



who we are



hcr
hewitsons



A PASSION FOR PEOPLE

Our passion for people is at the heart of everything we do. It's the engine that keeps us ticking and inspires us to do our best. We're not satisfied unless we're making a real difference to people's lives, and we'll keep working hard to ensure we achieve the best outcome possible for you.

As an award-winning Top 60 UK law firm we provide the full range of services that you would expect to organisations, business leaders and individuals. We are entrepreneurial in our outlook so we're flexible and responsive to the needs of our clients, delivering the best outcomes for them. Clients value our honesty and our friendly approach.

We understand that we're a key part of our clients' lives whether personally or for business, so we truly partner our clients, and demonstrate our genuine commitment to them and what they're trying to achieve, in all that we do. We are pragmatic and don't 'sit on the fence' – clients have confidence in our advice because of our demonstrable experience and the relationships we build with them.

We've grown rapidly over recent years as we've continued to meet client demand. I'm proud of what we've achieved.

“ **A friendly firm which produces work of high quality and gets the job done.** ”

Client quote in Chambers and Partners



Rod Thomas
Managing Partner



CHARITY AND COMMUNITY

We've supported the communities we work and live in, via charitable giving and social responsibility initiatives, for many years. The nature of the support that our communities value, has evolved over recent years, and so too has our approach.

We recognise that our social responsibility extends to doing all we can to reduce our impact on the climate and protect the environment, so we have committed to become a net carbon zero business by 2040.

Our passion for the environment is also seen as 'boots on the ground' support for causes that matter to the people around us. For example, in spring 2022 we helped Cheltenham's National Star College by planting 200 saplings as part of the college's commitment to sustainability. The saplings are in a space used for therapeutic activities and learning. Also in 2022, we prepared a raised planter for a disabled adult who can now make full use of the Ross Community Garden to grow a variety of flowers and vegetables.

We have included social value measures in our public sector bids, committing, for example, to create recruitment and career progression opportunities via apprenticeships and other routes, for staff.

We continue to provide donations to charities in the communities local to our ten offices.



Chariots of Fire

This Cambridge event raises over £50,000 every year for the official charity partner. In a typical year 2,500 runners – both athletes and amblers – compete alongside each other in a 1.7 mile relay race.

Chariots of Fire has raised over £1.48 million for a variety of regional charities since it began in 1992.



HCR clock up miles and plant trees

Throughout May 2022 and the Jubilee weekend, HCR took on the collective challenge of covering 70 lengths of Great Britain. With every seven lengths covered, the firm secured one tree (or set of saplings) to plant, in honour of the national Queen's Green Canopy initiative.

Staff took part in the challenge by walking, running, cycling, rowing, and swimming, and achieved an impressive 71,722 miles – the equivalent of 82 lengths of Great Britain!



Backing for defence community wins gold award for HCR

Outstanding support and commitment to defence and the armed forces community, including former members of the armed forces and serving members' families, has won Harrison Clark Rickerbys the highest possible award in the Ministry of Defence's Employer Recognition Scheme.



- 1 BIRMINGHAM
- 2 CAMBRIDGE
- 3 CARDIFF
- 4 CENTRAL ENGLAND
- 5 CHELTENHAM
- 6 HEREFORD
- 7 LONDON
- 8 THAMES VALLEY
- 9 WORCESTER
- 10 WYE VALLEY

WHERE WE WORK

Our roots go back to the 1700's and our growth has always been in response to client demand. With ten bases in England and Wales our well-established presence stretches from west to east, ensuring clients can access a full-service legal offering no matter where they're located.

Over the last year we've relocated our Birmingham and Cardiff teams to prime city-centre offices, meaning we're even more accessible for clients. We have also opened a new Central England office in Northampton. Investment in this office demonstrates our commitment to the area and will enhance our position as the leading law firm in the region. We continue to organically grow our international HQ in London.

With solid connections in the communities we work in, and a track record of delivering legal advice to businesses and individuals throughout the areas we base ourselves in, we are continuing to meet our clients' needs.

LOCAL | NATIONAL | INTERNATIONAL



A world of expertise

Our international HQ is in London and operates a service from six hubs across the world where our relationships with the people and institutions that might affect you are tried and tested. Our legal, commercial and government connections within the six hubs are extensive and deep – some of our team live overseas, and we work with other individuals that we've personally known for decades. Beyond the hubs, our trusted network reaches across 80 countries, enabling us to help you run and grow your business almost anywhere in the world.

HCR is also able to make use of 2,035 overseas lawyers in 30 different countries through our membership of Law Exchange International (LEI). LEI was founded in 1994 by one of HCR's predecessor firms. The network is complementary to HCR's six overseas hubs, and enables us to obtain reliable and cost-effective advice from lawyers we trust, from Belgium to Brazil and from Turkey to Texas.



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Arpinder Dhillon
Head of Wye Valley Office

WHY OUR CLIENTS CHOOSE US

“My contact at HCR is a consummate safe pair of hands, knowledgeable and incredibly approachable. One of her main strengths is being able to explain complex legal issues in a succinct and digestible form.”

Client in Legal 500 directory

“We have a strong relationship with Harrison Clark Rickerbys and have welcomed the opportunity to broaden our portfolio which allows us to provide more people with valuable support and a home for life.”

Sharon Scollen, Falcon Housing Association

“He made it his job to ensure that the whole process was de-mystified and told us exactly what to expect.”

Chris Wootton, CEO, Chemigraphic

“Our relationship with HCR continues to go from strength to strength following a most professional service that has been provided. We look forward to continuing to work with HCR in the future.”

Steve Morris, Managing Director, Morgan Motor Company

“HCR’s contribution was critical to the successful outcome – they brought a brilliant and broad legal team to this deal, who all went above and beyond.”

Simon Hitchcock, Managing Partner, Horizon

“The employment team at HCR are fantastic people to work with, very knowledgeable and commercially focused. With their help, we had a positive outcome with minimal costs to our business.”

Group HR Manager, Pertemps Network Group

“There are a lot of things I didn’t get to do during the five years or so that this partnership dispute was going on. I want to catch up on those and make a plan for the future. Adam and the dispute resolution team were wonderful. I would definitely recommend Harrison Clark Rickerbys.”

Alan R.

A LOOK AT HCR IN NUMBERS


More than
800 staff


We help nearly
5,000
private clients with the moments that matter to them each year


The firm has
10 OFFICES

Birmingham
Cambridge
Cardiff
Central England
Cheltenham
Hereford
London
Thames Valley
Worcester
Wye Valley


We’ve raised
£1.5M
for local charities


Top
10
full service
UK law
firm


1st
most active
deal maker
in the UK



Robert Capper
Head of Commercial, IP and IT

SECTORS

With a national focus, our sector teams comprise lawyers from our business service and private client disciplines, meaning they share in-depth understanding of the industries our clients work in, whilst bringing expertise from their legal specialism.



EDUCATION AND CHARITIES

Did you know?

Our nationally recognised, award-winning education and charities team includes Legal 500 and Chambers 'leading individuals' and are ranked UK-wide for their sector expertise.

Awards 2022

WINNER
Legal Advisor –
to Deal-making

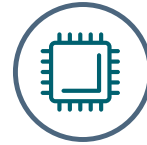
Did you know?

Our health and social care team have advised their clients on almost 100 transactions worth over £300m over the last 12 months alone.

HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE



TECHNOLOGY



Did you know?

One of our tech specialists helped the Royal Mint to digitise gold investments on blockchain.

Did you know?

We hold the MOD Gold Award for our services under the Armed Forces Covenant and the DSF team includes staff with security clearance at various levels up to DV. We can therefore assist with government contracts at all levels – including by placing personnel in-house to advise List X companies supplying the MOD and who hold information classified at secret and above.



DEFENCE, SECURITY AND THE FORCES

Did you know?

Our team includes not only expert lawyers, but also quantity surveyors and other building professionals, so that we can provide a truly joined up, commercial approach when advising you.



FINANCE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES

Did you know?

Our finance sector includes experienced regulatory, investigation and financial specialists who have over 100 years' collective experience and can advise across the full range of possible FCA investigation and enforcement actions, from informal regulatory requests for information, to skilled person reports right through to disciplinary action.



AGRICULTURE AND RURAL AFFAIRS

Did you know?

The team is on the NFU legal panel and acts for 4 of the top 50 landowners (by area) in the UK.



CONSTRUCTION AND ENGINEERING



Nicola McNeely
Head of Technology

HEADS OF SECTORS



AGRICULTURE AND RURAL AFFAIRS



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Nicolas Groffman
Head of International



AWARDS AND ACCREDITATIONS



HealthInvestor Awards 2022
Finalist



Cambridgeshire, Bedfordshire and Norfolk



EducationInvestor Awards 2022

WINNER
Legal Advisor – to Deal-making



INVESTORS IN PEOPLE
We invest in people Standard



CHAMBERS AND PARTNERS



HARRISON CLARK RICKERBYS' CORPORATE TEAM RANKINGS:

UNITED KINGDOM	2nd
LONDON	2nd
THE MIDLANDS	1st
SOUTH EAST	1st
NORTH WEST	9th
SOUTH WEST	1st
WALES	3rd
EAST OF ENGLAND	1st

*based on volume of deals

SERVICES FOR YOUR BUSINESS

Harrison Clark Rickerbys is a full-service firm



BANKING AND FINANCE

When you need funding to drive your business forward, our banking and finance team have the network and experience to deliver the lending solution best suited to your company and needs.

“Inger was part of ‘the team’, as much invested as the rest of us and we would certainly want to work with her on future corporate activity.”

Ken Roberts, CEO,
Audiotelligence



COMMERCIAL, IP AND IT

We can steer you through everything from day-to-day commercial matters to contracts, agreements, risk management, and asset protection. We can help you limit your liabilities through creative, comprehensive, watertight agreements that are tailored to your business.



EMPLOYMENT AND IMMIGRATION

We provide a strategic and focused approach to all your employment issues, providing advice and support to companies and senior executives that will empower you to make the right decisions for your people.



INTERNATIONAL

We help ambitious organisations forge paths across the world. We handle the myriad legal intricacies and complicated regulations, allowing you to focus on what you're good at.



INSURANCE, RISK AND REGULATORY

If you operate in a regulated environment we can help you. Our unrivalled experience enables our clients to deal with investigations and prosecutions undertaken by the police, the Health and Safety Executive, Companies House, HMRC, the Environment Agency, local authorities, professional regulatory bodies, and licencing authorities. Our advice is insightful, innovative, practical and client focused.



CORPORATE

We immerse ourselves in your world and get to know your organisation inside out so that during a restructure, merger, acquisition or sale, we won't sit on the fence – we'll give you a clear view of the risks and opportunities, and provide the advice you need to make each decision.



DISPUTE RESOLUTION

When a dispute happens, we'll help you understand the issues you face and what risks are involved, and help you decide upon a strategy that will let you move forward. If we can, we'll keep it out of court, but if it comes to that point, we'll fight on your behalf to get the best possible outcome.

The Real Estate team has: “excellent knowledge of the property sector combined with a friendly approach towards clients.”

Client quote in Legal 500



REAL ESTATE

We can support you with a whole range of property advice, from buying and selling houses to all aspects of commercial property including the planning, funding, building, delivery and disposal of complex real estate projects.

“They respond in a timely manner with solid advice and are always prepared to spend time in helping us to negotiate complex issues.”

Client quote in
Chambers and Partners



RESTRUCTURING AND INSOLVENCY

When you or your business finances are in troubled waters, we can offer a lifeline. Whatever financial problems you're experiencing - directly or through suppliers - we'll help you find the best way forward, giving you a fresh start, director protection and safeguarding jobs where possible. Our substantial team are expert in liaising with all key stakeholders to ensure the best outcomes are achieved.



Philip Parkinson
Head of Real Estate



SERVICES FOR INDIVIDUALS

For the Moments That Matter

A happy and exciting time. But protecting yourself and your assets is important whether you're entering your first serious relationship or you're moving forward with someone new. A living together agreement or pre-nuptial agreement can help save stress and legal costs if unfortunately, your relationship ends and you need to divide your assets later down the line.

STARTING A RELATIONSHIP

MEDICAL NEGLIGENCE AND PERSONAL INJURY

An accident, injury or issue with the provision of healthcare can change your life, and the lives of your loved ones. Sometimes compensation, and an admission of wrong doing, can help people move forward. Our personal injury and clinical negligence lawyers won't just claim on your behalf but will help you plan for the future.

BUYING AND SELLING YOUR HOME

Our residential conveyancing team is here to help you with every step when buying or selling your home. Communicating well and delivering the best possible service are what drive us; we'll keep you updated throughout the transaction whether you're looking to buy, sell, mortgage or transfer your property.

Our children are our top priority and it's important to do what's best for them if a relationship breaks down or a family dispute happens. We work with families of all kinds, focussing on children's needs and giving parents the best advice and support for their family life. We also act for children, giving them a voice in court proceedings, ensuring they can be safe and well.

CHILDREN

MAKING A WILL

We take time to sit down with you, understand your life and your circumstances, and your thoughts on tomorrow, so you make a will that truly reflects your wishes and will protect your loved ones.

RELATIONSHIP BREAKDOWN

When a relationship breaks down, emotions can run high and disputes often spiral out of control. We're one of the UK's biggest and most experienced family law teams, and can advise on issues affecting every kind of family – including divorce, matters involving children, wealth protection and international family law.

DIRECTORS' DUTIES

As a company director, we can advise you on protecting yourself where there is a risk of insolvency proceedings, and can defend you if you face disqualification, to ensure you are able to continue to act as a director. We're proactive and pragmatic when it comes to directors' issues; we tell it like it is. We look for solutions; our efficient and supportive approach focuses on minimising your exposure.

When you've worked hard to grow your personal wealth it's important to have advisors that can help you protect and manage it effectively, and ensure it is passed on through generations or dealt with as decided by you. Our experts work with private individuals and family offices, to help you get the most from your assets, now and in the future. We work with individuals, high net worth individuals, family offices, multi-family offices, trustees, executives, land owners and business owner-managers.

PRIVATE WEALTH

Acting for executors and family members, we ensure that estates are administered correctly, providing advice on inheritance tax, intestacy and grants of representation. We can help to wind up the affairs of the deceased in a compassionate and stress-free way.

WHEN SOMEONE DIES

SETTING UP A TRUST

Minimise tax liabilities, protect a family business, keep control of your assets and make charitable donations. Our team of wills, trusts and estates lawyers have considerable experience when it comes to setting up and administering trusts, both for individuals and charities, and can act as professional trustees if required.

Age, disability or injury can cause serious difficulties for people, their families and carers, and the legislation around health and care support services is constantly shifting. We have years of expertise in this area, so whether you need help with assessing capacity or with financial concerns, we make the process as smooth and simple as possible.

OLDER AND VULNERABLE CLIENTS

CONTESTING A WILL

When someone dies, the last thing you need is an argument. If you find yourself in this position, perhaps where you feel you've been treated unfairly as a beneficiary, or you're concerned about the management of a loved one's estate, we'll provide practical, sound advice to help you move forward.





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Elizabeth Beatty
Head of In-House Lawyer Services

ADDITIONAL SERVICES

Eagle HR

Eagle HR offers support and consultancy to all kinds of businesses. As well as being on the end of a phone or at your side, the Eagle HR team can deliver complex project work on site, covering everything from investigations and discipline to restructures, job evaluation, pay structure design, coaching and mediation.



In-house with you

We provide advice and support to in-house lawyers when they need an extra pair of hands, or access to specialist expertise. As part of our added value offering, we provide legal updates and CPD-accredited training.



Medical Accident Group

If you have suffered medical negligence or a serious personal injury our leading lawyers can help you. The members of Medical Accident Group are all experts in these areas of the law – and are some of the most experienced in the UK. We use this expertise and experience to give you the best possible service, as well as helping other professionals to understand how devastating these complicated cases can be.



Notarial services

If you need your documentation to be authenticated or certified we have a number of qualified notaries within the firm. We can help individuals and businesses when you require documentation for use overseas.



Child and Parent Law

We act for children and those who have their best interests at heart. We give children a voice in court proceedings which concern their future, and we help family members who want to keep those children safe and well.

We can act for the children themselves or for parents, grandparents or other family members.

child and parent law 

Wills at Work

We work with employers to provide wills for employees as part of the organisation's benefits package. Working closely with HR departments, we remove the complications of will writing for staff, providing both them and their employer with confidence that their future is planned and considered.



David King
Partner, Private Client



HOW CAN WE HELP?

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London - International HQ

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F: 0207 681 1261

Thames Valley

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