

CMS Scotland equIP: helping start-ups scale

Starting, and building, a successful business takes a good idea, energy and determination plus the right opportunities and the right people.

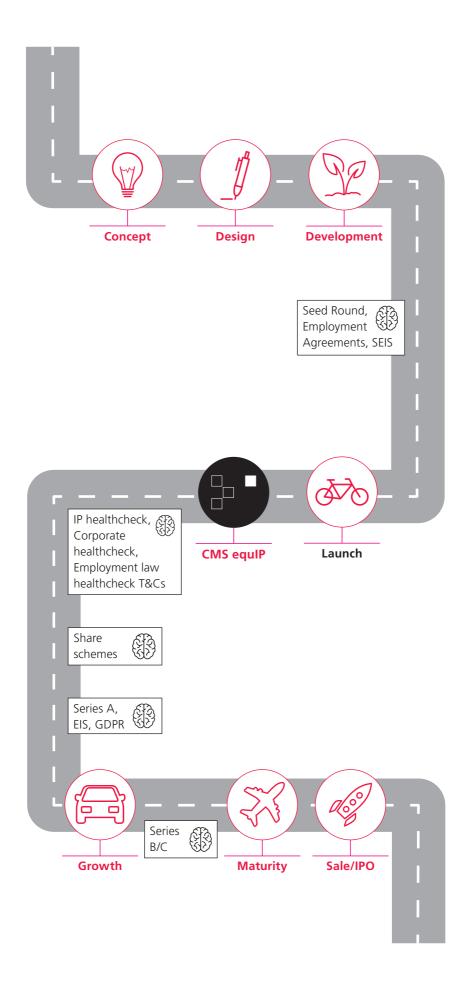
Working with, and investing in, start-ups excites us here at CMS. Working with entrepreneurs on bright ideas, fostering growth and innovation in the tech and other sectors – helping to support the stars of the future gets us out of bed in the morning.

As an early-stage business, legal advice may be pushed to the bottom of the priority list, not least due to the issue of cost. However, for a business to scale successfully, especially when investors are involved, having the right foundations is imperative.

#### Who are we?

- A full service law firm with a strong sector focus in areas such as technology, media and telecoms, private equity, financial services, energy and renewables, consumer products, lifesciences and food and drink.
- Working with some of the biggest names in tech and other sectors as well as up and coming disruptors.
- Well networked in each sector industry through clients and industry partners.
- The only law firm in Europe that can offer you extensive
  IP support through our 100-strong international team of
  IP lawyers, patent and trade mark attorneys.

# The start-up roadmap and typical legal considerations



#### Our fixed fee menu

#### **IP** healthcheck

IP can be vital for the future of your business. Our healthcheck service, delivered by our market-leading IP team, helps maximise this value for the life span of your company.

#### **Corporate healthcheck**

Making sure your corporate structure and associated arrangements are fit for purpose is a key foundation to building a business. It can also save huge amounts of cost and aggravation later on in the process. Our market-leading corporate teams have extensive experience in identifying the key issues for start-ups.

#### **Employment law healthcheck**

Your people are likely to be one of your main strengths and it is essential that your employment contractual arrangements not only provide your talent with assurances but also that they properly protect you as an employer.

#### **Fundraising**

Access to capital is an essential part of your growth story, and we will use our experience and network of investors to help get the funding you need.

### **Share Incentive Arrangements**

Share options provide a cost-effective means for you to recruit, reward and retain employees as an alternative to significant salaries. We can help you implement mutually beneficial share-based reward structures.

#### **GDPR** healthcheck

Data protection specialists will assess how compliant your business is with GDPR and advise on steps that you may need to take when processing and handling personal data.

#### Website T&Cs

Our lawyers will apply their decades of experience drafting website T&Cs to your business, working with you to ensure you gain the trust of your customers and potential investors while protecting your business.

# What is equIP?

equIP is a dedicated programme to support start-ups who are intellectual property rich, offering:



Sector-focused legal advice at special discounted rates A 50% discount on our standard hourly rates, up to aggregate fees of GBP 50,000.



# Introductions to relevant industry players

Whether it be like-minded entrepreneurs or investors, we know who you should be talking to.



# **Fixed fee services**

This includes an IP healthcheck, corporate healthcheck, employment law healthcheck and advice on fundraising, share schemes and T&Cs.



# **Added value**

Access to exclusive events, workshops and a regular member newsletter.



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