



BREXIT



The first areas businesses should focus on ahead of exiting the EU

Review of major contracts

Whatever the outcome of the negotiations to leave the EU, some provisions in contracts which have been seen as copper-plate will now need to be reviewed carefully, for example, our Commercial team can advise on jurisdiction clauses.

Contact james.bryce@squareonelaw.com for more information.

Supply chains

If you are supplying a business, which in turn is supplying a major manufacturer/overseas manufacturer, the chances are you are indirectly exporting. If this is the case it will be necessary to comply with certain EU law, even after the UK leaves the EU. Neil Warwick can give advice on how to deal with this.

Contact neil.warwick@squareonelaw.com for more information.

Employing EU Nationals or seconding people to the EU

If you have key personnel who are likely to spend extended time in the EU, or if you are bringing EU nationals to the UK for a lengthy period, it will be sensible to review contractual and tax positions and ensure additional costs of visas and work permits are factored into the cost of your business plan.

Jean-Pierre van Zyl can discuss what options are open to you.

Contact jp@squareonelaw.com for more information.

Not seeing eye to eye with your overseas supplier or purchaser

As various EU treaties begin to drop away, enforcing your rights in overseas jurisdictions may become difficult. Prevention is always the best cure.

If you are having difficulties with an overseas trading partner this could develop into a dispute in the next year or two which our Litigation team can assist with.

Contact gillian.tatt@squareonelaw.com for more information.

Energy

A huge amount of the legislation which has originated from the European Union deals with harmonisation of standards within the Energy, Renewable and de-commissioning sector.

Whilst the announcement that the Great Repeal Bill may effectively "freeze" various industry wide standards at the point the UK exits the EU, there will be new standards which will be introduced which UK companies will have to adhere to.

Contact james.bryce@squareonelaw.com for more information.

Property Development

Often it is assumed that EU law does not impact on the Property Development Industry to any great extent. However, aspects of the industry are touched by various laws which originate from Europe: public procurement, health and safety, TUPE, state aid, product safety.

The UK's exit from the EU would impact upon the Property Development Industry in a number of ways.

Contact barney.frith@squareonelaw.com for more information.

Competition Law

Both the Competition Act 1998 and the Enterprise Act 2000 are UK statutes and will remain fully in force when the UK leaves the EU. At the minute the Competition Act mirrors the primary competition laws of the EU.

However, as time develops it is likely a parallel system will emerge where cross border merger clearances or complaints may need to be notified to national authorities as well as the EU Commission.

Contact neil.warwick@squareonelaw.com for more information.

Currency Issues and Funding Requirements

As the negotiations with the EU develop there will be certain volatility in the currency markets and if you are trading overseas it will be sensible to hedge against this.

Equally old funding streams will disappear and be replaced by new forms of funding.

Contact mark.lazenby@squareonelaw.com for more information.

State aid/Procurement

Many large scale projects and developments will continue long after the UK has concluded its arrangements with the EU.

State aid, procurement and other Regulations will still apply to these arrangements and it is very possible you could become subject to a two tier system which may need to be monitored through the life of the project.

Contact neil.warwick@squareonelaw.com for more information.