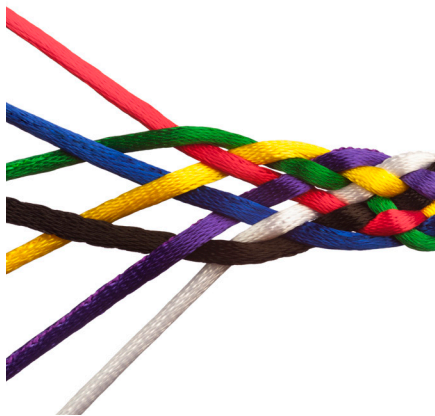


Expertise in
the issues
you face



Clyde & Co's Professional Practices Group brings together the leading team in professional liability and a range of experts in regulatory, employment, practice structures and partnership dispute issues. We work with professional services firms and networks of all sizes and the broad and in-depth nature of our offering and expertise means we can support our clients in relation to all issues they face, and deliver solutions that work for their businesses.

Professional liability claims

Our team has a long history of successfully defending professional services firms from smaller disputes where cost-efficiency is a priority, to large scale, complex multimillion pound disputes. In addition, we are experienced in advising firms on how to navigate high profile and reputationally sensitive claims, and in working with risk and management teams, and communications specialists to minimise the fall-out from such disputes from the outset.

Regulatory investigations and disciplinary proceedings

We have extensive experience of acting for professional services firms and individuals subject to regulatory investigation. We advise a range of large professional services firms, including law firms, and have acted for accountancy firms in some of the largest disciplinary investigations,

and ensuing proceedings, in the UK while also handling a range of smaller matters and problems for a variety of firms and individuals.

Partnership and employment

We advise on all of the employment and partnership issues professional firms face, including promotions, the definition of an employee, election (or non-election) to partnership, terminations, bonuses, flexible working and managing performance. We also advise professional services firms on the implications of senior individual and team moves, and we are also well used to advising on matters at the intersection between employment and regulatory issues.

Mergers and acquisitions

Our team has comprehensive experience in facilitating the expansion of professional practices through merger, acquisition, joint venture and various other types of collaborative

structure, including those which are private equity backed.

Professional practice structures and updating corporate and partnership documentation

We have a long history of advising professional practices as to the best way in which to structure their business. Such advice incorporates catering for optimum tax-efficiency, the navigation of relevant regulatory and legislative restrictions and the consideration of whether, overall, it is preferable to adopt an incorporated or unincorporated status, a traditional or limited liability partnership or to utilise a holding company structure.

We also review, modify and amend underlying documentation so as to ensure it remains current to the changing needs and requirements of our clients, and complements, for example, the introduction of additional partners and a revised division of profits.

Pensions and immigration

Our pensions team can provide a unified solution on issues such as the restructuring of pensions arrangements or discrimination in relation to pension schemes.

Our immigration team provides a full service covering all aspects of commercial immigration for professional services firms.

Insurance arrangements

We have worked with both insurers and professional services firms on proposed changes to the insurance arrangements for solicitors and surveyors. We can also assist with insurance and reinsurance arrangements to meet the needs of professional networks under the different legal and regulatory regimes in which they operate.

Information security, confidentiality and IP

We can give urgent and expert assistance to professional services firms on privacy, confidentiality and data breach issues. We work with IT, PR and other experts on crisis management and how to respond on a suspected or reported data breach. Across our global team we also have specialist expertise in civil breach of privacy, confidentiality and IT contract claims, copyright and trademark infringement, trade secret misappropriation, unfair competition/misleading advertising, Fair Credit Reporting Act and defamation matters.

Management liability

We can advise boards and members on a range of management liability issues, bringing to bear our understanding of where the gaps might arise between management liability and professional liability cover and handling employment, D&O and other disputes.

Other services

In addition, we are experienced in dealing with a wide range of other commercial and contractual problems on behalf of professional services firms. We have one of the largest dispute resolution teams in the UK, and leading teams specialising in tax, real estate, insolvency, outsourcing and corporate/commercial matters.

Further information

If you would like further information on any issue raised in this overview please contact:

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