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RM3788 Wider Public Sector Legal Services – Lot 2b (Scotland)



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Administrative and Public Law

CMS is ranked Band 1 for Local Government in Scotland.

We advise on all aspects of administrative and public law. Our specialists in the different areas regularly work together as a single team on projects for our wide range of public and private sector clients. The group consists of senior lawyers highly regarded for their understanding of the complexities of public law. Many of our lawyers have taken on prominent public roles, and are also regularly published on public law issues, speak at public sector conferences and provide training to local authorities. We advise on the wide range of issues which are relevant to local authorities in Scotland including vires, governance, legislation, transport, procurement, state aid, employment and judicial review.

Case Study

The City of Edinburgh Council – Tram Extension

We have been advising the Council on a number of matters required to facilitate the extension, as well as a number of matters related to the existing project, all in terms of the Private Acts which were enacted by the Scottish Parliament. In relation to the proposed extension, we have been advising on securing the necessary land and land rights through the use of compulsory purchase powers, the review and amendment of third party agreements and the securing of rights to allow the Council to attach fixings for overhead lines to buildings.

Key Contacts



Graeme MacLeod

Partner

T +44 131 200 7686

E graeme.macleod@cms-cmno.com



Mark McMurray

Senior Associate

T +44 131 200 7860

E mark.mcmurray@cms-cmno.com

Banking and Finance

CMS is ranked Band 1 for Banking and Finance in Scotland.

We have one of the largest and most diverse banking departments in Scotland, with 9 partners and a team of 25 other staff covering all areas of the Banking and Finance market. We have a very broad practice which covers mainstream areas such as corporate and organisation finance, real estate finance, all areas of project finance (including a leading market reputation in all areas of renewable energy financing such as windfarm, solar and hydro project finance transactions), fund finance, asset finance, shipping and a growing, thriving aircraft finance team. We also have a large and well regarded advisory practice, advising on derivatives products, portfolio, loan, sale programmes and deep expertise in advising a number of lenders on discount window facilities. In the current economic climate, our advisory practice has been very busy advising our banking clients on a number of these products.

Case Study

Ian Macleod Distillers Limited

CMS acted for Ian Macleod Distillers in its £80m inventory only asset based lending refinancing. The funding, which has been provided jointly by Bank of Scotland and PNC Business Credit, will support organic growth and the recently-announced revival of the Lowland malt whisky brand, Rosebank and is secured against maturing whisky stocks.

Key Contacts



Stephen Phillips

Partner

T +44 131 200 7313

E stephen.phillips@cms-cmno.com



Jenny Allan

Partner

T +44 131 200 7618

E jenny.allan@cms-cmno.com

Contracts

Our Contracts team has extensive experience advising clients in relation to all aspects of contract arrangements. We are renowned for providing practical, focused legal advice that helps our clients put in place fit-for-purpose commercial arrangements in a way that identifies and resolves issues quickly, accelerates deal times and reduces transaction costs.

We have expertise in drafting and negotiating all types of commercial agreements for the advancement of our clients' aims and activities, including in and out licensing, sales and distributor agreements, product acquisition and disposal agreements, research and collaboration agreements, confidentiality agreements, clinical trial agreements, supply of goods and services (including service level agreements), consultancy, outsourcing and intellectual property. We also regularly undertake advisory work on a range of commercial related matters such as data protection and advice generally in relation to our clients' daily business activities.

Case Study

Scottish Events Campus

We continue to advise the Scottish Events Campus on a broad range of matters in relation to The SSE Hydro. The SSE Hydro is now ranked as the second busiest venue of its type in the world. Our role has included drafting, negotiating and advising on sponsorship agreements with A.G. Barr plc, Bacardi-Martini Ltd, Clydesdale Bank plc and Sony Europe Ltd; on the hire agreement for Andy Murray Live; on amendments to its Naming Rights agreement with SSE plc; on amendments to its ticketing agreement with Ticketmaster; and on the supply and pouring rights agreement with Heineken UK. These are the latest instructions in a long line of sponsorship, branding and IP work which we have handled for the client, with highlights from recent years including major events as the MTV Europe Music Awards, the annual BBC Good Food Show and the Ryder Cup Gala Concert. These instructions are key to SEC's commercial revenue and overall brand image in the UK and abroad.

Key Contacts



Ailsa Ritchie

Partner

T +44 141 304 6104

E ailsa.ritchie@cms-cmno.com



Alan Nelson

Partner

T +44 141 304 6006

E alan.nelson@cms-cmno.com

Competition Law

Our UK-wide Competition and Trade team advises a significant number of Scotland-based clients on a range of competition law issues. The work we do that relates to Scotland or to Scottish clients covers the full range of EU/UK competition work, including compliance, advisory work, investigations, merger control, state aid and procurement.

Clients include well-known Scottish companies and organisations. For example we have long-standing client relationships with SSE, RBS, Scottish Water, Oil&Gas UK, the University of Glasgow, the Scottish Events Campus, the Scottish Futures Trust and a number of Scottish local authorities.

Case Study

SEEMiS – advising on its "Next Generation Project"

SEEMiS Group LLP ("SEEMiS") is a Limited Liability Partnership owned and managed by Scotland's 32 local authorities. The "Next Generation" project is for the replacement of an existing Management Information System ("MIS") that is operated by all of Scotland's 32 local authorities, accessed by 47,000 active users, 2,500 schools and 670,000 active students. We are advising SEEMiS on the project, including the competition and procurement aspects.

Key Contacts



Graeme Young
Partner

T +44 20 7367 2906
E graeme.young@cms-cmno.com



Esther Duncan
Associate

T +44 131 200 7506
E esther.duncan@cms-cmno.com

Corporate and M&A

CMS is ranked Band 1 for Corporate and M&A in Scotland.

CMS has Scotland's strongest Corporate Group with a 25 partner team working across offices in Edinburgh, Glasgow and Aberdeen. We have enormous strength in all core areas, including M&A, private equity and equity capital markets. The Group's financial services practice includes specialist outsourcing and funds practices, and the Group's energy and private equity practices, are involved in high profile oil and gas sector M&A and private equity transactions.

Case Study

Smart Metering Systems

We acted for SMS, the AIM listed integrated metering services company that connects, owns, operates and maintains current generation, advanced and smart metering assets and databases, in the award winning acquisition of the entire issue share capital of three companies: CH4 Gas Utility and Maintenance services Limited ("CH4"), Trojan Utilities Limited ("Trojan Utilities"), and Qton Solutions Limited ("Qton Solutions") (together, the "Acquisitions").

Key Contacts



Graeme Bruce
Partner

T +44 141 304 6002
E graeme.bruce@cms-cmno.com



Jack Letson
Partner

T +44 141 304 6147
E jack.letson@cms-cmno.com

Data Protection and Information Law

CMS has data protection industry sector expertise, particularly in highly regulated sectors like technology, media and communications, energy and utilities, telemedicine and financial services.

Our team provides counsel across a wide range of areas including data protection registration and policy development, data security and mobile device encryption, data transfer procedures using model clauses and binding corporate rules, freedom of information requests, data subject access requests and resolving data protection issues arising from outsourcing projects.

Case Study

University of Glasgow

Advising the University (and another UK based university) in respect of five university unit transfers involving significant volumes of personal data collected through the research of the units. Included advising on the legal risks from a data protection perspective and taking a practical approach on risk mitigation to avoid overly onerous re-consenting of data subjects

Key Contacts



Alan Nelson
Partner
T +44 141 304 6006
E alan.nelson@cms-cmno.com



Jennifer Barr
Senior Associate
T +44 141 304 6233
E jennifer.barr@cms-cmno.com

Employment

Our employment team offers clients from across a range of sectors (in particular higher education, energy and financial services) a wealth of experience and in-depth expertise in specific employment issues. Our strength ranges from advice on employment contracts, dismissal and severance agreements, to cross border harmonisation projects in addition to defending multi-party litigation, industrial disputes and complex discrimination claims.

A notable strength is the success of our employment team in conducting our own advocacy, up to Employment Appeal Tribunal level, meaning we rarely instruct outside counsel.

Case Study

University of Glasgow

We successfully defended the University in a complex Tribunal case involving multiple claims including unfair dismissal, victimisation and automatic unfair dismissal and detriment claims on the basis that the employee alleged he had made a protected disclosure (i.e. whistleblowing).

Key Contacts



Gillian Maclellan
Partner
T +44 141 304 6114
E gillian.maclellan@cms-cmno.com



Finlay McKay
Partner
T +44 131 200 7632
E finlay.mckay@cms-cmno.com

Information Technology

CMS is ranked Band 1 for IT and Telecoms in Scotland.

CMS is a recognised market leader in Information Technology in Scotland and has been for many years. We are known primarily for our depth of resource, experience and ability to act on large and complex IT projects. Our traditional strength has been in Financial Services, but we have also built an enviable reputation in Scottish public and education sector projects, advising organisations developing and implementing new technology; on entering technology partnership arrangements; as they get ready for GDPR and on a complex range of data protection matters. With 4 partners and 13 other lawyers dedicated to technology matters, we believe we have the largest and most experienced bench in Scotland.

Case Study

NHS National Services Scotland (NSS)

Acting for NSS in completing the contracts in the procurement of a system replacing NHS Scotland's mainframe systems for the Community Health Index (the system that allocates and manages the CHI Number allocated to each NHS patient in Scotland). The CHI number has been described as the "golden thread" which runs through the whole of the NHS' IT systems as the CHI number is the unique identifier for each patient in the NHS. It is a critical system.

Key Contacts



Alan Nelson
Partner

T +44 141 304 6006
E alan.nelson@cms-cmno.com



Douglas Mathie
Of Counsel

T +44 141 304 6045
E douglas.mathie@cms-cmno.com

Infrastructure

CMS is ranked Band 1 for Projects in Scotland.

In Scotland we are best known for delivering high profile, high value projects across all programmes of infrastructure delivery. We are involved in advising on all of the Scottish Government's models for delivery. In the past year, we have strengthened our dominance of advising on hub projects. CMS is unique in that we are involved in all 5 hub Territories, and we act for all the key stakeholders (hubco, Funder and Public Sector).

Another differentiating factor for CMS is our penetration of all programmes of infrastructure delivery, from the innovative Growth Accelerator model Development in relation to the St James Centre redevelopment in Edinburgh to the unique residential led regeneration of Sighthill in Glasgow. Our involvement in different sectors distinguishes us from our competitors, being heavily involved in the water, waste, education, health and housing sectors.

Case Study

Glasgow City Council – Sighthill Regeneration

We advised Glasgow City Council on Sighthill Transformational Regeneration Area (TRA). The £250m project involves remediation of contamination, provision of utilities, infill of a railway tunnel, construction of a land bridge and a road bridge, and the Residential Led development of 628 new homes for private sale, 198 homes for mid market rent, commercial and retail development and development of an Alternative Site.

Key Contacts



Ailsa Ritchie
Partner

T +44 141 304 6104
E ailsa.ritchie@cms-cmno.com



Eleanor Lane
Partner

T +44 141 304 6058
E eleanor.lane@cms-cmno.com

Intellectual Property

CMS is ranked Band 1 for Intellectual Property in Scotland.

Our dedicated IP team has expertise which is unrivalled in Scotland and which (clients say) matches that of specialised London firms. We have the leading practice acting for universities in Scotland, from the commercialisation of IP owned by the institutions and their corporate spin-offs, to IP disputes.

We are among the leading firms in Scotland for IP work in the entertainment and sponsorship sphere, with our advice including negotiation sponsorship agreements with a range of internationally respected brands.

Case Study

Edinburgh Trams Limited

We have been advising Marketing Edinburgh, Transport for Edinburgh and Edinburgh Trams, who together are acting on behalf of City of Edinburgh Council, in relation to various sponsorship agreements for the branding and advertising of the new fleet of trams operating in the City of Edinburgh.

Key Contacts



Carina Healy

Partner

T +44 141 304 6032

E carina.healy@cms-cmno.com



Duncan Turner

Partner

T +44 131 200 7669

E duncan.turner@cms-cmno.com

Litigation and Dispute Resolution

CMS is ranked Band 1 for Litigation in Scotland.

Our skills span the full range of disputes, from contractual claims and shareholder disputes to judicial review. As well as core commercial litigation, our expertise includes construction, corporate insolvency, fraud and corporate crime, health & safety, and education. We were named '**UK Firm of the Year for Dispute Resolution**' at the Legal 500's 2018 UK Awards.

Case Study

Scottish Local Authority (Confidential)

We act for the local authority in relation to the application of deductions in a PFI project in its operational phase. The deductions relate to alleged failures by the Project Co over several years to properly comply with its statutory maintenance obligations (including to critical fire systems) and are likely to reach several million £s.

Key Contacts



Colin Hutton

Partner

T +44 131 200 7517

E colin.hutton@cms-cmno.com



Graeme MacLeod

Partner

T +44 131 200 7686

E graeme.macleod@cms-cmno.com

Outsourcing / Insourcing

CMS's outsourcing team is among the largest in the UK, backed by one of the largest sourcing practices worldwide, and is best known for its impressive broad-ranging sector focused sourcing practice. We are a leading adviser on alternative contracting structures and multi-vendor framework arrangements, including deploying the service integration and management (SIAM) model. We have exclusive industry sector expertise across a number of sectors, particularly those which are highly-regulated.

Case Study

NHS National Services Scotland (NSS)

We were appointed by NSS to lead the procurement of an outsourced single public services network available to all public sector bodies in Scotland (the Scottish Wide Area Network – SWAN) from Capita. The initial Procurement completed in 2014 and CMS has been heavily engaged since then (advising weekly) in providing legal support to the transition, implementation and on-boarding of new customers process. There are now more than 20 different public sector customers using the services.

Key Contacts



Alan Nelson

Partner

T +44 141 304 6006

E alan.nelson@cms-cmno.com



Eleanor Lane

Partner

T +44 141 304 6058

E eleanor.lane@cms-cmno.com

Partnerships

CMS is ranked Band 1 for Partnerships in Scotland.

Our Partnership practice advises blue chip clients on application of partnership (including limited partnership) and LLP structures for wide range of projects, including funds, pension funding partnerships, property development and renewable energy projects.

Our ability to draw upon financial services, regulatory and tax expertise is unique in Scotland.

Case Study

Energy Renewables Holdings Limited (EDF ER)

We acted for EDF ER, a subsidiary of EDF, on the purchase of 11 wind farm sites from Partnerships for Renewables with a potential capacity of 600MW. 9 of the sites are LLP structured joint ventures with Forestry Commission Scotland.

Key Contacts



Colin Lawrie

Partner

T +44 131 200 7351

E colin.lawrie@cms-cmno.com

Pensions

CMS is ranked Band 1 for Pensions.

We offer clients the full range of Pensions legal services, but add pockets of deep expertise that particularly benefit clients in the pensions industry and provide a level of specialism that other firms simply don't have – these include industry-leading specialist Life, Pensions and Longevity Risk and Financial Services advice.

We have a very strong sector focus in Scotland including in Scottish local authority and public sector work. We also have a strong sector focus in financial services; technology, aerospace and defence; utilities, energy and energy services; and life sciences, research, education, pharmaceuticals.

In addition to local expertise, our lawyers in Scotland have unrestricted access to national resources.

Case Study

Northern Ireland Water

We provided all necessary pensions input to Northern Ireland Water's acquisition of the Project Alpha Public Private Partnership (PPP) from Kelda Group, the owners of Yorkshire Water. The companies so acquired own and operate four water treatment works that supply almost half of Northern Ireland's treated water.

Key Contacts



Alistair Hill
Partner
T +44 131 200 7526
E alistair.hill@cms-cmno.com



Mathew Boyle
Senior Associate
T +44 141 304 6280
E mathew.boyle@cms-cmno.com

Public Procurement

Our public procurement practice is best known for its specialist knowledge and expertise in our core industry sectors, and specifically infrastructure, energy & utilities, and life sciences.

With the new EU Directives having been implemented, we are increasingly instructed to advise bidders on the new rules, advising on high profile infrastructure and IT procurements. Procurement litigation also continues to be a large part of our practice. We are regularly instructed by public authorities and utilities to defend procurement processes and also by unsuccessful bidders looking to challenge award decisions.

Case Study

Glasgow City Council – Sighthill Regeneration

The Council has embarked upon a significant regeneration programme, developing a £250m residential led masterplan. We are working with the Council in its procurement for approximately 600 houses for private sale, 200 mid-market units for direct sale to Glasgow Housing Association and provision of a commercial and retail development using the competitive dialogue procedure, assisting in delivering their vision for a vibrant new community.

Key Contacts



Graeme Young
Partner
T +44 20 7367 2906
E graeme.young@cms-cmno.com



Ailsa Ritchie
Partner
T +44 141 304 6104
E ailsa.ritchie@cms-cmno.com

Property, Real Estate & Construction

CMS is ranked Band 1 for Real Estate in Scotland.

We have unmatched Property and Real Estate expertise in Scotland, and have a well-established and sizeable team that are consistently recognised for being at the top of the Scottish Real Estate market. As well as acting for major property owners in the public sector, we also act for many of the most active developers and investors.

With over 30 years' experience in infrastructure, construction and engineering, we are long-standing experts. We act for clients at all levels and entry points in the construction sector – including public sector (local authorities, university bodies), major institutional investors, contractors, insurers and all tiers of PPP contracts.

Case Study

Scottish Events Campus

We have been advising Scottish Events campus on all construction matters for the construction of this new icon to the Glasgow skyline since its inception. We are continuing to advise on the final matters to close out the construction package at this key £125m entertainment complex and ongoing upgrade works across the wider campus including a multi-million new car park.

Key Contacts



Darina Kerr

Partner

T +44 141 304 6070

E darina.kerr@cms-cmno.com



Christine Worthington

Partner

T +44 141 304 6153

E christine.worthington@cms-cmno.com

Tax

CMS Tax department now fields 13 partners and has expertise in areas such as real estate taxation, tax planning in connection with a wide range of corporate and private equity transactions, fund structuring, employee incentives and IP and technology tax issues.

Case Study

EDP Renováveis

Advised the client on the tax aspects of setting up a corporate joint venture vehicle (Moray Offshore Windfarm (East) Limited) with Engie SA that successfully bid for a UK government 15-year contract for difference for the delivery of 950 MW of offshore wind electricity generation.

Key Contacts



Jim Hillan

Partner

T +44 20 7367 3984

E jim.hillan@cms-cmno.com

EU Law

Our UK-wide EU and Competition team advises a significant number of Scotland-based clients on a range of EU/Competition law issues, including compliance, advisory work, investigations, merger control, state aid and procurement.

We also benefit hugely from our global CMS EU/Competition Group, which comprises more than 170 specialist contentious and non-contentious lawyers in 30 jurisdictions.

Case Study

EDP Renováveis, S.A. (“EDPR”)

We acted for EDPR on the EU merger control aspects of Scotland’s largest windfarm project, a joint venture led by EDPR and involving Engie, S.A., Diamond Generating Europe Limited and China Three Gorges Corporation.

This significant transaction involved careful competition advice on the forming of the JV and detailed discussions with the European Commission as to whether the newly created JV entity would constitute a full-function JV, in which case it would require formal notification and clearance from the European Commission.

Key Contacts



Graeme Young

Partner

T +44 20 7367 2906

E graeme.young@cms-cmno.com



Esther Duncan

Associate

T +44 131 200 7506

E esther.duncan@cms-cmno.com

Planning

CMS is ranked Band 1 for Planning.

As the longest established planning team in Scotland, we have deep relationships with some of the most significant players in the Scottish market, and, over the years, we have acted as lead advisor to deliver consents / planning permission for some of Scotland’s highest profile projects.

We act for a number of Scotland’s planning authorities on their major planning matters, including City of Edinburgh Council, Renfrewshire Council, Stirling Council, South Lanarkshire Council and Orkney Islands Council.

Case Study

Renfrewshire Council

Our Planning team has been advising Renfrewshire Council on their Glasgow Airport Investment Area (“GAIA”) and Clyde Waterfront and Renfrew Riverside (“CWRR”) projects which are being promoted as part of the £1.13bn Glasgow City Region City Deal. These projects will help to deliver expansion of Glasgow Airport, a national development identified by the Scottish Ministers, and a National Manufacturing Institute for Scotland as well as attract investment and deliver job creation in the Renfrewshire Council area.

Key Contacts



Ann Faulds

Partner – Edinburgh Office

T +44 131 200 7452

E ann.faulds@cms-cmno.com



Mark McMurray

Senior Associate

T +44 131 200 7860

E mark.mcmurray@cms-cmno.com

Projects

CMS is ranked Band 1 for Projects in Scotland.

In Scotland we are best known for delivering high profile, high value projects across all programmes of infrastructure delivery. We are involved in advising on all of the Scottish Government's models for delivery.

In the past year, we have strengthened our dominance of advising on hub projects. CMS is unique in that we are involved in all 5 hub Territories, and we act for all the key stakeholders (hubco, Funder and Public Sector).

Another differentiating factor for CMS is our penetration of all programmes of infrastructure delivery, from the innovative Growth Accelerator model Development in relation to the St James Centre redevelopment in Edinburgh to the unique residential led regeneration of Sighthill in Glasgow. Our involvement in different sectors distinguishes us from our competitors - in the past year we've been heavily involved in the water, waste, education, health and housing sectors.

Case Study

Glasgow City Council – Sighthill Regeneration

We advised Glasgow City Council (GCC) on Sighthill Transformational Regeneration Area (TRA). The £250m project involves remediation of contamination, provision of utilities, infill of a railway tunnel, construction of a land bridge and a road bridge, and the Residential Led development of 628 new homes for private sale, 198 homes for mid market rent, commercial and retail development and development of an Alternative Site.

Key Contacts



Ailsa Ritchie

Partner

T +44 141 304 6104

E ailsa.ritchie@cms-cmno.com



Eleanor Lane

Partner

T +44 141 304 6058

E eleanor.lane@cms-cmno.com

Restructuring and Insolvency

The CMS Restructuring and Insolvency team has specialist knowledge throughout the wider firm that is unrivalled in the Scottish market, with a host of individuals who have deep specialist knowledge in areas including real estate, litigation, employment, pensions and technology. This means that clients have access to a full service without the need for outsourcing.

The team has a wealth of experience of insolvency and distressed situations in a number of specialist sectors including: Energy; Financial services; Aviation and; Hotels and leisure.

Case Study

EDF Renewables (“EDFER”)

We advised in relation to a Company Voluntary Arrangement of a Creditor of EDFER, including ensuring EDFER's position is protected and the impact of the CVA on EDFER's security and other enforcement rights. We also provided insolvency advice in relation to the potential insolvency of a JV partner group of EDFER, including advising EDFER on how best to protect their position should the JV partner become insolvent.

Key Contacts



Sian Aitken

Partner

T +44 131 200 7385

E sian.aitken@cms-cmno.com



Jennifer Antonelli

Senior Associate

T +44 131 200 7630

E jennifer.antonelli@cms-cmno.com

Education Law

CMS is ranked Band 1 for Education Law in Scotland.

CMS has a comprehensive, multi-disciplinary partner-led Education Law offering that is unmatched elsewhere in the Scottish market, providing advice on a vast array of different matters for our Education clients.

Our track record in this area is evidenced by the long standing relationships we have with our higher education clients: (i) we have acted exclusively for University of Glasgow for over 20 years, being reappointed 5 times in competitive tenders; and (ii) advising Heriot-Watt University since it first became a university in 1966.

Our highly regarded Scottish higher education team also advises a number of the UK's top ranked universities including University College London.

Case Study

University of Glasgow

We have acted for the University on a number of joint development initiatives with NHS (Greater Glasgow and Clyde Health Board) within the new Queen Elizabeth University Hospital (QEUH) in Glasgow. Our remit was the construction, conveyancing, leasing and contractual documentation under which the University and NHS collaborated with each other to provide innovative health care and world class research facilities. These include the flagship Queen Elizabeth Teaching and Learning Centre and the Imaging Centre of Excellence (ICE).

Key Contacts



Carina Healy
Partner

T +44 141 304 6032
E carina.healy@cms-cmno.com



Gillian Maclellan
Partner

T +44 141 304 6114
E gillian.maclellan@cms-cmno.com

Energy & Natural Resources

CMS is ranked Band 1 for Energy & Natural Resources in Scotland.

The CMS Energy team has the capability to advise on all aspects of the highest profile transactions.

The Scottish team is part of a much wider energy and renewables team located throughout CMS, and continues to be the pre-eminent power and renewables practice providing market-shaping advice on all aspects of the regulatory landscape and advising on high profile, high value transactions across the sector both in the UK and internationally.

Case Study

University of St Andrews

CMS advised the University of St Andrews on its biomass energy project, which aims to reduce the University's energy costs and its carbon footprint. The project involves the design, construction, operation and maintenance of a biomass plant at Guardbridge in Fife. Heat generated by the biomass plant will be delivered to the University's North Haugh Campus via a 6 kilometre district heating main.

Key Contacts



David McGowan

Partner

T +44 141 304 6026

E david.mcgowan@cms-cmno.com



Norman Wisely

Partner

T +44 1224 267163

E norman.wisely@cms-cmno.com



Robin Hutchison

Partner

T +44 131 200 7553

E robin.hutchison@cms-cmno.com

Food, Rural and Environmental Affairs

CMS is ranked Band 1 for Environment.

Our dedicated Food and Beverage team combines both specialist food lawyers and sector experts to comprise a one stop shop for our corporate clients, advising on a full range of contentious and non-contentious matters from regulatory and compliance, to product liability issues, contamination and recall, prosecutions, labelling, advertising, promotions, IP and brand protection, commercial contracts, environmental, Food Safety and Health & safety issues, and complex M&A transactions.

Our Environment team advise top international clients in the waste management sector, the energy sector and the chemicals sector, on matters which are of considerable importance to their businesses and their reputations.

Case Study

Orkney Islands Council

The Scottish Government are currently consulting on the proposed designation of large areas of Orkney waters as Special Protection Areas under the Wild Birds Directive. If designation goes ahead it could have a severely detrimental effect on Orkney's fragile economy. We have been advising the Council both prior to and during the formal consultation on designation of the proposed SPAs.

Key Contacts



Joanna Waddell

Senior Associate

T +44 131 200 7454

E joanna.waddell@cms-cmno.com



Ailsa Ritchie

Partner

T +44 141 304 6104

E ailsa.ritchie@cms-cmno.com

Health & Healthcare

CMS is ranked Band 1 for Health in Scotland.

CMS are the leading Healthcare team in the UK (and in Scotland) with over 100 lawyers operating in the sector within the UK alone. The team in Scotland plays a key part of the UK Healthcare team and draws on the enhanced expertise and sector knowledge that brings to benefit our clients in Scotland in the areas of primary care, social care, acute care (public and private) life sciences and outsourcing.

Case Study

NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde (NHS GG)

We are advising NHS GG on the delivery of three major primary care/community care projects in in the West hub Territory (Stobhill, Clydebank and Greenock) under a single DBFM Project through the hub procurement model. The project is significant for our client and our appointment follows on from previous successful appointments for NHS GG to deliver similar primary care facilities across the NHS GG area.

Key Contacts



Amanda Methven

Partner

T +44 131 200 7394

E amanda.methven@cms-cmno.com



Ailsa Ritchie

Partner

T +44 141 304 6104

E ailsa.ritchie@cms-cmno.com

Life Sciences

We are one of very few firms in the field with a genuinely full service team. We have dedicated, partner-level experts in each of the services demanded by Life Sciences companies: transactional (both corporate and commercial), IP, regulatory/compliance, competition and procurement, data protection, litigation (product liability, procurement and judicial review), reimbursement, tax, transfer pricing and employment.

Case Study

University College London

We advised long standing client, University College London on 2 high profile strategic projects involving the Medical Research Council.

The first matter, the transfer of an academic research unit (the Prion Unit), involved the provision by MRC of long term strategic funding to the University for research and complex licensing arrangements relating to ownership and future commercialisation of IP.

The second matter, the Dementia Research Institute (DRI) is a new research institute that is being established by MRC, Alzheimer's Society and Alzheimer's Research UK with funding of £250m.

Key Contacts



Carina Healy

Partner

T +44 141 304 6032

E carina.healy@cms-cmno.com



Jennifer Barr

Senior Associate

T +44 141 304 6233

E jennifer.barr@cms-cmno.com

Telecommunications

CMS is ranked Band 1 for IT and Telecoms in Scotland.

CMS' Telecoms team is known for an impressive broad-ranging practice that is among the largest in the UK. We have sector expertise across a range of industries, particularly those which are highly-regulated such as TMC, Energy/Utilities, Telemedicine and Financial Services. We advise public and private sector utilities, energy, healthcare, consumer products and FS clients on core communications needs and business critical projects.

Case Study

NHS National Services Scotland (NSS)

Since 2012 we have advised NSS and the Scottish public sector on the Scottish Wide Area Network – SWAN. SWAN is intended to be a single network for all of Scotland. The contracts signed in 2014/2015 but our work has not stopped since. In 2017 a number of new customers joined the SWAN network so we advised on them joining.

Key Contacts



Alan Nelson

Partner

T +44 141 304 6006

E alan.nelson@cms-cmno.com



Martin Beveridge

Senior Associate

T +44 141 304 6001

E martin.beveridge@cms-cmno.com

The Law of International Trade, Investment and Regulation

The CMS Public International Law Group is best known for handling high value, complex, cross-border disputes on behalf of private sector and public sector clients. We have extensive experience handling international disputes and advisory matters for sovereign States and their emanations as well as acting for international organisations.

The majority of our work is for overseas clients or involve an international subject matter. When acting on international disputes, we can draw on the expertise of lawyers across our 74 offices.

We also act for sovereign States, international organisations and commercial and State entities or third party entities in their dealings with such governmental bodies in disputes before domestic courts and tribunals as well as international courts and tribunals in connection with public international law matters.

Case Study

Erste Group Bank AG, Steiermaerkische Bank und Sparkassen AG and Erste & Steiermaerkische Bank d.d

Investment dispute arising out of adverse legislative changes enacted by Croatia affecting existing debt instruments. Croatia retroactively intervened in the Swiss franc indexed or denominated loan agreements concluded by banks in Croatia.

Key Contacts



Graeme Young

Partner

T +44 20 7367 2906

E graeme.young@cms-cmno.com



Eleanor Lane

Partner

T +44 141 304 6058

E eleanor.lane@cms-cmno.com

Public International Law

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Graeme Young
Partner

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Eleanor Lane
Partner

T +44 141 304 6058
E eleanor.lane@cms-cmno.com

Charities Law

CMS' Scotland Charities team has extensive and in-depth experience in the third sector. Due to the cross-departmental composition of the team, we are able to offer a comprehensive range of specialist legal advice to our third sector clients. We are particularly experienced in considering charities law, regulatory and charity financial issues when providing specialist advice to educational and research establishments.

Case Study

Newlands Junior College Limited

Newlands Junior College has been established by Scottish entrepreneur Jim McColl to provide an alternative to mainstream education for 14 to 16 year olds. CMS has advised on choice of legal structure, set up the College company and constitutional documents, and during this year CMS has provided property advice and banking advice as well as advice on various policies procedures and contracts and their impact on charitable status.

Key Contacts



Graeme Bruce
Partner

T +44 141 304 6002
E graeme.bruce@cms-cmno.com



Kenneth Rose
Partner

T +44 131 200 7348
E kenneth.rose@cms-cmno.com

Health and Safety Law

We are best known for our knowledge of health and safety practice in high-risk industries, including energy, construction, transport and manufacturing. Our work extends to offshore environmental regulation, now increasingly linked to offshore safety with the introduction of the offshore safety Directive for the oil and gas sector.

We provide advice on regulatory compliance, prosecutions, investigations and corporate governance. We have specialised knowledge of the offshore and energy sector, which faces greater challenges and regulation than most. However, our client base and expertise spans a broad range of sectors, including construction, communications, energy, leisure, waste, manufacturing, renewables and transport.

Key Contacts



Jan Burgess

Partner

T +44 1224 267151

E jan.burgess@cms-cmno.com



Rosalind Morgan

Senior Associate

T +44 1224 267138

E rosalind.morgan@cms-cmno.com

Transport Law (excluding rail)

CMS is ranked Band 1 for Transport (Road) in Scotland.

Our team have experience of advising clients in relation to major road procurements, road construction, roads orders, haulage matters, transport logistics, congestion charging, traffic regulation orders, parking adjudication, shipping and aviation. In particular, we are the only firm who has experience of advising on all aspects of roads law and we are recognised as experts in all the different aspect of building, regulating and using a road. We also have a flourishing maritime practice with a leading Scottish shipping lawyer heading the team. Taken together, this clearly demonstrates that we really are at the top of the pack in terms of our overall Transport offering. Our range of experience and client base is unparalleled and clearly sets us apart from our competitors.

Case Study

The City of Edinburgh Council

The Council instructed CMS to advise on legal issues arising from their proposed traffic management strategy to accommodate a regeneration development within the city centre at West Register House. The development is located at the east end of Princes Street near the ongoing Edinburgh St James project and other development proposals, such as the development of a new concert hall. Pedestrian and vehicular access in this area is under review to achieve the Council's local transport aspirations for walking, cycling and vehicular access.

Key Contacts



Eleanor Lane

Partner

T +44 141 304 6058

E eleanor.lane@cms-cmno.com



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