



Team CVs for Regionally

REGIALLY GROWING INVESTMENT

WALKER
MORRIS



Corporate



Debbie Jackson
Partner - Corporate

+44(0)113 283 2507
+44 (0)773 668 2845
debbie.jackson@walkermorris.co.uk

Debbie has previously been voted as one of the UK's 'Hot 100' by The Lawyer. With over 20 years' experience, she is recognised for her hands-on approach in providing practical and commercial solutions and is regularly involved in high profile deals in the region and beyond. Debbie was recently shortlisted for Corporate and Commercial: Individual (Outside London) of the year in the upcoming The Legal 500 UK 2020 awards and was shortlisted as Insider's dealmaker of the year 2018. Debbie has extensive experience advising private equity funds and leads Walker Morris' private equity group. She runs the firm's relationship with a number of private equity funds, including Endless, LDC and Magnesium Capital.

Debbie's deals include the acquisition by Endless LLP of both BSW Timber Limited and also the £74.5m acquisition of Menzies Distribution. Debbie also advised Endless on the sale of Karro, the £550 million turnover pork processor, to CapVest Partners and the IPO of TheWorks.co.uk plc (an Endless investment company) which saw TheWorks.co.uk move to public ownership after a ten year investment at a market cap of £100m.

More recently Debbie has advised LDC on its acquisition of Mosaic Fulfilment solutions; Magnesium Capital in connection with its investment in Californian headquarters Rope Partner Inc. and CAPE Investment Partners on its acquisition of CAPE Holland and FoundOcean from the Italian-based private equity investor Ambianta.

Debbie is described by clients as *"a fantastic commercial lawyer who understands her clients' priorities and is able to resolve complicated problems."* (Chambers & Partners)

Corporate



Thomas Mieszkowski
Director - Corporate

+44 (0)113 283 4549
+44 (0)781 437 8096
thomas.mieszkowski@walkermorris.co.uk

Thomas is a director in Walker Morris' corporate team and joined from City firm Dechert in February 2013. He advises private equity houses on the full range of their transactions including investments, exits and refinancings. He also has particular experience acting for management teams at all stages of the private equity investment cycle.

The Walker Morris private equity clients with whom Thomas regularly works include Endless (including the acquisitions of Menzies Distribution and BSW Timber in which he played a key role), LDC, Business Growth Fund, Total Capital and Magnesium Capital. He also advised Calbee UK on its acquisition of Seabrook Crisps, the iconic crisp brand which provided an exit for mid-market private equity investor LDC.

Real Estate



Mark Byrne
Director - Real Estate

+44 (0)113 283 2662
+44 (0)743 239 3205
mark.byrne@walkermorris.co.uk

Mark has expertise across a range of real estate markets, with particular focus on advising landlord and tenants, developers and retailers. Mark has acted for a number of national retailers and leisure providers on the acquisition, disposal and management of premises on the high street and at shopping centres and retail parks. He is a senior adviser to a national supermarket operator and a national healthcare provider. Mark is also experienced in managing forward funding arrangements for new developments, particularly from the funder side.

Mark is a dedicated and focused advisor, and is committed to working collaboratively with clients to outturn new processes and ways of working to improve output and the transaction experience.

Mark also acts for a prominent London based co-working provider, having completed approximately 15 leases for them over the last two years.

Pensions



Ruth Bamforth
Director - Pensions

+44 (0)113 283 4570
+44 (0)7912 775 193
ruth.bamforth@walkermorris.co.uk

Ruth is a Director at Walker Morris and has over 20 years' experience as a pensions law specialist, working on private and public sector pensions. She joined Walker Morris having previously practised in the City for many years.

Ruth has considerable experience advising both employers and trustees on a wide range of pension matters including scheme re-organisations, amendments and winding-up as well as Pensions Regulator interventions. She also has considerable experience advising on the pensions aspects (including international pensions aspects) of banking and corporate transactions as well as public sector outsourcing.

Ruth's experience includes advice in relation to the purchase by HIG Capital of Bucks Consultants, the purchase by Endless LLP of Menzies Distribution, advice in relation to cross-border pension scheme issues as well as several scheme change projects.

Commercial and IT



Lee Crook
Director - Commercial

+44 (0)113 283 4418

+44 (0)782 728 2925

lee.crook@walkermorris.co.uk

Lee advises, negotiates and prepares commercial contracts in support of the Firm's national and international clients' business critical and strategic trading activities and key commercial trading relationships.

In addition to advising across the full panoply of commercial arrangements for his clients (including long term supply agreements, procurement programmes, collaboration and joint venture agreements), Lee has built a reputation for delivering commercial support on corporate transactions, acting as commercial contracts advisor on pre-acquisition due diligence, negotiating transitional services arrangements and undertaking the post-completion review and implementation of business critical contractual arrangements.

Finance



James Crellin
Director - Finance

+44 (0)113 399 1724

+44 (0)7944 092 560

james.crellin@walkermorris.co.uk

James joined Walker Morris in 2015 from DLA Piper, and is a Director in the Finance Commercial group. With over 15 years of experience in acquisition finance, real estate finance and general corporate lending work, James regularly supports our Private Equity Group and also has particular experience acting on multi-jurisdictional, club/syndicated facilities in addition to domestic bilateral loans. He has also been involved in a number of high profile real estate development deals and plc refinancings.

James has been a speaker at LMA (Loan Market Association) regional training days and is mentioned in the Legal 500 directory.

Employment



Lorna Hopps
Senior Associate - Employment

+44 (0)113 399 1816
+44 (0)781 497 0865
lorna.hopps@walkermorris.co.uk

Lorna has considerable experience of dealing with the employment aspects in both acquisition and investment transactions.

Lorna has previously advised the incoming CEO, COO and CFO in a £40m buyout of a healthcare and residential care group in the UK. She also has extensive experience of advising a British multi-national supermarket on a range of employment law and human resource issues, including unfair dismissal and discrimination issues. Her advice included acting in Tribunal proceedings on their behalf, including successfully managing appeals in the Employment Appeal Tribunal and Court of Appeal.

Regulatory



Claire Burrows
Director - Regulatory

+44 (0)113 283 2617
+44 (0)778 783 3366
claire.burrows@walkermorris.co.uk

Claire is a specialist regulatory compliance lawyer at Walker Morris. She has particular expertise in health and safety, environmental, food safety, medical device regulation, Coronial Law and anti-bribery legislation. She regularly acts in complex regulatory investigations and is an experienced advocate who has appeared on numerous occasions in the Magistrates and Coroners Courts.

Claire is endorsed by Legal 500 for health and safety and is highly regarded by her clients. She is acknowledged as a crisis management expert who offers practical, on-site support alongside legal, commercial and strategic advice following regulatory breaches.

Claire's notable instructions come from major clients in the construction, manufacturing, demolition and health care sectors. Claire regularly provides bespoke training for Boards of Directors and Senior Management Teams on regulatory topics.

Intellectual Property



Matthew Lingard

Senior Associate - Intellectual Property & Trade Marks

+44 (0)113 283 2581

+44 (0)743 239 3237

matthew.lingard@walkermorris.co.uk

Matthew regularly advised on all aspects of intellectual property, AI and other new disruptive technologies. He has particular experience in conducting litigation and has regularly conducted matters in the Intellectual Property Enterprise Court (IPEC) and the High Court.

Matthew provides advice to clients of all levels and is regularly relied upon to provide strategic intellectual property guidance. He assists clients with solving issues and managing their intellectual property estates. He advises other teams within Walker Morris on the full range of issues that arise when dealing with intellectual property, in particular those raised by the firms complex corporate transactions.

Matthew holds a Masters Degree in Cyberlaw and as such is particularly comfortable with matters involving complex technology and software. Matt is a frequent publisher of academic articles and has been published in the Oxford Journal of Intellectual Property Law and Practice, the European Intellectual Property Review and the Entertainment Law Review.

Regionally Team



Justin Urquhart Stewart

Co-founder & Chairman

With an early career that spanned the vineyards of Europe, the docks of Southampton and finance in Asia, Justin went onto establish Broker Services at what became Barclays Stockbrokers.

Today he is one of the most recognisable and trusted market commentators on television, radio and in the press. He is also one of the co-founders of 7IM. Together with Tom Sheridan, Justin founded 7IM to deliver radical common sense in an industry where that quality is hard to find. As Head of Corporate Development, he ensured the principle of doing the right thing is as powerful today as it was at the outset. As an enthusiast of financial education and service, he is a champion of providing clients the very best, clearly expressed.

Regionally Team



Jim Odell
Co-founder & Managing Director

Jim is a leader, entrepreneur, management consultant, coach, mentor and market maker with extensive experience as a director and VP of multi-national organisations.

He has led businesses in the UK, India, and the USA, including Cambridge Technology Partners, BT, Tata Consultancy Services, Accenture, Cable & Wireless and Chairman at the Academy for Chief Executives. He has a strong network and background in technology, outsourcing, advisory services and investment finance. He has enjoyed success but also learnt from business failure. 'If you want to know what lies ahead, then speak to someone coming back'.

Regionally Team



Julie Cunningham
Finance Director

Julie is an entrepreneurial, innovative and commercially astute Finance Director, with years of experience across B2B, B2C, start-ups, financial services, insurance, consulting, SME's, commercial and global corporate sectors, especially for Poundland, Midland Recruitment Solutions and A F Blakemore.

Julie headed up several high-level projects on behalf of the Co-op, Holland & Barrett, M&S, Homeserve and the RAC. She has experience of driving change management, innovative service offerings, end-to-end project delivery, investment and funding options, acquisitions and MBO's, business scale up and significant growth of PE backed businesses, corporate governance and realisation of shareholder-value.

Regionally Team



Flora Gray
Operations Director

Flora is a central member of the Regionally team, providing dynamic entrepreneurialism at every point. Since joining Regionally, Flora has committed to the advancement of the business, platform and expansion of the team. She currently drives the platform development and internal processes, operational strategies and oversees the day to day business activities.

Studying History at Newcastle University, she examined the formation of leading nations and global economies developing her depth and breadth of knowledge and skills. Flora also began investment management training at Rivers Capital Partners, providing her with an adept understanding of SME finance.

Regionally Team



Simon Johnson
Head of Northern Investments

Simon brings a wealth of knowledge in all aspects of Corporate Affairs and Banking, fund management and debt structuring to the Regionally team. Simon is currently Debt Management Fund Manager at Carlton James Global Investment Group, alongside his executive role at Hindley Capital.

Prior to this, Simon managed the portfolio of the North-East Angel Fund (NEAF) at Rivers Capital Partners and worked with NEL Fund Managers Limited from 2003 – 2016. Simon managed up to £100 million in 6 regional funds between 2003 and 2017. He currently holds the Investment Management Certificate of the UK Society of Investment Professionals, the Institute of Directors Diploma in Company Direction and is an FCA Approved Person.

Regionally Team



Johnny Wordsworth
Investment Executive

Johnny became interested in early-stage investing while studying for his undergraduate degree at The University of Manchester. This led to a 6-month placement at Chase De Vere IFA, where he undertook portfolio research, analysing ESG investments and compiling investment reports.

Prior to joining Regionally, he was Director of Communications and Economic Campaign writer for a political think-tank with influence in parliament. Having completed his thesis on Brexit, he is an avid supporter of building innovative financial infrastructures that facilitate investment across the UK.

Regionally Team



Freya Wordsworth
Head of Marketing

Freya is a creative addition to the team, with experience of working in several sectors and contexts. Her career began in international development in the Middle East and then shifted towards focusing on the start-up industry.

Freya worked in the Netherlands for a social enterprise start-up focusing on technology for the elderly, before returning to the UK and joining Regionally. Her work is complimented through her academic experience in both Newcastle-upon-Tyne and Amsterdam, where she completed her Master of Science in International Relations and Political Science.

