

SHOOSMITHS LLP - TAX

SHOOSMITHS TAX TEAM

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Our tax lawyers aim to deliver an unrivalled client experience.

We work closely with a broad range of clients, from start-ups and mature private companies to FTSE 250 companies.

How can our tax team help you?

Shoosmiths' tax team provide pragmatic, commercial tax advice, whether on bespoke tax structures or otherwise. Comprising a team of over 10 lawyers, our core tax offerings are advising on:

- UK and multi-jurisdiction transactions including mergers and acquisitions, reorganisations, restructuring and demergers
- Employee incentives and share schemes
- Enterprise Investment Schemes (EIS) and Venture Capital Trust (VCT) schemes
- Real estate tax, including the tax structuring of complex development projects



Flexible to work with, accommodating changes in scope and process. Very responsive with quick turnaround times to hit deadlines.

Legal 500

OUR SPECIALISMS

Corporate tax

Our corporate tax experts have the knowledge and experience to advise on all aspects of corporate tax, including advising on mergers and acquisitions, transactional structuring, private equity transactions (advising both the private equity houses and management teams) and corporate and debt restructuring. We also advise on compliance and reputational risk issues and the tax aspects of banking and finance transactions and financial products, in many cases with a cross-border aspect.

Recent experience includes:

- Advising LDC and the shareholders of Bybox Limited on the sale of Bybox Group Limited.
- Advising August Equity on its disposal of the children's division of the Aspirations Care Group to Keys Group.
- Providing strategic advice to Boots UK, part of the Wallgreen Boots Alliance Group.

EIS & VCT

Shoosmiths has a strong UK-leading VCT & EIS advisory team, and are the advisors of choice for Octopus Ventures, Beringea, Downing, Gresham House, Hambro Perks and Triple Point, amongst others. The team provides the full range of VCT advice, from advising on structuring of VCT investments, reorganisations and exits, to liaising with HMRC to obtain advance assurances (where required), and providing opinions to a range of VCT boards, EIS funds and investment managers.

Recent experience includes:

- Acting for Beringea LLP on its VCT investment into Fnatic, the leading global e-sports brand, as part of a \$19m Series A funding round.
- Acting for Octopus Ventures on over 40 new and follow-on investments VCT and EIS in the past 12 months. We have advised on investments for Octopus into companies based in the USA, Israel, Germany, Sweden, the Netherlands, Ireland, and Switzerland.
- Acting for Gresham House on its VCT investment into wine bar and restaurant concept, Vinoteca.

Employee incentives & share schemes

Shoosmiths' employee incentive & share schemes team advise on all aspects of employee incentive arrangements, from their design and implementation to their ongoing operation.

Recent experience includes:

- Advising a private equity house on the share schemes aspects of its acquisition of a public company, with a value of £114m.
- Implementing a growth share plan and a share option plan for key employees of a private equity backed company, with the key commercial design involving the structure surviving a takeover.
- Advising an AIM listed company on its remuneration policy, its malus and clawback policy and its share plan arrangements.

Real estate tax

Shoosmiths' real estate tax team advises businesses working in all sectors of the UK property industry.

Reflective of Shoosmiths' large real estate and conveyancing practices, our specialist tax team advises institutional investors, real estate funds, commercial developers, house builders and corporate occupiers to charities, housing associations, as well as high-net worth individuals.

Recent experience includes:

- Advising on the tax implications for a ground-breaking development of a major new hub for tech, digital and creative industries in Manchester and the subsequent sale of the development to an institutional investor for more than £300m.
- Regularly advising a specialist student accommodation developer on its portfolio of sites across Southern England, in particular ensuring that its "forward funding" arrangements can be implemented in a tax-efficient manner.

AT A GLANCE

A firm you can trust

Shoosmiths LLP operates from 13 locations across the UK, offering clients excellence in all core legal disciplines, together with key specialisms and deep sector expertise. What sets us apart is the way we deliver our services – clients tell us that we get the “people bit” right, listening and investing in the relationships which are at the heart of great service.

We're ready to think differently and deploy our collective experience to meet and exceed each client's expectations.

Facts

- 1000+ legal advisers, including 215 partners
- Turnover of £154million as at end of April 2020
- National Firm of the Year in The Lawyer Awards 2019
- Ranked in The Lawyer's Real Estate Global 50 2019
- Shortlisted in Legal Week's Innovation Awards 2019
- Winner of corporate/commercial specialism in the Legal 500 Awards 2019
- Legal Team of the Year in the Estates Gazette Awards 2018
- Rated a Best Employer for the 15th consecutive year by Legal Week
- Gold standard status in Investors in People
- Signatory to the United Nations Global Compact as part of our responsible business commitments

Clients

As a client of Shoosmiths, you will find us quick to relate to your goals, and adept at advising you on the most direct way of achieving them.

Our lawyers tailor their approach to each client's situation, delivering high quality legal advice backed by clear and open communication, cost transparency and commercial nous.

International

Shoosmiths works with individuals and companies investing in the UK, in addition to UK-based clients operating in global markets (the latter via our membership of the World Services Group, an international network of professional services firms).



SHOOSMITHS

WINNER
National firm of the year
THE LAWYER
Awards 2019



LegalWeek
Innovation
Awards 2020

INVESTORS IN PEOPLE™
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