

Ashtons
LEGAL

Legal services for business



EXCEPTIONAL CLIENT SERVICE EVERY TIME



www.ashtonslegal.co.uk

Ashtons Legal – Lawyers you want to work with

Ashtons Legal is a leading East Anglian law firm with offices in Diss, Ipswich, Cambridge, Norwich and Bury St Edmunds. With 32 partners and a total complement of over 330 lawyers and support staff, the combined firm stands out from other firms through its reputation for excellence and friendly and approachable ethos.

Our lawyers are recruited from a variety of backgrounds. Some trained with us, others have joined from prestigious international and City law firms, and some have a background in industry. This means that our clients are served by an excellent range of high quality personnel.

The firm is a member of LawNet, which enables it to draw on nationwide experience, and is active in Eurojuris, a European grouping of law firms allowing access to experts from jurisdictions outside England and Wales.

We provide a comprehensive range of services for our business clients which are divided into five broad areas:

- 1. Commercial Property**
- 2. Employment**
- 3. Corporate Commercial**
- 4. Dispute Resolution**
- 5. Agriculture & Estates**

“A ‘diligent, helpful team, for which nothing is too much trouble’ this corporate group continues to raise its profile on both a regional and national level.”

Legal 500

1. Commercial Property

Our Commercial Property team is efficient, proactive and flexible. We deal with the legal and financial aspects of buying, selling, leasing and sub-letting of all types of commercial property from offices and retail units to commercial and industrial units and residential and commercial development. Our clients are evenly spread between buyers and sellers, landlords and tenants, developers, investors and owner occupiers.

Our banking and secured lending specialists act for a number of national funders and are well-versed in their requirements and expectations in property transactions.

Whilst protecting our clients’ interests, we focus on what they really want – a quick and satisfactory completion.

Our expertise covers the following areas:

- Commercial sales and purchases
- Property development
- Planning advice and applications
- Construction
- Landlord and tenant
- Secured lending
- Buying and selling investment portfolios
- Portfolio management
- Joint ventures
- Options
- Advice on planning applications
- Negotiating and drafting section 106 agreements
- Rent reviews and lease renewals
- Employment



2. Employment

Our experienced Employment Team can help you handle potentially time consuming, expensive and difficult staff dispute situations with the utmost confidence, and ensure the best possible prospects of success. We take the pragmatic view that it is better to avoid and prevent problems wherever possible. We understand the commercial realities and offer practical and commercial solutions.

Services can range from dealing with ad hoc occasional enquiries, handling fully blown Tribunal litigation, to provision of a formal HR Helpdesk type service.

We have extensive expertise in these areas:

- Employment Tribunal claims
- Contracts, policies and procedures, review and drafting
- Restructuring, reorganisation and redundancy exercises
- Business transfers, outsourcing, tendering and TUPE
- Disciplinary dismissal and grievance issues
- Performance management issues
- Ill health, absence management and dismissals
- Breach of contract and restrictive covenant disputes
- Discrimination and Equal pay issues
- Union disputes
- Team moves
- Compromise Agreements.

We offer a rolling series of seminars, HR forums, and updating newsletters to keep clients up to date and informed. We offer bespoke in house training services in addition.



3. Corporate Commercial

Our Corporate and Commercial lawyers advise upon a broad range of corporate transactions and complex commercial arrangements, such as:

- Buying and selling businesses, including confidentiality agreements, heads of terms, due diligence, sale and purchase agreements and disclosure letters
- Joint Ventures
- Shareholders, Partnership, LLP and Investment Agreements
- Company Own Share Purchases
- Terms and Conditions
- Intellectual Property Rights
- Distribution and Agency agreements
- Directors and Shareholders Duties
- Banking and Finance Advice.

We have helped many owners through the complexities of selling their companies and businesses, whether to a management team through a management buy-out, or by a sale to a trade buyer. We also regularly act for buyers, for whom an acquisition can be a fast track to growth by comparison with growing organically. They often involve substantial due diligence and complex funding arrangements and our team is well versed in these skills.

We also advise on complex commercial arrangements for a range of businesses. Our involvement with your client's business goes beyond just providing safe guidance. Our Corporate and Commercial lawyers want to understand it fully so that we can help your clients identify and exploit fresh opportunities.

As business people ourselves, we understand the commercial pressures under which our clients operate. We keep your client's business aims at the heart of our involvement and carefully advise on the options and considerations that are most relevant to any particular circumstances.

“The ‘absolutely excellent’ team at Ashtons Legal has a ‘professional, approachable and commercially minded team’.

Legal 500

“I would rate them amongst the best. Good value for money.”

Chambers & Partners

4. Dispute Resolution

We provide a broad range of services to the firm’s commercial and institutional clients, including:

- Property disputes
- Landlord and Tenant disputes
- Contractual disputes
- Shareholder disputes
- Directors’ duties
- Partnership disputes
- Disputes relating to the supply of goods and services
- Debt recovery and insolvency processes.

We also have one of the leading Business Recovery and Insolvency teams in the East of England, with a large and highly experienced multi-disciplinary team covering disputes, employment, corporate restructuring, property and personal debt.

Clients include large national and international companies in a variety of sectors, small and medium-sized businesses, major property developers, banks, building societies, Cambridge colleges, institutions, insolvency practitioners and accountants.

5. Agriculture & Estates

Farms and estates are much more than businesses. They are homes and often financial centres for extended families. Understanding both the commercial and the cultural aspects of farming and the wider agricultural sector is essential background to providing an effective legal service.

Our agricultural lawyers cover all aspects of the law relating to farmers, landowners and agri-business and we aim to deliver practical, legal solutions in a professional and timely manner.

Agricultural issues can be complicated. At Ashtons Legal we have the expertise and knowledge to get to the heart of the issue. We’ll work closely with you, other parties and organisations to ensure a seamless service is offered to resolve the situation.

We help you to negotiate the minefield of European and domestic legislation, or validate ideas for diversification or regeneration. In fact, we are on hand to advise on the whole range of commercial and family issues which you know you need to deal with but would rather not have to think about.

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