



Transport

Through our worldwide offices, we advise clients in the transportation sector on multijurisdictional transactions across many legal disciplines. Our dedicated transport teams provide legal services to support clients in industries including aviation, highways, bus, rail, ports and shipping, as well as international trade issues.

DLA Piper's global transport team has acted on many projects internationally, across a wide range, on behalf of funders, consortia, authorities, vehicle suppliers and operators. As a result, we understand issues specific to the sector and have seen ways that the issues and risks relating to each transport industry can be successfully addressed to satisfy authority and funder concerns. Our broad experience means that we can view issues from the perspective of all interested parties, allowing negotiation of effective solutions.

CAPABILITIES

Our lawyers can apply lessons and business models that are sensitive to the risk profile and available investment returns in any location across any industry:

Aviation

DLA Piper has extensive experience in the aviation and airport sector and has advised clients in relation to numerous complex transactions globally in this sector. We provide support in all areas where the law touches aviation, with particular reference to regulation, liability and risk, commercial disputes and air finance.

Our lawyers are recognised as being highly skilled and accomplished in these areas of law. Our lawyers' wide range of experience covers both greenfield development and rehabilitation of existing facilities, acquisition and sale, operational and aviation aspects, airport concessions and airport financings, including all aspects of project financing and financing of operational requirements. We have advised governments and local authorities, sponsors and lenders in a number of transactions in the UK and internationally.

Bus

We regularly advise transport authorities (including passenger transport executives) on matters relating to the delivery of bus services. In the UK, we have particularly strong experience of advising on scheme delivery under the Transport Act 2000, including advising authorities regarding the legal and strategic implications of implementation of quality contracts. We have direct experience

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RELATED SERVICES

- Public Private Partnerships and PFI

of advising authorities both practically and legally on the implementation of: quality partnership schemes; voluntary partnership arrangements; qualifying agreements between operators; and ticketing schemes.

Heavy rail

What really sets us apart in the heavy rail sphere is the range of our experience – we act for rail operators bidding for franchises, existing franchisees, passenger transport authorities, freight operators, rolling stock leasing companies and promoters of infrastructure projects.

Highways

Working with both authorities, sponsors and funders of highway infrastructure projects we have worked on road, bridge and tunnel concessions. We have experience across the full range of payment mechanisms – real toll or shadow toll, payments based on availability of the enhanced and existing infrastructure, safety enhancement and performance based regimes.

Light rail

Affordability and creating innovative funding solutions are at the heart of delivering a successful light rail project. With a team that has worked on many such schemes, at all stages, from feasibility to design, construction, financing, vehicle procurement, operations and maintenance, we offer support on issues such as funding and procurement strategy, the requirement for statutory powers, the acquisition of land, and the appropriate allocation of risk.

Marine

Our marine team has been providing a pragmatic, cost effective, speedy and responsive service to its clients for over 100 years. Our team has been appointed to the legal panels of a number of marine insurers, P&I clubs, port authorities across Europe and the Far East and a UK government agency. Our international coverage means we can also draw on a worldwide team of experts who have first-hand understanding of specific marine markets. This means that we can provide detailed, high quality local advice whilst avoiding the duplication of effort (and cost) that often happens when instructing outside lawyers.

Ports

We understand the risks associated with having fixed assets in a global market and offer legal advice delivered within a strong commercial framework wherever your business operates. We advise port operators – including the world's largest ports company – specialist port and dredging contractors, shipping companies and insurers. Through our international offices we provide local knowledge about the rapidly changing worldwide market, requirements to comply with increasingly stringent environmental controls, and the requirements of competition law in various markets.

EXPERIENCE

- Agility Trains Limited (a consortium comprising Hitachi Rail Europe Ltd and John Laing Investments Limited) on the award-winning Intercity Express Programme (IEP). IEP is both the biggest privately financed rolling stock deal in history, anywhere in the world, and one of the largest, most ambitious and complex PPP projects to date. Agility, advised by HSBC and DLA Piper, helped create a structure that enabled approximately £2.5 billion of senior debt to be provided with a long term tenor approaching 30 years by four groups of lenders.
- Nottingham City Council in the UK in connection with the design, construction, finance and commissioning of Phase Two of the Nottingham Express Transit system which includes two new lines to create an integrated network and any future extensions, together with the operation and maintenance of the entire extended network including NET Line One over a period of approximately 23 years. Unusually, this complex £570m PFI project also involved a corporate acquisition by a local authority of the incumbent concessionaire. DLA Piper was commended for its role in this project in the FT's 'Most Innovative Firms in Finance Law' awards 2012.
- Sheffield City Council in the UK in respect of their £2 billion highways maintenance and street lighting PFI project, which deals with the rehabilitation and ongoing maintenance of over 2,000 km of carriageways and footways, 350 bridges and other structures. Financial close was reached in Summer 2012 with Amey, its private sector contractor, for a 25 year contract.
- The Administrative Agent and the senior bank lenders to the Pocahontas Parkway tollway project in Virginia, in connection with

the 'take back the keys' by the lenders, restructuring of debt and equity, and tax structuring for a mix of cross-border, public and private side lenders, including TIFIA.

- The consortium led by D.M. Consunji Inc on the AUD\$1.2 billion Manila LRT Line 1 Extension, Operation and Maintenance PPP. This project will involve a vertically integrated rail operation and maintenance PPP for 35 years (including the design and construction phase). This project, which is classified as a 'Priority Project' under the Philippines' PPP Program, will extend the existing 20.7 km LRT Line 1 by an additional 11.7 km, of which approximately 10.5 km will be elevated and 1.2 km will be at-grade. Once completed, it is expected that the ridership of LRT Line 1 will increase from 500,000 to 700,000 passengers per day. It is intended that the project cost will be equally split between the private sector and the government.
- Queensland Rail on the contract methodology and procurement process for the provision and implementation of the European Train Control System Level 2 (ETCSL), a signalling and rail management system for the largest rail operator in the Southern Hemisphere. The procurement was structured as a two stage Early Contractor Involvement (ECI) process to identify global and local rail service providers who could participate in collaborative workshops to develop inter-operability rules necessary for inter-operation of multiple work package interfaces including telecommunication, trackside infrastructure, on-board computing and network management systems.
- AGC as international legal advisers for the Bangkok Integrated Ticketing System Project in Thailand, which involves the development and implementation of a common ticketing system, central clearing house, and the creation and modification of front-end systems to support the phased rollout of a smart card for the Bangkok Mass Transit system. It is currently anticipated that the ticketing system will cover use of existing highway infrastructure, rail, bus and ferry networks and may be rolled out to non-transport operators as the Project matures. With an existing metropolitan population of over 14 million, and an anticipated patronage of some 10 million passengers per day, this Project represents a significant investment in public transport infrastructure for Thailand by the Thai Government, supported by international funding.
- London Luton Airport Limited (a public airport company owned by Luton Borough Council) in relation to all aspects of the development and concession arrangements at Luton Airport, including advising on the master plan process and competition and procurement issues. Our advice covered the impact of the development options on the current concession framework and the structuring and development options with the concessionaire.
- The European Investment Bank and the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development in relation to the financing of new infrastructure development in Chisinau Airport in Moldova. As well as advising on the financing of the development and the related supporting documents, we also advised on all aspects of the direct agreement arrangements.
- The preferred bidder, the Vinci-led consortium, following its successful bid for the Euro 2 billion Oosterweel PPP tunnel and bridge project (Antwerp). This consists of a tunnel under the river Schelde and a bridge over part of the harbour of Antwerp. The work included analysing both the risk allocation of the DBFM contract and the complex split public/private sector funding proposal.
- A DLA Piper cross-border team, led from London and including teams in Budapest and Frankfurt acted for the lead arrangers as common counsel on the project financing of the acquisition of Budapest Airport. The Hungarian Government launched the high profile tender in 2005 for the sale of a majority stake in Budapest Airport following a very tight schedule. The non-recourse project financing for this project, €1.52 billion, was the biggest to have closed in Hungary.
- The Lend Lease and Bouygues joint venture as preferred bidder for the Design & Construction of the NorthConnex motorway tunnel PPP project in Sydney, Australia. The Project involves the construction and operation of a \$2.65 billion nine kilometre tolled link from the southern end of the M1 Pacific Motorway at Wahroonga to the Hills M2 Motorway at its existing Pennant Hills Road interchange. The construction elements include for two new dual lane carriageways; an interchange at the northern and southern end of the motorway; a motorway control centre including operation and maintenance facilities; a toll collection system; ventilation system and all other associated property works, utility service works and local area works. The aim is to reduce traffic congestion and the number of heavy vehicles on Pennant Hills Road, resulting in improved safety, local air quality and noise amenity along the corridor.

INSIGHTS

Publications

Infra

8 October 2019

Using technology to improve infrastructure development and procurement. By dimitri papaefstratiou, partner, dla piper and vicky kefalas, head of investments, developments and projects at consolidated contractors company (ccc), the middle eastern

construction conglomerate.

EU Policy & Regulatory Alert - EU Publishes Artificial Intelligence Ethics Guidelines

12 APR 2019

On 8 April 2019, the EU's High-Level Expert Group ("AI HLEG") on Artificial Intelligence ("AI") published the much-anticipated "Ethics Guidelines for Trustworthy AI", setting out a horizontal framework for the development and deployment of ethical and robust AI systems across the EU

NEWS

DLA Piper advises Ireland's NTR on PPA as part of financing of Swedish wind project

7 February 2020

DLA Piper has advised Irish renewable energy investment firm NTR on a power purchase agreement (PPA) with a European utility as part of its financing of 94MW of wind projects in Sweden and Finland. NTR acquired these portfolio projects, called VindIn, in 2019, a transaction in which DLA Piper also advised on.

Pressure on corporate responsibility driving deal flow in renewable energy sector

18 December 2019

Increased pressure on corporate companies to have better 'green' credentials and the end of Government incentives has seen the number of subsidy-free renewable energy projects increase by more than 1,000 per cent since 2013, according to research from global law firm DLA Piper, using data from inspiratia.

DLA Piper named Firm Of The Year for Projects, Energy & Natural Resources by Legal 500 UK Awards 2020

11 December 2019

DLA Piper has been named as 'Firm of The Year' for Projects, Energy & Natural Resources by the Legal 500 UK Awards 2020.

DLA Piper cross-border team supports Hitachi on its recent GBP400m rolling stock project for The East Midlands

22 August 2019

DLA Piper has advised Hitachi Rail Limited on the GBP400 million contract to build a new fleet of intercity trains for Abellio as part of the East Midlands Railway franchise.

DLA Piper recognised at Partnerships Awards for its role on the Bridge Power Project in Ghana

10 MAY 2019

DLA Piper has been acknowledged for its role advising on the vendor financing for Stage 1 of the 400MW CCGT Bridge Power Project (the Bridge Project) in Ghana at the 2019 Partnerships Awards, held on 9 May 2019 in London.

DLA Piper advises the UK government on Heathrow expansion

3 MAY 2019

DLA Piper has successfully advised the Department for Transport (DfT) on the Heathrow expansion project for the new third runway.

DLA Piper boosts project finance offering with partner hire in London

3 APR 2019

DLA Piper today announces that project finance lawyer Nacim Bounouara has joined the firm as a partner in its Finance and Projects practice, based in London.

DLA Piper announces partnership promotions for 2019

1 APR 2019

DLA Piper is proud to announce that 77 lawyers have been promoted to its partnership. The promotions are effective as of April 1, 2019 in the United States and May 1, 2019 for EMEA and Asia Pacific. The promotions were made across many of the firm's practice areas in 43 different offices throughout 20 countries.

DLA Piper expands new Dublin office with four-partner hire

9 JAN 2019

DLA Piper today announces the appointment of four new partners from highly-regarded Irish firms to its newly opened Dublin office into four key practice areas of Finance and Projects (F&P), Corporate, Intellectual Property and Technology (IPT) and Employment. These hires follow the appointment of Corporate partner David Carthy as Ireland Country Managing Partner in May 2018.

DLA Piper advises Palisade on acquisition of equity stake in HCL fiber optic cable business

14 September

DLA Piper has advised Palisade Investment Partners Limited (Palisade), on behalf of funds that it manages, on the acquisition of a significant equity stake with board representation in HCL Limited Partnership, HCL LP General Partner Limited and International Connectivity Services Limited.

DLA Piper launches Renewable Energy in Africa Guide

19 JUN 2018

DLA Piper's global Energy practice has today launched Renewable Energy in Africa, a major new guide for clients.

DLA Piper receives *Latin Lawyer* Deal of the Year award

25 APR 2018

DLA Piper received *Latin Lawyer's* Project Finance Deal of the Year award for its representation of Abengoa in the sale of a combined cycle power plant to a consortium consisting of Macquarie Capital and Techint.

DLA Piper announces partnership promotions for 2018

3 APR 2018

DLA Piper is proud to announce that 62 lawyers have been promoted to its partnership. The promotions are effective as of 1 April 2018 in the United States and 1 May 2018 for EMEA and Asia Pacific. The promotions were made across many of the firm's practice areas in 42 different offices throughout 20 countries.

Stoneway Capital awarded *Project Finance International* 2017 Latin America Deal of the Year

23 MAR 2018

DLA Piper is pleased to announce that their client, Stoneway Capital Corporation, was recognized by Project Finance International with the 2017 Latin America Deal of the Year award.

DLA Piper advises Timor-Leste on historic maritime treaty

6 MAR 2018

DLA Piper has been advising the Government of Timor-Leste, for more than four years, on its historic maritime treaty with the Australian Government, signed today at the United Nations Headquarters in New York, following the successful outcome of a compulsory conciliation process.

DLA Piper advises Rosatom on joint venture with Lagerwey to boost Russian wind industry

21 FEB 2018

DLA Piper has advised NovaWind, a Rosatom State Atomic Energy Corporation's unit responsible for new energy programmes in Russia, on its joint venture with Dutch turbine developer Lagerwey, to supply 388 turbines to Russian wind farms by 2022.
