

Real estate team of the year

WINNER

Ashurst

Marc Hanson; Hugh Lumby

Getting a major client across the finish line

With a £4bn price tag and the Olympics on its doorstep, Westfield's Stratford City development is a rarity in the current market – both high value and prestigious. Ashurst has been a key adviser on the development, testing both the breadth and skill of the firm's team.

Lumby and Hanson's outstanding work on one of the largest and most complex developments in the UK saw the team deal with a mammoth number of issues; from the acquisition of the site, to the construction of over 1,000 new homes and the sale of a stake in the mall to an international joint venture. In all, over a two-year period Ashurst advised on over 100 construction contracts and negotiated with a raft of government agencies, including the Olympic Development Authority and London Underground. This standout development is the only significant shopping mall to open following the property crash and cements Ashurst's position at the heart of the UK's struggling real estate market.

HIGHLY COMMENDED

BURGES SALMON

Gary Soloman

Burges Salmon was kept busy in 2010 advising on a string of regeneration projects for East Devon District Council. Soloman's team has worked closely with the local authority for six years. Once finished, the project will provide 3,000 homes; a biomass heating facility; a business park; and a hotel at Exeter Airport.

FRESHFIELDS BRUCKHAUS DERINGER

John Fordham; Chris Morris

An impressive mandate from Land Securities saw Freshfields advise on the construction of the One New Change shopping centre and office complex in the shadow of St Paul's. Fordham and Morris's team also advised the developer on the letting of a major chunk of the office space to K&L Gates and on the letting of the retail space to a mix of occupiers, from a boutique patisserie through to Marks & Spencer.

HOGAN LOVELLS

Nicholas Cheffings; Dion Panambalana

Hogan Lovells had a successful 12 months, picking up a major new client in the Healthcare of Ontario Pension



(L-R) Ashurst's Hugh Lumby and Marc Hanson with Maria Shahid of Property Law Journal

Plan. Cheffings and Panambalana's team advised the fund in its first real estate investment outside of North America in a joint venture with The Crown Estate at London's Gateway site near Piccadilly Circus.

MACFARLANES

Rachel Booth

Macfarlanes saw the close of one of its major real estate projects in 2010, the 43-storey 'Razor' in Elephant and Castle. The team has advised Brookfield since 2004 on all aspects of the project, including the acquisition, planning and financing, all the way through to completion of the sale of 400 private apartments.

NABARRO

Caroline Maude

A fixture on major London property deals for the past fifty years, Nabarro advised on the £500m 'Walkie Talkie' tower due to be built on Fenchurch Street. In the 1960s the firm advised the City of London Real Property Company on the construction of a now demolished tower block on the same site.

SLAUGHTER AND MAY

Steven Edwards

Slaughters picked up one of the most prestigious mandates of the year advising Lend Lease as a development partner for the Olympic Village in Stratford. The billion-pound deal saw Edwards' team advise on the construction of over 2,800 flats for the 17,000 athletes and officials due to visit the site during the Games.

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Property Law Journal is a magazine for all professionals who need to keep abreast of developments in property law – and what those changes mean in practice. As a consequence, this is published fortnightly to provide regular industry updates. It is not a magazine for academics or theorists – it is for anyone on the front line of property practice.

The emphasis is on the practical solutions to real legal problems.

What are the changes in the law? How should you respond to them? What are the best tactics to adopt? How should you be amending your precedents? All these questions are answered in *Property Law Journal*.

In addition to property law, *Property Law Journal* keeps readers abreast of related areas such as planning, environment and construction and explains how they will affect property practitioners.

All articles are written by practitioners. The authors are some of the country's leading property lawyers. *Property Law Journal* includes practical precedents and relevant case law analysis presented in a readily digestible format.

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