

Karen Hughes

Partner
London

Biography

With a passion for problem solving, Karen combines both knowledge and energy in tackling complex tax issues for her clients. Seen by her clients as the 'go to' person for corporate tax advice in M&A, business restructurings and international tax planning, she enjoys a challenge and rises to it. In an area renowned for its complexity and constant change, she cuts through all that. She understands how precious time is in the modern world. Nobody wants to wade through dense tax advice - it is about getting to the solution! The result is tax clients who value her clear and incisive approach and business clients who applaud her 'non-techie' talk.

She has most definitely earned her reputation as 'the acceptable face of tax'. It is then no surprise that her talents have been recognized, leading the teams which won the International Tax Review prestigious awards of 'European M&A Tax Deal of the Year 2014' and 'European Joint Venture Tax Deal of the Year 2015'.

Chambers describes her as 'switched-on' and 'a star in her own right' who 'works tirelessly to deliver what is needed'. Legal 500 says that she combines 'excellent technical capabilities' with a 'broad knowledge of business' to give 'insightful advice'.

Karen co-leads our global Tax, Pensions & Benefits



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Languages

English

Practices

Tax

Industries

Consumer
Energy and Natural Resources
Financial Institutions
Technology & Telecoms
Private Capital

practice and is a member of the Hogan Lovells' Corporate & Finance leadership team, a global management team focused on the business strategy of the worldwide Corporate & Finance practice group.

Representative experience

SABMiller on the A\$11.5bn acquisition of Fosters and its US\$1.9bn strategic alliance with Anadolou Efes.

Straumur-Burdaras Investment Bank on the €2.3bn restructuring of creditor claims pursuant to an Icelandic court-approved composition agreement.

CH2M Hill on its £123m recommended acquisition of Halcrow Holdings Ltd.

Rift Acquisitions Ltd on the £1.2bn acquisition of three UK water businesses from Veolia Environment.

Christian Salvesen on its £254m recommended takeover by Groupe Nobert Dentressangle.

Kodak Pension Plan on the US\$650m acquisition of the Rockford and Walden businesses from the Kodak Group.

Liberty Global on the disposal of its international content division, Chellomedia, to AMC Networks Inc. for \$1bn.

Advised HC2 Holdings, Inc. on the US\$250m sale of Global Marine Group, an offshore engineering services provider of which HC2 indirectly owned approx. 73%, to J.F. Lehman & Co.

Awards and rankings

- Hall of Fame, Corporate Tax, *Legal 500*, 2020
- Tax, *Chambers UK*, 2020

Latest thinking and events

- Analysis
 - Negotiating M&A transactions in the COVID-19 era:

Areas of focus

Business Restructuring and Tax
International Tax Planning
M&A and Tax
Stamp Tax
Value Chain Optimization

Education and admissions

Education

LL.B., University of Manchester
M.Phil., University of Manchester

Accolades

'Clients characterise her as "knowledgeable and practical" and praise her "solution-oriented" approach.'

Chambers UK, 2020

navigating new opportunities in uncertain waters

- Hogan Lovells Publications
 - Coronavirus (COVID-19) | Summary of Key International Tax Measures
- Hogan Lovells Publications
 - Doing Business in the UK: Consumer Sector 2020
- Press Releases
 - Hogan Lovells team advises Global Marine Group in sale to J.F. Lehman & Company for US\$250 million
- Analysis
 - What dealmakers need to know about the UK election result and its impact on UK investing in 2020
- Press Releases
 - Hogan Lovells appoints new Board members in 2019