

March 2023

Partnerships and limited liability partnerships (LLPs)

Operating a partnership or LLP can be as challenging as it is exhilarating; with a host of practical and legal issues to consider throughout the lifecycle of the business.

A Partnership or LLP is so much more than a vehicle through which to conduct business – more than just a Partnership Agreement or LLP Deed. It is an identity, a culture and a melting pot of ideas and energy, often combined with politics and tensions.

“Whilst the legal understanding is as you would expect from a leading firm of advisors, the ability to relate to the cultural and operational challenges that exist within an LLP is where the true value is added. Empathetic, pragmatic advice based on knowledge, listening and experience.”

Lifecycle – key areas of advice

1 Before

- Partnership and LLP Agreements – drafting, interpreting, amending – and running the process to get support
- Capital and funding structure
- Tax and employment status
- Governance, authority, restrictions and member duties

2 During

- Leadership/Coaching support
- Dispute resolution, mediation and alternative dispute resolution (ADR)
- Employment / HR Services – including contract and policy documents, immigration and reorganisations
- Investigations / disciplinary processes – conduct or training
- Reputation management
- Intellectual property (IP) / website

3 After

- M&A
- Departure arrangements, enforcement of restrictive covenants and consultancy arrangements and IR-35 issues
- Closure and insolvency processes and closing account disputes

Talk to us



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Our team

Iain Blatherwick leads the team, bringing his experience of 11 years as managing partner at Browne Jacobson – a period which saw the firm grow beyond all recognition, but which also had more than its fair share of challenges. Throughout his career Iain has advised partnership and LLP clients. He is now also a qualified executive coach and keen to work with people in leadership positions, fully understanding the pressure and sometimes loneliness of the role and the responsibilities which go with it.

Partners Ian Deakin and Paul Kirkpatrick and Legal Director Dawn Lobley bring a wealth of experience to the lead team around topics such as partner status, capital needs, disputes, restrictive covenants, conduct issues and investigations.

“Response times were quick and documentation and correspondence was clear. The matter was resolved swiftly and with a very positive outcome. I would have no hesitation in recommending Paul and Browne Jacobson as their understanding of the profession was excellent.”

Simon Atkins,
Partner – Head of Risk, Cooper Parry