



The Stephenson Harwood team with Alex Liddle of Coutts

PRIVATE CLIENT TEAM OF THE YEAR

Sponsored by Coutts

STEPHENSON HARWOOD

JAMES QUARMBY

EXCEPTIONAL PERFORMANCE FROM A GLOBAL TEAM

In a highly successful year for Stephenson Harwood's London private wealth team, it posted a 73% fee-income increase for 2016/17 and followed this up with the recruitment of two partners and three associates. The international core private wealth team continues to significantly grow, reporting a 96.5% fee-income increase (from financial year 2015/16 to 2016/17).

The group has impressed with its work for a number of foreign family offices and ultra-high-net-worth individuals, including

advising on novel will and trust structures for an individual's worldwide multi-billion dollar estate. In addition, team leader Quarmby led an active media campaign in the wake of the Paradise Papers affair to take a stance on the misreporting of offshore tax 'evasion' as well as contributing widely to the transparency debate, advocating strongly that public registers of beneficial ownership can infringe human rights.

HIGHLY COMMENDED

IRWIN MITCHELL

CLARE WISEMAN

Building on its frequent exposure to landmark cases, which saw this team pick up this award in the previous two years, Irwin Mitchell has impressed in recent cross-border divorce cases, including issues that were previously untested in the UK the high-profile case of *Brack*, which covers cross-border matters in the UK, Sweden and USA. Moreover, the firm has made a further impression in international and domestic tax issues for ultra-high net worth individuals.

COMMENDED

BAKER MCKENZIE

ASHLEY CROSSLEY

The firm's wealth management team has particularly impressed in the Middle East, advising on a major asset structuring

project for an extremely high-profile and wealthy family, which involved establishing a series of private trust company structures that demanded particular attention to local Sharia succession rules.

CHARLES RUSSELL SPEECHLYS

ANDREW CAMERON

Key to the firm's wider business, the private client division now holds 45 partners and 120 other fee-earners. The international sub-group has been especially active in non-dom tax issues, offshore trusts and residential property. The team has also impressed in major trusts issues, including complex offshore structures for UK-based and international clients.

HARBOTTLE & LEWIS

DAVID SCOTT

Leveraging its leading media and privacy law practice for private clients and

further developing its standing in multi-jurisdictional tax and succession planning, the firm heightened its standing with the hire of partners Catherine Bedford, Nicholas Westley, Mark Irving and four associates from Lee & Thompson to its family team.

MACFARLANES

PIERS BARCLAY

UK-based Macfarlanes has worked hard to develop its contacts with firms in other jurisdictions in this practice area. It has launched a series of initiatives to achieve this, including a private client symposium for international lawyers and team secondments to other jurisdictions. It also hired Clarissa Lyons, a charity and philanthropy specialist, and Jenny Bird, a cross-border succession expert and qualified notary, to the team.

APPLAUDING THE EXCEPTIONAL.

Congratulations to Stephenson Harwood,
winner of the Private Client Team of the Year Award.

