

WINNER

DLA Piper Rudnick Gray Cary

MARK BEARDWOOD

Kings Waterfront Redevelopment

DLA Piper celebrated its return to the English Partnerships panel with a bang. The redevelopment of Liverpool's Kings Waterfront is a cornerstone of the city's overall regeneration as part of its Capital of Culture 2008 status.

A ten-year project began in 2005 with a £146m state-of-the-art arena, conference and exhibition centre, itself an essential facility of the Capital of Culture exposition, a project with intense time pressures as a result. It required negotiations over bespoke funding arrangements, title and site issues, a CPO of adjoining land, all aspects of real estate, and made full use of the firm's depth of resources in property law. Not only that, it was an exclusively Liverpool-based team acting on a flagship project in the city. DLA Piper, in its previous guises, has been active on the redevelopment of the Liverpool South Docks for 25 years. The fact that it has continued to do so throughout all its changes proves that, while a global network is one thing, this international giant still makes its local projects a priority.



L-R: Gail Keville, Mark Beardwood, Kate Creer, and CLI's Kevin Richardson

LEGAL BUSINESS AWARDS FACTFILE... LEGAL BUSINESS AWARDS FACTFILE... LEGAL BUSINESS AWARDS FACTFILE... LEGAL BUSINESS AWARDS FACTFILE...

Previous winners of this award have included: SJ BERWIN in 2005; LINKLATERS in 2004; CLIFFORD CHANCE in 2003

HIGHLY COMMENDED

BERWIN LEIGHTON PAISNER

Peter Rudolf

Rudolf's team showed why BLP is one of the foremost firms in the UK for regeneration projects, having advised ING Real Estate Development UK on the Hull city centre project. The development of the 530,000 sq ft, £200m St Stephen's shopping centre was an old-fashioned, bricks and mortar real estate deal that the firm has been acting on for eight years, showing commitment and flexibility.

LOVELLS

Bob Kidby

Of £2bn-worth of deals for key client PruPIM during 2005, Kidby's team oversaw a joint venture transaction for two shopping centres worth a total of £653m, making full use of the Mexican Wave. The deal saw Liberty take a 50% stake in both centres, allowing Prudential to retain the management of the assets while maximising their value, the holy grail of modern real estate.

NABARRO NATHANSON

Andrew Banton

The growth of Banton's practice over the past four years has been astonishing, and a stunning 2005 saw him win 12 pitches out of 12. These included high-

profile retail work for Whole Foods, in its acquisition of Barkers in Kensington, and Apple's opening of six retail outlets, while the redevelopment of Dorking town centre and site assembly for an office building in London displayed the all-round real estate skills that are Nabarro's hallmark.

NORTON ROSE

Lindsay Morgan

In probably the biggest single real estate deal of the year, Morgan and her team advised ING Real Estate Investment Management on the acquisition and financing of the Scottish Mutual and Scottish Provident portfolios from Abbey for £1.3bn. A huge and complex deal was structured as five different GPUs, and part of the portfolio was immediately the subject of an IPO to launch the listed property fund.

SLAUGHTER AND MAY

Graham White

Slaughter and May has a rising reputation. In a year of huge and prestigious deals, the pinnacle of the firm's achievements was the mandate to advise Whitbread on a £1bn joint venture with Marriott in readiness for the sale of the Marriott portfolio. The firm handled the joint venture on the associated financing, which raised £660m, as well as the real estate due diligence.



Bring me sunshine

And we will. Whenever you contact us with a legal indemnity enquiry you can be confident of a fast, efficient service, all backed up by the largest team of underwriting experts and widest range of covers available. For more details on how we can brighten your day, simply contact us by phone, fax or online.



www.countrywidelegal.co.uk

01603 617617

The company that revolves around you

For advice, premium indications or an information pack, please contact:
Countrywide Legal Indemnities, St Crispins, Duke Street, Norwich NR3 1PD
Telephone 01603 617617 Fax 01603 622933 DX 5261 Norwich
Email enquiries@countrywidelegal.co.uk

All policies underwritten on behalf of Liberty Legal Indemnities at Lloyd's
Countrywide Legal Indemnities is authorised and regulated by the Financial Services Authority,
Firm Reference Number 311764