

James Cowell

Director

“James has been attentive ... always available and has explained the complex language of the deal in more understandable terms. James has summarized key points and hurdles that we have encountered during the deal. This has allowed us to make reasoned judgement and decisions during the on-going negotiations. In addition, James has been a calming influence on the negotiations. We would recommend James and his colleagues at Freeths to others in the same position as ourselves and would return to Freeths for legal matters in the future.”

(Gary Allenby, CEO, Aurelia Bioscience Ltd)



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James is a Director and has extensive experience in handling the full range of M&A and Private Equity work, banking and refinancing as well as advising his clients on a range of commercial contracts. This includes advising on MBOs, MBIs and BIMBO and providing assistance to shareholders and directors of large owner-managed businesses and large corporates.

He advises a number of banks and lending institutions on the provision of acquisition finance for transactions, particularly in the healthcare sector. James also acts on numerous acquisitions of pharmacy portfolios for a number of large operators in the healthcare sector, utilising a number of different deal structures. He is also responsible for the relationship with the local offices of a number of PE Houses, Banks and other funders, including BGF, Nat West and RBS and has strong relationships with a number of local accountants.

James is listed as a Recommended Lawyer and a Next Generation Partner in The Legal 500 (2024 edition).

Legal Services

Corporate

Selected Cases

- Advising Corus Hotels Limited and its various group companies on a refinance in excess of £100M. This involved a substantial group restructuring involving intra-group distributions on specie of shares in various group companies and transfers of properties.
- Advising the management buy-in team on negotiations with private equity firm Ardenton Capital Investments regarding the c£30M acquisition of Pebbles Holdco Limited by Ardenton Care Holdings Limited.
- Advising the shareholders of Aurelia Bioscience Limited on the sale of the company to Charnwood Molecular Limited, backed by the PE fund Synova.
- Acting for the shareholders of Dalkeith Laboratories Limited on the sale of the shares in three companies to Kent Pharma UK Limited, backed by the PE House Duke Street Capital.
- Advising on the Statutory Demerger of the global marine asset monitoring business to a newly incorporated holding company, UltraMAP Monitoring Services Limited, from a joint venture vehicle, Seagard Limited.
- Advising Zertus UK on its strategic acquisition of The Sun Valley Nut Company.

Sectors