts (MATs) and providing post-conversion HR support to a range of MATs, primary and secondary schools. We have a dedicated team who specialise in Special Education Needs, admissions and exclusions advice, and have also supported a number of FE and HE institutions across a broad range of specialisms including estate development & management, commercial contracts, IP & licencing and commercial ventures.

**For help and support in Education law please email:**

[HMGRelationshipTeam@dentons.com](mailto:HMGRelationshipTeam@dentons.com).

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## Spotlight on our team's experience

**Higher Education Funding Council for Wales (HEFCW):** The obligations of HEFCW to provide information and advice to the Welsh Ministers; the designation of education providers as regulated providers; the powers of HEFCW relating to the equality and diversity of providers of higher education; anti-bullying guidance; guidance on school improvement; intervention powers; data sharing, confidentiality and protection issues in relation to their wider outreach programme with Universities.

**HM Chief Inspector of Education and Training in Wales and Estyn (the education and training inspectorate for Wales):** Advised in relation to evidence on Phase two of the Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse.

## DfE experience

**Institutes of Technology: Wave 1:** Competition to establish Institutes of Technology. 12 consortia were successful, awarded around £170m of grants. We advised on procurement and state aid, negotiation of brand licences, trade marking and grant funding. **Wave 2:** Including the competition which has just announced pre-award for 9 new institutes receiving £120m of funding.

Grant funding to EEF advised on first year grant funding of the National Tutoring Programme and grant funding of the Accelerator Fund (on updated grant terms).

**National Tutoring Programme:** Procurement process and MSC under which Randstad were appointed to administer year 2 of the NTP, with DfE option to extend.

**Gateshead College:** Distress funding to the College, initially as a grant then converted to a loan including intercreditor negotiation.

**EdMAT:** The pilot for turnaround trusts to sponsor failing academies and convert schools struggling to find sponsors, including revised model academy documentation.

**Free School Meals vouchers:** Potential procurement challenges to award of 2022 call-off contract and then assisted with contract.

**Careers and Enterprise Companies:** Relative merits and risks of grant funding arrangements and public procurement as well as associated IP issues.

**In work skills pilot:** Advised on this pilot and enabling legislation, plus DfE's strategy to offer the pilot exclusively to the IoT network.

**CO2 monitors / Air Filtration Units:** Procurement and contractual issues concerned with its purchase of devices for use in educational settings for COVID mitigation purposes.

**Queen's Jubilee Book:** Procurement and contractual issues relating to the appointment of a supplier to publish and distribute a commemorative book to mark the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. Advice in connection with a S.31 Grant and the impact upon IP ownership and licensing.



# Energy, natural resources and climate change | 88 lawyers

## Service overview

Dentons Energy practice is built on our extensive experience of advising governments (40+), regulators, corporates, commercial banks and multilateral agencies on energy for more than 80 years. We wrote the BSC and the UNC (the GB rules for wholesale trading of electricity and gas, respectively), have been involved in every seminal development of the GB market since privatisation and have particular strength in energy regulation. In our DECC work on Carbon Capture Storage, we advised extensively on a bespoke contract for difference. We advised on the UK's first two LNG import terminals, advise regularly on all forms of power generation and have been active in North Sea oil and gas since the 1960s. We have a substantial energy disputes practice. We will work with BDB Pitmans and Geldards to provide a full service across the UK energy sector, advising on:

- Upstream and downstream oil and gas
- Nuclear – the whole fuel cycle
- Renewables – onshore and offshore wind, solar, EfW, biomass
- Conventional generation projects – over 130 IPPs
- Transmission and CATOs
- Distribution and distributed generation
- New energy technologies
- Gas and electricity storage and batteries
- Retail electricity and natural gas supply
- Energy efficiency (heat, power, cooling) including retrofit
- Demand side management
- Pipeline and maritime transportation
- LNG, oil and gas trading
- Energy market reform and regulation
- Privatisation of energy businesses
- M&A, joint ventures
- All types of finance
- CfDs, the capacity market, corporate PPAs

**For help and support in Energy, natural resources and climate change please email: [HMGRelationshipTeam@dentons.com](mailto:HMGRelationshipTeam@dentons.com).**

Your email will reach our core HMG team. We will respond immediately and coordinate with all relevant team members

**Other clients include:** ABB, BP, Canadian Solar, Centrica, Coal Authority, Enbridge, Goldman Sachs, Lightsource, National Grid, Perenco, Pertamina, Petronas, Premier Oil, Shell, Statoil, Total.

## Spotlight on our team's experience

**BEIS:** advising on Energy Prices Act 2022, including on legal aspects of design of Energy Price Guarantee, Energy Bill Support Scheme, Energy Bill Support Scheme in NI, instructing OPC, drafting and reviewing 9 SIs, full legal risk assessments

**BEIS:** Advising on establishment of Future System Operator as an HMG corporation, which will be the first recent solvent nationalisation. Includes advice on framework document/articles, regulatory and funding structure, acquisition transaction/transfer scheme, employment & pensions, legislation, interface with existing energy regulation.

**Ofgem:** Advised since Ofgem first established. Most recently on actions to manage wholesale market volatility, supply company failure and offshore transmission procurement. Also appointed to advise on offshore co-ordination. Includes licence and code modifications and intense public law advice

**LCCC:** significant corporate, commercial and dispute resolution advice.

**BEIS:** Advising on significant interventions in the energy market to manage high wholesale prices, including OPC instructions, SI drafting and risk advice.

**Acorn CCUS:** Developer's counsel on the c. £4.5 billion Acorn Carbon capture & Storage and Blue Hydrogen project.

**DECC:** Carbon Capture and Storage Commercialisation Competition, value up to £8 billion. Involved bespoke/innovative procurement, a FEED and risk reduction phase and development of high-value, bespoke CfDs/project contracts, benchmarked against PF2/SOPC.

**Upstream Oil and Gas UK** team recently worked on approximately 40 separate matters in the North Sea and over 20 other jurisdictions.

**BEIS:** Green Deal Financing Company disposal.

**EU Governments:** Implementation of the various packages of energy Directives.

**Coal Authority:** advising on strategy to exploit mine heat.

**UK Nuclear Waste Management Ltd (UKNWM):** Advising on its successful bid to the NDA to take ownership of Low Level Waste Repository Ltd and development of the UK Low Level Waste Strategy. Also advising on successful bids for Sellafield and Dounreay Tier 1 contracts/

**Offshore wind:** Acquisition of equity interests in Beatrice, Rampion and Galloper, and on the project financing of the Lynn, Inner Dowsing and Lincs offshore wind farms.

**Solar:** Acquisition, development and financing (and later refinancing) of more than 100 large-scale UK solar PV projects.

**NGG:** All aspects of the Isle of Grain LNG terminal development and for 25 years on all aspects of its network regulation.

**BEIS and LCCC:** Amendments to the model for of CfD.

**LCCC:** Several potential disputes under CfDs, one successful arbitration.

**ESL:** COVID-19 shortfall of Supplier Levy.



# Food, Rural and Environmental Affairs | 34 lawyers

## Service overview

Dentons will work with Geldards on Food, Rural and Environmental Affairs.

**Food & Drink:** Dentons has particular experience of food labelling.

### **Environmental Affairs including Water & Sewerage Regulation:**

Dentons has particular experience and expertise in relation to water and sewerage regulation having advised Ofwat for over 5 years including in relation to the reform of the business retail market, company governance and financial resilience, innovation funding and Direct Procurement for Customers projects.

**For help and support in Food, Rural and Environmental Affairs please email:**

[HMGRelationshipTeam@dentons.com](mailto:HMGRelationshipTeam@dentons.com).

Your email will reach our core HMG team. We will respond immediately and coordinate with all relevant team members.

## Spotlight on our team's experience

**Defra:** Appointed to advise on a range of matters, including on environmental legislation, agriculture and animal health.

**Ofwat:** Various regulatory initiatives including advising on financial resilience & regulatory compliance issues associated with proposed financing structures of regulated companies and supporting new initiatives like Direct Procurement for Customers.

**Defra:** Training all local authorities in England and Wales on the implementation of the Contaminated Land Regime and drafting a practical guide for use by all local authority enforcement officers.

**HMG:** Emergency environmental and health and safety advice on the insolvency of national clinical waste operator.

**Transport for London / Greater London Authority:** The acquisition of two heavily contaminated sites for residential development, including negotiating an environmental deed to deal with historic issues.

**Retail client:** advising on flood defense works being carried out by the Environment Agency. Advising on UK and EU regimes on packaging and waste electrical and electronic equipment.

**Public sector client:** Various environmental matters including contaminated land, waste related matters and conservation and protected species in the context of emergency works to the railway.

**Water, air and land use, including emissions and pollution:** Advising on material change of use in the planning context, including the implications of the Well Being and Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 and climate change targets and carbon budgets measured against baselines established in the Environment (Wales) Act 2016.

**Water services and quality:** Advising on the Water Framework Directive 2006 and in particular the designation of Nitrate Vulnerable Zones and the implications of phosphate on Special Areas of Conservation.

**Flooding:** Advising on the implications of Technical Advice Note 15: Development and Flood Risk.

**Waste and recycling:** Advising a number of public authorities in Wales such as Swansea, Carmarthenshire, Neath Port Talbot and Bridgend on a number of residual waste projects such as landfill, baling plants, energy from waste as well as specialist mechanical contractors in the manufacture, construction, installation and maintenance of plant for various waste technologies such as MBT, C&I and Waste to energy.

**Fisheries and marine:** Advising on the implications of the Wales National Marine Plan.

**Food and farming:** Partial recover of a substantial grant made under the Agricultural Processing and Marketing Grant (Wales) Regulations 2001 as a statutory debt, for breach of grant conditions.

**Welsh Government:** Advising on the proposed Badger culling and vaccinations including advice on surveys and other environmental investigations, waste and permits, drafting consultants and contractor contracts and dealing with variations.

**Wildlife:** Advising on the implications of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 and the Conservation Habitats and Species Regulations 2017.

## Service overview

Dentons' clients enjoy access to our extensive domestic and international network of franchising experts, across the UK, Europe, North America, Africa, Asia and the Middle East, which allows our teams to offer seamless services. In the last 12 months we have advised clients on franchise deals in more than 30 countries, including in Kenya, Sudan, South Africa, Dubai, Kuwait, Bahrain, the Ukraine, Azerbaijan, Russia, China, Canada, the United States, Pakistan, and countries throughout Europe. For many businesses around the world, franchising is the most efficient, profitable path to growth.

You'll benefit from our strategic advice on all issues, including:

- Franchise formation and structuring
- Franchise structuring
- Financial models
- Master franchising
- Use of franchising in the healthcare sector
- Social franchising
- Franchise relations

**For help and support in Franchising law please email:**

[HMGRelationshipTeam@dentons.com](mailto:HMGRelationshipTeam@dentons.com).

Your email will reach our core HMG team. We will respond immediately and coordinate with all relevant team members.

**Other clients include:** Hilton, Regis, Stagecoach plc, Wagamama, Waitrose, Whittard.

## Spotlight on our team's experience

**Government Department:** Advising on the launch of a new family of brands to be used in relation to a nationwide STEM Programme involving multiple Educational establishments in the UK.

**Leading British independent public school:** Advising on the international franchising of their brand. It is a major project involving over 15 countries across the Far East and Africa.

**Avis Budget Group:** Advising on various strategic franchise opportunities including in Germany and Italy. We are lead franchise counsel to Avis outside the Americas following a recent panel appointment. Avis chose Dentons to provide international franchising work as we can draw on our global team of franchising experts to provide legal services to the global Avis team. We are global franchise counsel outside the US to this client. Our work covers franchise agreements, franchise disputes, franchise compliance and M&A in 20 countries.

**Berkshire Hathaway Home Services:** Advising on its international expansion strategy by way of franchising, including the creation of franchise documentation and related international work covering over 20 countries.

**Wellington College Dubai:** Assisting with the negotiation of a franchise agreement for two new Wellington College schools in Dubai.

**NHS Trust:** Advising on international knowhow and licensing issues related to cooperation with foreign healthcare providers in the Middle East and China.

**Stagecoach Group plc:** Advising on a mixed franchising / sub-contracting arrangement in respect of its Megabus long distance coach brand.



## Service overview

Dentons' global Healthcare team advises healthcare providers delivering healthcare services and products to increasingly demanding consumers around the world. Our clients are innovating and generating revenue streams outside their home base and draw on Dentons' global capabilities to support their activities. They include governments; hospitals and health systems; aged care and senior living facilities; health insurers; health product manufacturers and service providers; academic medical centres, clinical research organisations; retail, mail order, pharmacies and pharmacy chains; pharmaceutical and biotechnology companies; health IT and e-health companies; healthcare education institutions; and healthcare investors.

Geldards Health experience includes advising Welsh Government, Health Trusts and Private Sector providers on a wide range of projects. This includes advising Welsh Ministers in the Infected Blood Inquiry and Welsh Ministers & the NHS in high profile and complex litigation relating to Competition Law in the pharmaceutical industry. Working with private sector health suppliers, we have recently advised the UK's leading provider of proton beam cancer therapy to create a network of world-class clinical trial sites for the development of new cancer treatments.

**For help and support in Health and Healthcare please email:**  
[HMGRelationshipTeam@dentons.com](mailto:HMGRelationshipTeam@dentons.com).

Your email will reach our core HMG team. We will respond immediately and coordinate with all relevant team members.

**Other clients include:** Apex Dental Care Limited,  
Brighton General Hospital

## Spotlight on our team's experience

**NHS England:** Elouisa Crichton, Counsel, joined Dentons from Shepherd and Wedderburn, brought her experience in designing, advising on and managing the implementation of the unique and high profile Healing Process for NHS Highland.

**Healthcare UK:** We are using our global reach and domestic experience to work with Healthcare UK to help promote the UK healthcare sector outside the UK and to support healthcare partnerships between the UK and overseas healthcare providers.

**Four Seasons Healthcare:** Advising on UK-wide nursing and care homes and specialist units.

**Healthcare Locums plc:** Advising this AIM-listed company on its refinancing by a £60 million placing.

**Cambridgeshire and Peterborough NHS Foundation Trust:** Advising on a potential expansion for healthcare services in Qatar **UCLH and The Christie NHS Foundation Trusts:** Advising on real estate and development aspects of the £250m development of Proton Beam Therapy facilities including rights to light, easements, oversailing consents and rights of support.

**NHS England and the Department of Health:** Advising on the £20 billion English national primary care budget.

**Monitor:** Advising on and drafting the forms of provider licence issued by Monitor to providers of healthcare services to the NHS.

**Department of Health and Social Care:** Advising on contingency planning in relation to defaulting supplier, including regarding procurement issues connected to the appointment of an alternative supplier on the basis of extreme urgency.

**Welsh Ministers:** Successfully defended a judicial review challenge brought by an individual on behalf of a community pressure group, who sought to challenge the decision by the Welsh Ministers to approve the outline business case for the development of a new Velindre Cancer hospital in South Wales. Permission for judicial review was refused by the Administrative Court on the papers and at an oral renewal hearing.

**Welsh Ministers:** representing the Welsh Ministers (Core Participants in the Infected Blood Inquiry) when Ministers and/or officials (or former Ministers and officials) are giving evidence to the Inquiry.

**Welsh Government/NHS:** Substantial competition law claim against Servier SAS in relation to the drug Perindopril. The claim is linked to similar claims being pursued by the Secretary of State for Health and by the Scottish and Northern Irish Governments. This claim is worth over £25m for the Welsh NHS and is one of the largest and highest profile disputes undertaken in Wales in recent years.

**Rutherford Health Plc:** advised this leading proton beam therapy cancer treatment provider across a broad range of commercial, IP, technology, research, collaboration and dispute resolution matters.

## Service overview

The UK Health and Safety team at Dentons advises a wide range of clients in relation to health and safety matters. We represent and defend businesses in connection with Health and Safety Executive (HSE) investigations and prosecutions, including in particular in the construction, rail and energy sectors. We regularly advise clients on responding to regulatory investigations by the HSE and local authorities in connection with safety matters, including in appealing against statutory notices and invoices imposing fees for intervention. Our experience includes:

- Safety liability management and incident planning
- Interpreting regulatory obligations
- Drafting and reviewing health and safety policies re general business and travel in dangerous locations
- Negotiating with regulators in respect of enforcement action and pursuing legal challenges where necessary
- Responding to regulatory investigations
- Inquests and public inquiries
- Defending clients involved in regulatory prosecutions for safety offences
- Strategic management following major incidents
- Strategic sector-based law and policy interpretation
- Holistic advice on regulatory barriers and/or incentives and encouragement mechanisms
- Health and safety due diligence and liability management

**For help and support in Health and Safety please email:**

[HMGRelationshipTeam@dentons.com](mailto:HMGRelationshipTeam@dentons.com).

Your email will reach our core HMG team. We will respond immediately and coordinate with all relevant team members.

**Other clients include:** Baxters Food Group, ENI, Eurotunnel, HC-One, Network Rail, Petronas, Stork Technical Services, The Edrington Group, Virgin Hotels, Virgin Media, Waitrose, Avis Budget Group, Aggreko

## Spotlight on our team's experience

**MOD:** Advising on the health and safety implications arising from outsourcing the production, carriage, supply and collection of missile targets under the PPP programme.

**Youth Justice Board:** Advising on corporate manslaughter legislation and on health and safety and common law liabilities associated with deaths in custody.

**London Overground Rail Operations Limited:** Review and audit of its health and safety legal compliance.

**Major drinks industry company:** Advising on a workplace fatality and significant workplace fire.

**Network Rail:** Advising on all aspects of the ongoing regulatory and Police investigations into the tragic derailment at Carmont in Aberdeenshire in August 2020.

**Retail client:** Advising in connection with a local authority investigation into a safety incident at a warehouse. Work included reviewing documentation, providing liability advice, responding to requests from the regulators and advising with regard to an interview under caution.

**Merlin Attractions Operations Ltd:** Advising in the investigation by the HSE, following a major incident on the Smiler Roller Coaster at Alton Towers and dealing with the prosecution of Merlin.

**Leading operator of UK care homes:** Advising on the defence of a prosecution involving a death in one of its homes.

**Department for Health:** Advising in relation to the well-publicised clinical waste scandal.



## Service overview

Immigration impacts many different aspects of an organisation and its activities. Immigration is closely linked to an organisation's strategy and pipeline and strong immigration compliance is essential for business continuity, not to mention reputation. We advise on the full range of immigration categories that you and your employees are likely to require. We provide an end-to-end service, guiding you and your employees through each step of the immigration process – and throughout the employee lifecycle – leveraging the employment law expertise of our wider People, Reward and Mobility team, where relevant.

We support clients with a number of issues, including consultation in the following areas:

**Brexit:** Working with organisations on Brexit readiness. Whether that is briefing internal stakeholders on talent considerations, proactively managing concerns and supporting you and your employees to navigate the changes to right to work requirements.

**Immigration compliance:** Conducting Tier 2 Sponsor Licence and Right to Work audits, and designing and implementing robust policies and processes throughout the employee lifecycle to facilitate strong immigration compliance.

**Training and knowledge management:** Creating and delivering bespoke immigration training to HR, recruitment and other stakeholders on topics including immigration basics, best practice and global hot topics.

**Due diligence:** Conducting due diligence prior to a merger/acquisition or investment to ensure that immigration risks are identified and mitigated, particularly with regard to assessing the long-term immigration options for key talent.

**Transactions and restructuring:** Managing immigration reporting requirements as a consequence of mergers, acquisitions, restructures.

**Employee handbook, immigration policy:** Consulting on employee policies such as when support is provided for visa extensions, permanent residence and family members, as well as right to work check procedures, parameters for Tier 2 sponsored employees to take periods of unpaid/ long-term leave, and where an employer can claw back the cost of an immigration application from any employee and reductions in workforce.

**Graduate intake:** Competition for the brightest and best graduates is intense. We work with employers to ensure that immigration requirements are considered from the outset and proactively managed to ensure minimal disruption and a successful outcome for your graduates and the business.

## Spotlight on our team's experience

### **Adam Asset Management Limited:**

Advising on Home Office compliance issues. We are integral to this established client's HR practice in ensuring all immigration matters are in order.

**Consonant:** Assisting vulnerable stateless individuals on a pro-bono basis to ascertain nationality for stateless individuals. Liaising with the Home Office to obtain relevant information and documents and making appropriate applications to remain in the UK where appropriate.

**SZ DJI Technology Co Ltd:** Advising on a sponsor licence application to assist the company to bring key employees over to the UK to work in its business. We provide detailed advice on eligibility requirements and required supporting evidence.

**Ocean Partner's UK limited:** This client trusts us as an extension of its HR team by granting us Level 1 user access to its sponsorship management system. We are able to work with the client to manage its migrant workforce and ensure compliance with Home Office reporting requirements.

**Other clients include:** Acro Aircraft Seating Limited, Bank of China Limited, Ceridian Europe Limited, Hunter Boot Limited, The Institute for Government, NBCUniversal International Limited, Reservoir Group Limited, Tishman Speyer Properties UK Limited, Upfield UK Services Limited, Virgin Atlantic Airways Limited.

**For help and support in Immigration please email: [HMGRelationshipTeam@dentons.com](mailto:HMGRelationshipTeam@dentons.com).**

Your email will reach our core HMG team. We will respond immediately and coordinate with all relevant team members.

# Trade, Investment and Regulation | 60+ lawyers

## Service overview

Dentons has international trade and investment practitioners across the world. Many of these are former government officials with detailed knowledge of international trade and negotiating trade deals and direct contact with Government. Our global Trade team advises on: customs law; export controls; foreign direct investment and bilateral trade treaties; international trade; regional trade agreements advice and litigation; trade compliance; trade disputes and negotiations; trade remedies/trade defence instruments; trade sanctions; and WTO advice and litigation.

**For help and support in International Trade, Investment and Regulation please email:**

[HMGRelationshipTeam@dentons.com](mailto:HMGRelationshipTeam@dentons.com).

Your email will reach our core HMG team.

We will respond immediately and coordinate with all relevant team members.

**Other clients include:** Governments (inc Chile, Quebec), industries (eg Mexican lemon juice industry, Indian steel producers), and multinationals (eg CHEMK, Ingredion), various airlines and others

## Spotlight on our team's experience

**UK:** Advising service providers on the WTO rules applicable to trade in services in relation to services currently provided by UK entities under EU free movement rules.

**UK:** Advising (extensively) on UK, EU and US sanctions and export control matters for companies and publicly owned bodies.

**BEIS:** Advising on agreements for the UK's participation in European Research infrastructure consortia.

**BEIS:** Advising on compatibility of certain French laws/policies with the Trade & Cooperation Agreement

**Cabinet Office:** Advising on two separate multi-jurisdictional surveys as to how aspects of procurement law feature in national laws (total 13 jurisdictions).

**DIT:** Advising Department for International Trade on a significant international investment dispute.

**FCO:** Advising on trade issues in the GCC states and in Canada.

**US:** Advising governments of Chile and Panama on FTA negotiations with the US focusing on market access, trade remedies, rules of origin, government procurement, dispute settlement, customs administration and agriculture.

**US:** Advising global multinationals such as Mattel on FTA compliance matters.

**US:** Advising agricultural and automotive industry associations on NAFTA renegotiation.

**EU:** Government-to-government negotiations on comprehensive trade, services and investment package on market access as part of free trade agreements and partnership and cooperation agreements with the EU.

**Canada – Confidential client:** Advising an international media and retail conglomerate on strategies to advance its interests in Canada in the context of the renegotiation of NAFTA.

**Canada – Government of Province of Quebec:** Advising in the multi-year, highly complex negotiation of Canada EU CETA.

**EU – Confidential government client:** Advising Ministry of Trade of large sovereign nation re its negotiations with the European Commission on minimising the impact from changes in tariffs & trade defence measures from 2004 EU enlargement.

**UK:** Advising airline on EU/US aircraft (Airbus/Boeing) subsidies dispute and implication for aircraft supply.

**Canada – Confidential client:** Advising an airline on WTO consistency of various Canadian and international assistance for aircraft manufacturers.

**US – Confidential client:** Advising on China 2016 (NME) dispute.

**US:** Petitioner counsel for anti-dumping proceeding on *Uncovered Innersprings from China, South Africa and Vietnam*.

**EU:** Representing a world leading ferro-alloys company in several major trade defense proceedings before the European Commission.

**EU – Multiple public and private clients:** 20+ years' direct representation of exporter-side interested parties in EU anti-dumping, anti-subsidy and safeguard proceedings involving wide range of industries. Representing exporters in more than 20 EU court actions for annulment of EU acts imposing trade defence measures, including direct actions, CoJ appeals and preliminary references.



# Media law | 25+ lawyers

## Service overview

Pressure on the media and entertainment industries to transform and adapt to current market trends has never been greater. As the process of content production, delivery and viewing habits continue to change, we help our clients evolve and stay on top of commercial and regulatory requirements.

Dentons' Media and Entertainment practice offers global, joined-up legal advice to multinational corporations on a wide range of commercial and regulatory matters. We advise film, television, animation, digital media and games sector clients on a wide array of legal issues, including regulatory, M&A, tech, data protection and IP matters – often on a cross-border basis. We also work closely with broadcasters and VOD platform operators on regulatory issues pertaining to global content distribution. In addition, we represent major technology and SaaS vendors and have significant familiarity with the digital advertising sector.

**For help and support in Media law please email:**

[HMGRelationshipTeam@dentons.com](mailto:HMGRelationshipTeam@dentons.com).

Your email will reach our core HMG team. We will respond immediately and coordinate with all relevant team members.

## Spotlight on our team's experience

**DCMS:** Advising on the London bid for the 2012 Summer Olympic Games and on the issues arising out of the award to London.

**Ofwat:** Advising in relation to its finance and governance programme where it seeks to ensure that regulated water companies are suitably governed and regulated in the interests of customers. Our work has included advising on financial ring fencing matters and board leadership, transparency and governance principles.

**Chelsea FC:** Advising the club's subsidiary responsible for media rights on agreements related to production and the operation of Chelsea TV channel, the operation of the club's website and on worldwide mobile content distribution agreements.

**Creative Scotland:** Advising on the development of their funding and grant agreements. Creative Scotland distribute funding from the Scottish Government and the National Lottery to artists and creative ventures.

**Prominent international sports federation:** Advising on its broadcast agreements involving Russia, with a particular focus on potential broadcasts and re-broadcasts to the Crimea.

**NetResult:** Advising on its agreements with various sports rights owners seeking to protect their broadcasting rights from online piracy.

**Major media multinational:** Advising on highly sensitive and strategically important Brexit-related advice as to position of Ofcom licences issued to its UK entity.

**National Theatre for Scotland:** Advising on production formats, IP clearances, licensing arrangements, data protection and governance issues.

**Virgin Group:** Advising on vast trademark portfolio, and enforcement of rights in the well-known VIRGIN name. We also advise the Virgin Group on a wide range of IP/IT/commercial matters.

**American mass media company:** Advising on a broad range of business-critical matters across 6 continents including media regulatory compliance, digital compliance and television distribution arrangements.

**Global media company:** Advising UK head office on a bribery investigation regarding its key business partner.

**UK Media company:** Advising the Head of Compliance and GC on their anti-facilitation and G&H policy and advised on the current state of the law as regards both and suggested improvements to their policies.

**BBC Scotland:** Advising in connection with news reporting and other programming, including online content. This includes providing support direct to BBC journalists in connection with defamation, privacy and contempt of court.

**French multinational insurance firm:** Advising in a defamation suit brought by the client and involving one of the company's leading life-insurance product.

## Service overview

Dentons will work with BDB Pitmans on public inquiries and inquests.

Dentons has extensive experience in acting on a range of statutory and non-statutory inquiries, including public inquiries.

BDB Pitmans' Inquiries, Inquests and Investigations team has significant experience providing the secretariat to, and representing individuals and organisations at high-profile inquests and inquiries, and therefore understand the full process from both sides.

**For help and support in public inquiries and inquests please email:**  
[HMGRelationshipTeam@dentons.com](mailto:HMGRelationshipTeam@dentons.com).

Your email will reach our core HMG team. We will respond immediately and coordinate with all relevant team members.

## Spotlight on our team's experience

### Representing Government Departments as core participants to statutory inquiries

**The Covid-19 Inquiry:** Acting for the Home Office in the ongoing Covid-19 Inquiry. The work involves a large team assisting with witness evidence and document review. A separate team is instructed to assist the MOD.

**The Hutton Inquiry:** Represented the family of Dr David Kelly, the biological warfare expert and former UN Weapons Inspector in Iraq, whose death led to the establishment of the Hutton Inquiry.

**The Renewable Heat Incentive Inquiry:** Acted for an Ofgem employee who found himself in conflict with his employer in relation to this Inquiry.

**The Infected Blood Inquiry:** Acted for the British Medical Association (BMA) in connection with the Infected Blood Inquiry.

**The Forde Inquiry:** Currently instructed by the National Executive Committee of the Labour Party to provide the Secretariat for this non-statutory Inquiry into a report entitled "The work of the Labour Party's Governance and Legal Unit in relation to antisemitism, 2014-2019" which was leaked into the public domain in April 2020.

### Public inquiry experience

**The Bloody Sunday Inquiry:** Acted for the Secretary of the Widgery Tribunal, the original inquiry into the events in (London) Derry on 30th January 1972, commonly referred to as Bloody Sunday.

**The Grenfell Tower inquiry:** Acting for two core participants with heavy involvement in all stages of the inquiry, including the production of documentary evidence, interviewing a large number of witnesses, submissions and supporting oral evidence given at the hearing. Dentons acts for National House-Building Council (NHBC).

**The Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse:** We were instructed to represent the Head Teacher of one of the schools investigated as part of the English Benedictine Congregation investigation, and separately the former Safe Guarding Co-Ordinator for the Archdiocese of Birmingham in connection with the wider investigation of that Archdiocese.

**The Brook House Inquiry:** Representing five former employees of G4S who have been asked to provide witness evidence to the Inquiry

**The Post Office Horizon IT Inquiry:** Recently instructed by a senior Director of the Post Office to represent him in connection with this Inquiry.

**Mid Staffordshire NHS Foundation Trust public inquiry:** Acting for a core participant which had a prominent role in the public inquiry.

**Other matters:** This includes acting for a core participant in the Fingerprint Public Inquiry in Scotland.

### Inquests

Appointed as Solicitors to the Coroner/Chief Coroner in **a series of high profile, terrorist-related Inquests**, including the Tunisia Inquests, the Westminster Bridge Inquests, the London Bridge Inquests and the Fishmongers' Hall Inquests.



# Public International law | 20+ lawyers

## Service overview

Well-established international team focusing on public international law. Our practice covers all aspects of public international law and includes:

- Investment treaty arbitration, including under bilateral and multilateral treaties
- Sanctions
- State responsibility and self-determination
- Project-specific international agreements between host states
- Treaty negotiations and accession
- International human rights law
- State succession

Dentons' team includes lawyers with advanced degrees in public international law. Team members have previously held senior positions in the legal departments of ministries of foreign affairs and intergovernmental organisations, or as law clerks in the International Court of Justice and other international tribunals.

We are eager to make this wealth of global experience available to HMG, and we would coordinate our advice out of our London office.

**For help and support in Public International law please email:**

[HMGRelationshipTeam@dentons.com](mailto:HMGRelationshipTeam@dentons.com).

Your email will reach our core HMG team. We will respond immediately and coordinate with all relevant team members.

**Other clients include:** Australian Government, Croatian Government, Malaysian Government, Riverstone, Sultanate of Oman, Total.

## Spotlight on our team's experience

**Australia – Confidential client:** Successfully representing in an ICSID arbitration initiated by Philip Morris under the Hong Kong-Australia bilateral investment treaty. The allegations of breach of the treaty stem from the legislative change that prevents tobacco companies from using their brand on cigarette packages.

**BEIS:** Advising on agreements for the UK to remain participants on EU exit, of European Research & Innovation Consortia (ERICs), identifying the powers of the Commission on EU Exit and the UK's liabilities.

## Some of our experience of acting for States includes:

**Republic of India:** UNCITRAL arbitration defending a claim for US\$245 million brought by the Ras Al-Khaimah Investment Authority concerning an alumina project in India.

**US Government:** High-profile arbitrations under the investment chapter of the North American Free Trade Agreement, including successful awards in Methanex Corporation v. United States and Loewen Group, Inc. v. United States.

## Some of our selected experience of acting against States includes:

**Sudapet Company Limited:** \$1 billion ICSID arbitration against the Republic of South Sudan on the expropriation of its interests in various oil blocks in the Republic of South Sudan.

**European Media Ventures S.A.:** \$45million UNCITRAL bilateral investment treaty arbitration against the Czech Republic, arising from actions by a Czech regulatory body which impeded the business operations of a television channel owned by a Luxembourg entity.

**Blusun SA:** The first ICSID arbitration against the Italian Republic, based on violations of the Energy Charter Treaty, concerning a 120 MW solar energy project in southern Italy.

**Future Pipe International:** Acting for the claimant, a multinational producer of fibreglass pipes, in an ICSID arbitration under the Egypt-Netherlands BIT against Egypt.

**Iran, N Korea and Russia sanctions:** Our UK, European and US teams advise oil majors, manufacturers, financial institutions, investment and wealth management companies and sovereign wealth funds on trade and financial sanctions.

# Telecommunications | 18 lawyers

## Service overview

Dentons is widely recognised for its dedicated global Telecoms team – reaching from Silicon Valley all the way to Sydney – with genuine telecoms specialists who know the sector intimately. Several of our people have substantial in-house experience. In the UK our team has been challenging the status quo in the sector since the UK telecoms market was liberalised and incumbent BT privatised during the 1980s. While we personally know many telecoms suppliers well, our strategy is not to act for them. Instead, we act for customers – in both the public and private sectors. Our people have acted opposite the likes of BT, Colt, EE, Telefonica, Three, Verizon and Vodafone in the UK.

We provide a full service provision across the telecoms sector, including advising on:

- Network infrastructure and broadband roll-outs
- Regulation, compliance and [public law/policy](#)
- Spectrum management and auctions
- Market reform programmes
- Privatisations
- [M&A, joint ventures](#) and strategic alliances
- MVNOs
- Specialist [dispute resolution](#)
- Investigations
- Services and equipment [procurements](#)
- IPR protection and exploitation
- Information risk management
- [Finance and capital markets](#)
- Innovative technology strategies

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**Other clients include:** Airtel, Facebook, Lebara, Nokia, Royal Mail, SITA, Virgin.

## Spotlight on our team's experience

**Home Office:** Advising on the Emergency Services Network agreement with EE.

**DCMS:** Advising on the procurement of its 2020 "Outside-In" full fibre broadband programme that will see remote parts of the UK amongst the first to benefit.

**Emtelle:** Advising this market leader in the manufacturing and provisioning of so-called 'blown-fibre', uPVC and polyethylene tubing for telecoms cabling, and ducted passive network solutions, in connection with its products, including FibreTap and FibreFlow Webflex.

**JCDcaux:** Advising on plans to deploy small cell telecoms infrastructure across their extensive assets portfolio – including 'street furniture' like bus shelters, mobile charging stations, interactive information panels and self-service bicycle schemes, as well as billboards.

**Network Rail:** Advising on its concession for the installation and operation of fibre optic capacity and a neutral host solution to transform mobile telecoms connectivity for passengers.

**Mobile Broadband Networks Limited:** Advising on various telecoms regulatory and competition matters, including its contract with a national towers sites portfolio provider.

**Transport for London:** Advising on the roll-out of a neutral host mobile solution on platforms, stations and tunnel sections of the TfL estate; a commercial fibre telecoms network; small cell radio coverage, using street furniture (such as lamp posts and traffic lights); improvement of station Wi-Fi service; and coverage for the emergency services.

**UK Space Agency:** Advising in connection with the development of the UK's own global navigation satellite system (separate from the EU's Galileo navigation satellite system – which itself is the EU's alternative to the GPS system run by the USA).