Chris Arnold

Partner

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Chris Arnold has a broad corporate practice with extensive experience of advising on a wide range of corporate transactions, including international and domestic M&A, public M&A, equity capital raisings, joint ventures, intra-group reorganisations and general corporate advisory work.

- Corporate
- Mergers and Acquisitions

Chris has a particular focus on both the Financial Services sector and the Consumer Goods, Food and Retail sector. During his career Chris has spent time on secondment to the in-house legal teams of three large financial services companies.

- Advising Link Group on the proposed acquisition of Pepper European Servicing from Pepper for an upfront consideration of EUR165 million.
- Advising Link Group on the sale of the Corporate and Private Clients Services business unit of Link Asset Services to the Apex Group for GBP240 million.
- Advising FirstRand Limited on its recommended acquisition of Aldermore Group plc for approximately GBP1.1 billion.
- Advising Massive Interactive and the management sellers on the sale of Massive Interactive to Deltatre, a portfolio company of Bruin Sports Capital.
- Advising Heineken UK on its recommended acquisition of Punch Securitisation A, a portfolio of approximately 1,900 UK pubs owned by Punch Taverns plc (enterprise value GBP1.15 billion).
- Advising Learning Technologies Group plc on its acquisition of PeopleFluent Holdings Corporation and related equity fundraising.
- Advising Lloyds Development Capital and management on the sale of Capital Economics Limited to Phoenix Equity Partners and Nexinto Limited to PlusServer (a portfolio company of BC Partners).
- Advising ABRY and the management sellers on the sale of Thomson Online Benefits to Marsh.
- Advising Hain Celestial on a number of acquisition including the acquisitions of Orchard House Foods and The Yorkshire Provender.
- Advising Visa Europe on its sale to Visa Inc.
- Advising Lloyds Banking Group on:
  - All aspects of its EC-mandated disposal known as “Project Verde” (including the aborted sale to the Co-op Banking Group) that

culminated in the IPO of TSB Banking Group.
  - The disposal of its Middle East business to HSBC.
  - The disposal of its majority stake in Esure to its founder Peter Wood.

CREDENTIALS

Professional Qualifications

- Solicitor of the Senior Courts of England and Wales

Education

- University of Sheffield, LLB
- Nottingham Law School, LPC

INSIGHTS

Publications

Four ways M&A deals are changing

14 July 2022
The M&A market in 2021 was extremely buoyant with a record number of transactions and has remained strong in the first half of 2022. Robert Bishop, Jon Kenworthy and Chris Arnold provide their insights into the changes in deal approach in the M&A market.

Collaboration and corporate venturing in the financial services industry

29 March 2021
In the past ten years, the financial services industry has experienced significant change. Customer behaviours have developed significantly. In this report, we look at the changing nature of the Financial Services sector and how collaboration (including through M&A) is increasing between established financial institutions and FinTechs.

Episode 3: Collaboration and corporate venturing in the financial services industry

24 March 2021
The DLA Piper Financial Services Podcast

In this episode, partners Anthony Day, Chris Arnold and Michaël Heene discuss the transformation of the traditional model of retail banks and how the pandemic has expedited this change. The evolution of the banking and fintech ecosystems through investment, collaboration and other partnerships, is also examined.

Events

Previous

The essential legal update for consumer goods businesses

29 September 2021
Webinar

Virtual M&A Academy 2021

27 - 30 September 2021
Webinar

NEWS

DLA Piper advises Preqin in its acquisition of Colmore AG

11 August 2021
DLA Piper represented Preqin, a leading provider of alternative assets data, analytics and insights, in its acquisition of Colmore AG.

DLA Piper advise Graphite Capital on acquisition of personalised children's book publisher Wonderbly

29 July 2021
DLA Piper has advised Graphite Capital, a leading UK mid-market private equity specialist, on its acquisition of Wonderbly, the world's leading publishing platform for personalised children's books.