



Alex Little of Coutts with Damian Bloom and Murray North of BCLP

PRIVATE CLIENT TEAM OF THE YEAR

Sponsored by Coutts

BRYAN CAVE LEIGHTON PAISNER DAMIAN BLOOM

A TRULY GLOBAL PRACTICE

The firm now offers a truly global practice following its 2018 transatlantic merger. It has private client teams in Europe, US, Middle East and Asia and has made a particular impression in Shari'a compliant succession planning structures; a senior associate is now spending extended periods in Abu Dhabi and Dubai as the firm seeks to extend its offering to Middle East-based clients. It also continues to lead in real estate matters for private clients, including directly held, diversified and corporatised residential real estate.

The firm says it is the first and only law firm practising family law with its own in-house forensic accounting and data processing, hosting and document review capability and as such lays claim to be leaders in the field in the use of predictive coding technology utilising AI for electronic disclosure. BCLP has also designed an app to help individuals/their advisers determine UK tax residence status.

HIGHLY COMMENDED STEPHENSON HARWOOD JAMES QUARMBY

The London private wealth team achieved a 20% fee-income increase in the last financial year on the back of key highlights, including substantial victories in *Gany Holdings v Khan & ors*; and *Rangoonwala v Khan & ors*, setting a precedent for the advancement of trust assets and clarifying the existing law on trustee's discretion.

COMMENDED CHARLES RUSSELL SPEECHLYS ANDREW CAMERON

The firm underlined its commitment to the practice with the appointment of four new partners in 2018, following the launch of a Hong Kong office in 2017 and expansion in Switzerland. Recent highlights include advising an ultra-high net-worth family and trustees on the disposal of high-value property interests to the family's property management company.

COLLYER BRISTOW JAMES BADCOCK

The hire of experienced family law partner Tanya Roberts from Charles Russell Speechlys was a major fillip for this City firm. It also advised a long-term client on wealth structures involving six offshore trusts along with underlying companies, having a total value of £1.4bn.

McDERMOTT WILL & EMERY ZIVA ROBERTSON

The firm successfully represented Truchot Trustees in obtaining a highly favourable judgment in an unusual case before the Chancery Court. The team managed to set aside potentially disastrous litigation on the basis that the client had no knowledge of the litigation and the firms representing it were doing so without proper authority.

WOMBLE BOND DICKINSON NEIL LONG

The UK private wealth division saw revenue grow by 11% in the last financial year and, following the merger with Womble Carlyle in 2017, the team has seen a significant increase in engagements from US-based private banks and financial institutions, including advising a family with a net worth of over £1bn on succession planning.



APPLAUDING THE EXCEPTIONAL

Congratulations to Bryan Cave Leighton Paisner,
winner of Private Client Team of the Year Award.

Coutts