Private Wealth services

The specialist legal guidance and support you and your family need

THE LAW FIRM WITH
A PASSION FOR PEOPLE

An expert legal team by your side

Navigating the tax and legal landscape as a high-net-worth individual, trustee or family office often brings complexities and interesting challenges that require expertise in multiple legal areas.

This multi-disciplinary expertise is exactly what our Private Wealth team offers.

The team brings together individuals with specialisms including private client, family law, agriculture and estates, corporate, dispute resolution and charities to work closely on behalf of our clients and their advisors.

Together, our capabilities combine to give you a single legal point of contact and the expert and holistic advice you need to achieve all your legal objectives.

The team will be with you at each key milestone and as your priorities change, whether that is **growing** your wealth, **protecting** it, planning for **succession** or managing your **legacy**.

> "Outstanding individuals with a very good team and departmental approach. Clients therefore benefit from seamless overall advice which is particularly important when looking at tax, estates and succession planning matters."

Legal 500 private client testimonial

A personal approach

Our approach mirrors our firm's ethos. We have a Passion for People and we aim to know our clients well so we can serve them well.

We work hard to build trusted, long-lasting relationships so we can assist with often difficult legal decisions, both from a technical and also a personal perspective.

As a private wealth client, you'll have a dedicated partner who will be your first point of contact for all your queries. It takes the benefit of having a single law firm able to deal with all your legal matters to the next level.

The role of your partner contact will be to:

- Liaise regularly with you to ensure your requirements are being met in line with your expectations
- Ensure your legal team reflects the expertise you need and understands your unique situation
- Provide a focused and seamless approach that proactively manages any legal issues at the earliest possible stage.

HCR Law is a Top 60 UK law firm with offices in England and Wales

A partnership approach

Legal advice doesn't operate in a vacuum, which is why we always collaborate closely with our clients' other professional advisors, including independent financial advisors, wealth managers, accountants, tax advisors, family offices and property agents.

It means you can be confident you have a powerful team working together to look after your interests across the board.

Our approach extends internationally, and when advising on cross-border matters, we liaise with advisors in other jurisdictions to find comprehensive solutions. We are also a founder member of LawExchange International, a network of independent law firms around the world.

> They are technically and commercially very experienced, which enables clients' advice to be clear and relevant and not simply a generic list of options.

Legal 500 private client testimonial

Growing family wealth

Everything starts somewhere. At the beginning of your family wealth journey, having the right building blocks in place to stand you in good stead as you move forward is essential.

Our Private Wealth team's expertise gives you everything you need. For example, we can help you at these early stages by:

- Acting for you in the **purchase of your property**, whether as a new family home or as an investment. Our residential, commercial and rural property teams bring experience in dealing with the most complex situations and arrangements.
- Advising you on the **creation or expansion of your business**, whether in the UK or overseas. Our widely respected and award-winning commercial, corporate and employment teams are on hand with the strategy and insight that's required.
- Advising you on **investment opportunities**, from our specialist corporate advisors negotiating contracts for your early-stage investments, to our expert private client team advising your family trustees or family office on their responsibilities when making ethical investments.
- Assisting you with **relocating for work**, whether you're moving into or out of the UK. Our experienced immigration team can advise on the most appropriate options for your individual circumstances, whilst our private client team is on hand to consider your tax planning strategy. In all international situations, our cross-border relationships and founding membership of LawExchange International are invaluable.
- Advising you when you **inherit wealth**, whether it's handling every aspect of estate administration with compassion or specialist advice on Inheritance Tax, including minimising your liability through careful application of exemptions and reliefs and identifying tax planning opportunities such as post-death restructuring.

Your key contacts

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Protecting family wealth

For many of our clients, protecting family wealth during times of change is a fundamental requirement. Careful planning is key, but our Private Wealth team is there too when life does not go to plan. We work with you to safeguard your assets by:

- Advising you when you're entering into a relationship or starting a new phase of a relationship such as moving in together, marriage or civil partnership. Our family specialists can **draw up cohabitation, prenuptial and postnuptial agreements** that protect your assets fairly.
- Ensuring you and your family are **protected in the event of incapacity** by working with you to draw up Powers of Attorney.
- Providing expert advice on complex and contentious family scenarios, including **advocating for you in disputes** between trustees and beneficiaries, inheritance disputes under the Inheritance (Provision for Family and Dependants) Act 1975 or challenges to the validity of a Will.
- Ensuring **vulnerable family members are protected**. Our specialist Old and Vulnerable Persons team acts in all matters, from making applications to the Court of Protection for Statutory Wills and deputyship orders to preparing trusts for vulnerable beneficiaries.

- When the time comes to start thinking about the next generation, we can **draw up and administer trusts** allowing you to structure the succession of your assets in a way that ensures your chosen beneficiaries benefit at the most appropriate time.
- In the event that **a relationship breaks down**, our highly trained family lawyers understand how to manage the situation with sensitivity and skill. We offer a range of approaches to separation, dissolution and divorce, both adversarial and not, that recognise that every couple and every situation is unique.
- **Managing reputational risks**. In all our work, we are acutely aware of the interest there might be in your affairs from outsiders. Our support extends to reputation management experts who can manage misleading information in the public domain, helping to resolve any issues as swiftly as possible.

We understand how to manage the situation with sensitivity and skill

> “Bernadette O’Reilly is an extremely talented private client practitioner. She has the ability to break down complex matters into an easy, digestible and understandable form, for other professionals and clients. She takes the time to fully understand the client background and be mindful of the care and empathy required in working with each individual client and their advisers.”

Chambers High Net Worth Guide

Talk to Tonina about issues surrounding mental capacity

Your key contacts

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Unified in Separation
Your future your way

resolution

ACTAPS

Planning for succession

Our clients' top priority is often passing the fruits of their labour down to future generations. The successful transfer of wealth from one generation to the next can be a challenge, and we're here to help with implementing an estate planning strategy that fits your family's objectives and is flexible enough in an ever changing tax and legal landscape. We can assist with this by:

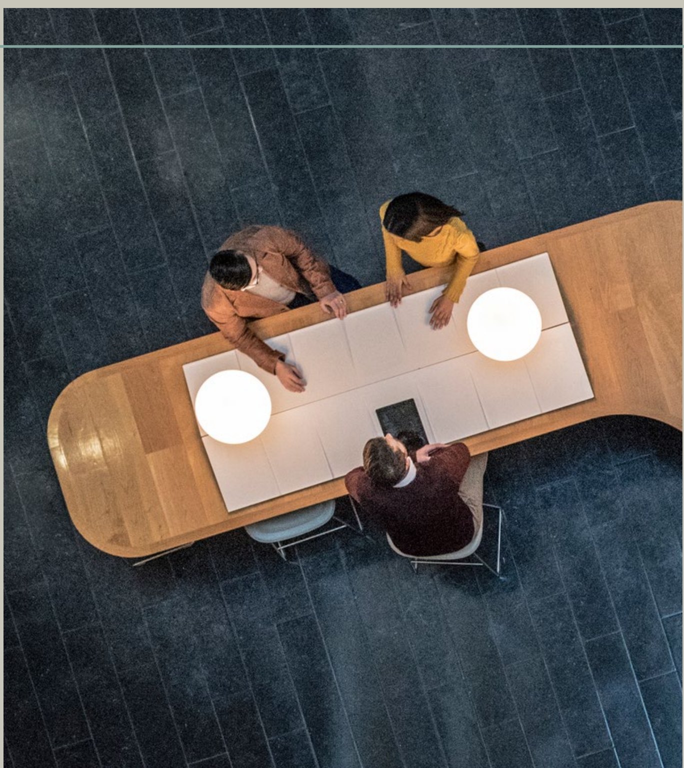
- **Drafting robust and flexible wills** that ensure your loved ones will benefit as you intend, no matter your circumstances. Whether you're a blended family, have vulnerable family members, have offshore assets, are non-domiciled or are the custodian of long-held family property, we can assist.
- **Planning the succession of your business**. Our specialist teams are here to help with all aspects of the process, including structuring the sale of your business tax efficiently or restructuring the business to bring in the next generation.

> "A strong inter-departmental approach which is so important when looking at strategic issues and succession planning, not to mention tax and structure planning generally. Katherine Hague is brilliant – she combines outstanding advice with exceptional and succinct clarity."

Legal 500 private client testimonial

- **Facilitating discussions around succession and family governance**, which can involve the development of a family charter or constitution. These conversations often require careful management and our expert team are able to help tactfully direct discussions with a view to avoiding disputes or upset in the future.
- Ensuring the most appropriate structures are in place to manage the succession of your assets. We're able to advise on – and help you manage – complex legal structures such as **family investment companies, family trusts and family offices**. Our cross-disciplinary approach in this area is invaluable, considering both tax-efficient and practical ways to manage the succession of your assets.
- Advising on the **succession of your international asset base**. Whether you're UK or non-UK domiciled, our international expertise helps you manage the succession of your property and assets across borders. We're always strategic, working with partners in other jurisdiction to take into account differing rules and tax regimes to create a strategy which meets your objectives.

Our expert team are able to help tactfully direct discussions with a view to avoiding disputes or upset in the future



"The core ethos of the practice is working closely with all aspects of their clients' business and private affairs, to provide a continuity of advice across generations."

Legal 500 private client testimonial

Your key contacts

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STEP
PLATINUM EMPLOYER PARTNER
England & Wales


Helping you, as the custodian of a landed estate or heritage asset, to continue that legacy

> What you get from Catherine Ball is no-fuss and well thought-out advice. You always know that she is on top of all the detail. She is a comforting person to have around.
>
> Chambers High Net Worth Guide

Leaving your legacy

Legacy means different things to different people, but we're here to help you shape the legacy you want to leave and maintain it for generations to come. That may be by:

- **Assisting with your philanthropic endeavours**. Our private client and charities teams work together to advise you on your options, whether you want to donate to an existing charity or establish your own.
- Helping you, as the custodian of a landed estate or heritage asset, to continue that legacy. Whether that is our landed estates experts helping you to **maximise the diversification and development opportunities** as they arise, or our private client specialists **advising you on the tax reliefs and exemptions** available to heritage assets, we're here to ensure your legacy lives on after you have died.
- Advising you on the **creation of family trusts and assisting your trustees** with the ongoing management of any trusts in their remit after you've gone. Our experts advise trustees on the scope of their powers and fiduciary duties, help them to consider the best means of providing for trust beneficiaries and ultimately, assist with winding up settlements when their purposes have been served.
- **Advising your executors on the administration of your estate**, or indeed, acting as the executors where needed. We work to ensure your wishes are implemented and your beneficiaries looked after in the way you intend.

In short, in death, as in life, we're by your side when it matters.

Talk to Stephanie about managing your landed estates

Your key contacts

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About HCR Law

HCR Law is an award-winning, ambitious and entrepreneurial law firm. We provide a full suite of city-quality legal services to businesses and private clients across our ten offices, covering Cardiff to Cambridge. We deliver our services nationally and internationally.

Alongside our private wealth offering, we also have expertise in healthcare, defence and security, financial services, education, technology, charities, sport and media and agriculture, environment and estates. Our corporate team has been one of the top three dealmakers across all its regions in the UK in the last two years according to Experian.

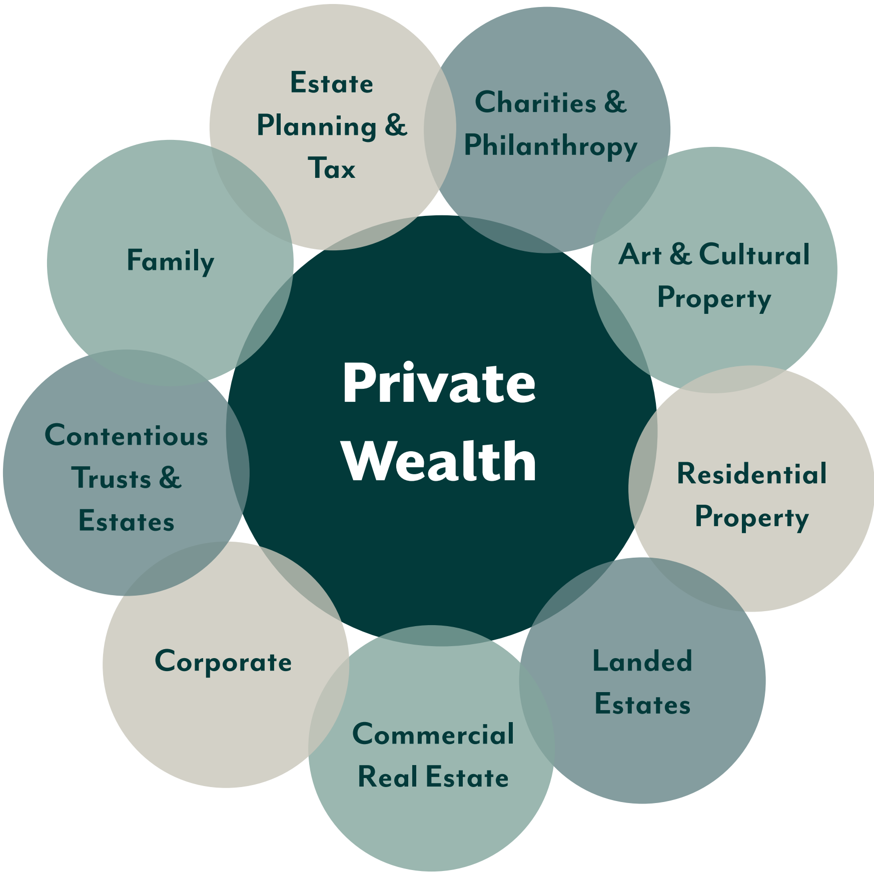
We work collaboratively with firms internationally and are a founding member of LawExchange International, an independent association of law firms serving clients doing business in the world's major commercial markets.

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.

> "They are very strong technically but also personable and work well collaboratively. They are able to combine technical positions with practical solutions."
>
> Legal 500 private client testimonial

Our Passion for People is at the heart of everything we do

HCR at work



Strategic Inheritance Tax and succession planning advice

When a company owner was in need of Inheritance Tax and succession planning advice he turned to HCR's Private Wealth team for assistance.

The client and his wife had children from previous marriages, so the team reviewed their existing provisions to make sure their affairs were in order and to avoid any issues further down the line. This led to an updated will, with gifts between the client and his wife, and a review of their existing trust provisions.

The team advised on establishing a family investment company with a stratified share structure, allowing the client's children to start getting used to owning and managing significant assets, whilst ensuring the clients continued to have oversight of key decisions.

As this was a second marriage, the team also discussed the use of a postnuptial agreement and helped the client to communicate their plans to their respective children to avoid any future surprises or disputes.

Multigenerational estate planning

When two branches of the same family were looking to sell a significant part of their landed estate and extend a solar lease on a second estate, they required extensive estate planning advice to structure the deal to maximise available tax reliefs and to consider issues regarding the succession of the estates.

Our Private Wealth team, made up of specialists from our private client, corporate and agriculture and landed estates departments, worked together to comprehensively advise the family. Alongside managing the sale and lease extension, the team implemented multiple solutions to support their objectives, including creating a new post-1995 Agricultural Holding Act tenancy, increasing the rate of agricultural property relief to 100% and ensuring business asset disposal relief was available to minimise Capital Gains Tax.

Long-term succession plans were also secured by creating a family settlement over assets relieved from Inheritance Tax prior to sale and transferring shares in the solar company to the next generation. By preparing a family constitution, the family were able to clearly set out how their remaining business and landed interests should be managed in years to come.

The final piece of the jigsaw saw the team fully review and update the family's Wills to maximise all relevant reliefs and allow appropriate provisions for the next generation.

For advice on getting the most for your assets, now and in the future, contact:

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