



The Network Rail legal team with Nyembo Mwarabu of Conduent

IN-HOUSE TEAM OF THE YEAR

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NETWORK RAIL CATHY CRICK

A SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTION, EXPERTLY HANDLED

General counsel (property) Cathy Crick has overseen her team's work on Project Condor, which completed towards the end of 2018. This landmark sale of Network Rail's commercial estate portfolio included over 5,200 units across England and Wales to Blackstone and Telereal Trillium, and was one of the largest real estate deals ever in the UK, raising £1.46bn to invest in the future of UK's railways. As such, an in-house team of the highest calibre was required.

Fortunately for Network Rail, Project Condor was part of wider disposal programme to sell non-essential Network Rail land that has been continuing since 2016. The programme was supported by a nine-strong multi-disciplinary in-house legal team led by Crick, which has to date involved five law firms. Throughout all this, the strength, quality and resilience of the legal team has been praised externally and internally while it has managed to successfully bring together all key stakeholders and guide them through the process.

COMMENDED

AIG

CHRIS NEWBY

Three major projects dominated the workload of Newby's 140-strong legal team throughout 2018. There was GDPR and an European Union Insurance Distribution Directive to deal with, as well as a headline Brexit transaction the insurer announced in April 2018: splitting its European business between two new entities in Luxembourg and the UK to ensure little disruption to its coverage when Britain exits the EU.

BARCLAYS

BOB HOYT

The in-house legal department of more than 750 staff at global banking giant Barclays, led by global GC Bob Hoyt, completed a radical overhaul of its

management of external law firms ahead of a long-planned move away from formal panel arrangements by 2021. The new model is touted as replacing resource-intensive adviser reviews with an ongoing relationship management system. In-house legal department savings generated are believed to run into the tens of millions of pounds as a result of the changes.

LONDON STOCK EXCHANGE

CATHERINE JOHNSON

Thanks to general counsel Catherine Johnson's managed legal service initiative, where entire high-volume aspects of the legal function are outsourced to Lawyers On Demand and Axiom, the in-house team at LSE exclusively consists of experienced lawyers who add value. Encouraged to engage at board level and to run transactions from the very beginning while

not being siloed into one geography or practice area, job satisfaction within the team is very high.

WORLDPAY

RUWAN DE SOYZA

The in-house legal team at Worldpay has drawn praise for its perseverance in the face of a highly stressful year. After the world's biggest payment processing merger with Vantiv in 2018, the team has had to contend with significant movement of people, staff and products, as well as the not insignificant task of Brexit planning and an exponential rise in regulation. Not dropping any balls throughout the process is a significant achievement for a team launched from scratch six years ago.



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