withersworldwide

Sharon Whitehouse

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Sharon is a partner in the corporate team.

Sharon is based in London and, having spent 16 years practising law in Italy, leads the firm's English law team in Milan.

She acts for both corporate/fund clients and high net worth/ultra high net worth individuals. Her practice focuses on equity investments in private companies on both investor and investee side, at each fundraising stage in a company's life cycle, as well as M&A transactions (both share and asset sales and venture-backed M&A) and group restructurings.

She has a particular focus on acting for founders and investors in the sport and entertainment, fashion, beauty and lifestyle and food and beverage sectors, and is named in Legal 500 in the Luxury Goods sector. With her Italian background, she also has a focus on advising Italian corporate clients on their UK group interests and structuring.

Sharon regularly advises clients on a wide variety of international commercial agreements, particularly licensing, sponsorship and endorsement, distribution and agency agreements, which are often tangential to their corporate transactions. Sharon has a background in debt capital markets and has acted on a significant number of debt issuances as well as real estate financings.

Sharon is qualified as a solicitor in England and Wales and as an Italian avvocato and is fluent in Italian. She lectures both in English and Italian on corporate and commercial law issues relating to Brexit.

Track record

Italian food producer

Advised a leading Italian food producer on the acquisition of a manufacturing plant from a global corporation and a related co-pack arrangement.

Trustees

Advising the trustees of a family trust and various high net worth individuals on equity investments, including Series A Preference Shares, and on exits from such structures.

Merger with UK group

Advised a US-based individual on the merger of his business with a UK group and the ongoing shareholding arrangements.

Talks

• 'English Law for Business' and 'M&A - An Introduction to Legal Issues', at various Italian universities'

Admissions

England and Wales, 2005

Ordine degli Avvocati di Milano - Avvocato Stabilito, 2005

Education

Oxford University (Hertford College), BA (Hons) Modern History - First Class

Languages

English

Italian

Key dates

Year joined: 2011

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