



Waste, recycling and resource management

**Browne
Jacobson**

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The waste, recycling and resource management sector has a significant role to play in the net zero agenda. The Climate Change Committee Carbon Budget Report in 2020 warned that unless new policies were implemented urgently, the waste sector could generate ‘substantial’ emissions and recommended an acceleration of the UK territorial emissions 80% target by 15 years.

At Browne Jacobson we are committed to supporting our clients across a wide array of transactions and generally navigating through the opportunities and challenges which are fast arising in this sector – including rising fuel prices, increased cost pressures, surging inflation and legislative developments.

We are increasingly seeing clients refer to and focus upon the concept of a circular economy. The implication of such an approach will require major waste reforms which will be central to developments in the sector over the coming years and require measures to be taken across the entire value chain from production/consumption to waste and resource management. Driven and continued investment in UK recycling capacity and capability together with the innovation, development and scale-up of new technologies will also be required. There are also significant infrastructure assets, equipment and fleets within the delivery chain resulting in an increased focus on fleet electrification, the use (and integration) of climate/clean/infra-tech and renewable energy resources/alternatives to drive ‘green’ ambitions.

Waste authorities and contractors alike will need to come to terms with the implications of the Environment Act 2021, which has introduced several new measures affecting both waste collection and disposal, particularly in the recycling and reuse of food waste, plastics and bottles.

Separate weekly food collections will soon be required and the introduction of deposit return schemes will present opportunities for the public to recycle drinks containers and cans. We are advising our public and private sector clients on how to implement these changes in their current contracts and how to make the best use of the opportunities presented.

Waste to Energy Projects are fundamental to the long term strategy of landfill diversion through the processing and treatment of waste and providing in many cases a source of renewable energy generation. The UK has been a prominent market for waste projects and our team of waste experts have advised on numerous waste projects.

Our extensive waste experience enables us to provide full service legal advice underpinned by specialist sector and asset specific knowledge. We understand the variety of waste types, different processing techniques and their associated technologies and technical terms commonly used in this sector, enabling us to deliver pragmatic and commercial advice to our clients ‘in their language’.

We are proud to support our clients in delivering essential transactions in this sector which continue to drive a direct and positive impact on economic, environmental and social prosperity.



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Browne Jacobson, at a glance

“Flourishing practice noted for its representation of clients such as contractors and employers. Experienced in both national and international projects, in both contentious and non-contentious contexts.”

Chambers

Full-service offering

We provide a one-stop shop offering within the waste, recycling and resource management sector including in respect of regulatory, procurement, planning, permitting and authorisation issues, the raising of equity and debt capital, development, everyday operational aspects (including in respect of the ongoing commercial agreements with governments, license agreements and securing/protecting essential IP) and the sale/ acquisition of such assets/businesses including the provision of sector focussed advice around asset level legal due diligence.

Expert teams

Our industry experts provide constructive, innovative and pragmatic advice which addresses and anticipates the wide variety of issues which can arise during transactions. We believe that connection gets results, makes all parties stronger and is central to the Browne Jacobson approach. We're excited to be growing our relationships with clients, working collaboratively and forging connections in what is likely to be a period of rapid innovation and development for the sector.

Working together

We're a founding member of Pangea Net and its specialised energy and renewables group. Pangea Net is a non-exclusive network of full-service law firms across the globe, giving our clients to access high-quality, specialist advice, efficiently and cost effectively.

The first law firm to become an official partner to O Shaped, an innovative movement with a mission to drive positive change within the legal sector and promote greater collaboration between law firms and their clients.





Our value proposition

Partner led

We believe in smaller, partner led teams – but we can field significant resources when required.

Sector expertise

Our advice is underpinned by sector and asset specific knowledge and experience.

Solution oriented

We believe that legal and commercial issues should be met with solutions.

Commercial

We add commercial value through providing innovative, practical and thoughtful advice.

Collaborative

We understand the intricacies of transactions in this sector and as such we approach transactions in a collaborative and open minded manner.

Timely completion

We are focussed on achieving your deadlines and transaction milestones.

Commitment

We are committed to helping you achieve your transactional aims and ensuring you only pay for value.

Strategic partner

We strive to build long-term relationships with our clients, recognising this will require investment and energy.

Explore our services



“The multiple [Browne Jacobson] teams involved successfully collaborated to give us strong commercial advice whilst their deep-seated experience of working on big infrastructure and real estate projects, and their expertise in the energy and waste space really came through.”

Andrew Howie, Commercial Director at Covanta Europe

Services

The multifaceted nature of this sector means our clients demand a one-stop shop offering. We offer a full service practice consisting of:

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| Projects (inc PFI/PPP) |
| Banking and finance |
| Corporate |
| Commercial contracts |
| EPC/Construction |
| Real estate and planning |
| Regulatory |
| Environment and climate change |
| IT and IP |

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| Litigation and disputes |
| Technology |
| Insurance |
| Procurement and subsidy control |
| Tax |
| Energy |
| Health and safety |
| Digital and outsourcing |

Our International reach

We maintain close working relationships with leading lawyers in other jurisdictions through the Pangea Net global network and with firms that we've identified as being the best in their markets. This enables our clients with overseas interests and international clients to access high quality, specialist legal advice efficiently and cost-effectively.



“The firm demonstrated real depth across its energy and infrastructure practice in assisting the delivery of a string of high profile and complicated transactions for us.”

Igneo Infrastructure Partners

“They are absolutely excellent – they provide very pragmatic, commercial advice, not just straight law but in a commercial manner.”

Chambers & Partners

200+
Firms connected
worldwide



Relevant experience



Advising Suez SA and its shareholders on its £2 billion acquisition of its former UK waste business – Suez Recycling and Recovery UK – from Veolia.



Advised Igneo Infrastructure Partners on their £995m acquisition of an Energy-from-Waste portfolio from SSE PLC

Advised Igneo Infrastructure Partners on their acquisition of the entirety of Wheelabrator UK from Macquarie.



Advised Covanta Energy on the commercial elements of the construction of an IBA treatment facility at Wellingborough, providing an efficient IBA solution for its Energy-from-Waste plant



Advising Enfinium in connection with its EfW portfolio operations.



Advised Sims Metal Management on the regulations governing the operation of recycling schemes from retail outlets and community facilities.



Advising two Councils in relation to the operation and associated disputes in connection with an EfW PPP project.



Acting for Harlow District Council in relation to a waste dispute and Bassetlaw District Council in relation to a recycling centre which was operating in breach of its environmental permits. The Council took enforcement action and we advised on next steps (including c.£3m of remedial works required).



Advising the four Councils on various contracts, variations to contracts and contract interpretation. This has included a substantial food and green waste procurement, and SLWP intend to appoint us to advise on an upcoming workstream including governance arrangements in relation to the partnership itself, and also replacement of current waste collection, treatment and disposal contracts.



Advised a global infrastructure Management in connection with their proposed purchase of Suez UK's recycling and recovery business.



Advised Roar B2B on its acquisition of Environment Media Group cementing it as the UK's leading media group operating in the UK's environment and waste sector.



Advised on the £30m sale of Nottinghamshire based waste business, Oakwood Fuels Limited, to DCC Environmental Britain Limited.



Advising leading mid-market private equity firm LDC on its investment in Stonbury – the leading UK water (including wastewater and associated treatment systems) and environmental sustainability specialist.



Appointed as general adviser to the authority, which covers waste disposal functions in the areas of Kensington and Chelsea, Hammersmith and Fulham, Lambeth and Wandsworth.



Advising 6 local authorities on their Recycling Partnership with Amey Cespa and subsequent advice relating to novation.



Advising the council on its procurement of a new waste collection contract.



Advising recycling corporate Recresco upon legislative requirements for carbon credits under the UK EU Emissions Trading Scheme.



Advising T&WC in connection with operational environmental matters at the Greenway Waste Facility.



Advising Argent Energy in respect of their operational needs.

Key contacts

“They deliver real added value and they don’t just think about the legal problem before them, but also the overall strategic issues.”

Chambers



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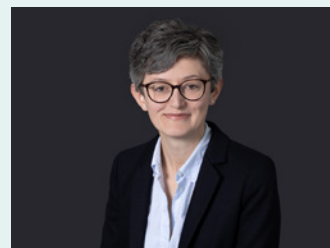
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