

A background image showing a business meeting. In the foreground, two people are shaking hands. In the background, a group of four people are seated around a table, looking at documents. The image has a blue and purple color overlay.

Risk Advisory

Business Legal Services

Do you need a law firm which understands not just corporate law but the risks that businesses face and is able to provide innovative solutions that allow you to overcome adverse circumstances?

Irwin Mitchell's Risk Advisory team provides advice to stakeholders, investors, boards of directors, individual directors and to banks and private equity with regard to dealing with circumstances where a crisis has arisen, or underperformance or other circumstances created a situation where financial distress is evident or anticipated. The team's experience of such situations has been hands-on involvement, and not simply providing academic advice from afar.

We are able to guide you through a complex regulatory environment and work with other professionals in assisting you to find solutions. The solutions will often involve reviewing with you your current cash requirement and your long-term requirements and considering the regulatory framework that will affect the availability of solutions.

Our clients are large corporates who have made investments in other parts of the world, fast-growing entrepreneurial businesses, private equity and high-net-worth individuals and business owners and the directors and management of the businesses in which they have made investments.

In particular, the team has advised on:

- Capital and cash management, in particular finance facilities, buy backs, dividends and capital reductions
- Directors duties
- Boardroom disputes
- Shareholder and investor disputes
- Directors indemnities and insurance
- Remuneration
- Managing claims and litigation risk.

Our Risk Advisory team is supported in its work by corporate, tax, pension, intellectual property, regulatory, litigation, banking and finance lawyers.

Recent experience

Construction and maintenance service	<p>An investment in an associated company had been entirely dissipated by a subsidiary director with a gambling habit. The hole in the balance sheet had to be filled and remedial action taken to affect a partial recovery. New governance guidelines were recommended.</p>
Acquisition and turnaround entity	<p>Advising directors and funders of the client with regard to issues that had arisen in connection with the acquisition of an Italian subsidiary which did not come up to warranty on its DD, and the steps that needed to be taken to provide re-finance.</p>
Education	<p>Advising the board of directors who are both Chinese and English with regard to the finance required for a business plan that will take some years to come to fruition, and advising on creditor exposure and the need for appropriate finance facilities.</p>
Unclaimed dividend tax service	<p>Acted to advise the board of directors in circumstances where a major client had defrauded the company and third parties of very large sums of money. The fraud involved tax deductions in Scandinavian states running into hundreds of millions of euros. Regulatory and restructuring advice was provided that ensured the continuance of the business and the protection of the directors.</p>
Peace	<p>Advising Chinese investors (operating through a Luxembourg entity) as to how to exit with as little pain as possible from a £12million investment in a UK company, and to do so in a way which was compatible with making an appropriate announcement to the relevant stock exchange.</p>
Traditional manufacturing entity	<p>Advising the board of directors with regard to their exposures in connection with the in-house pension scheme, and the effect that this will have long-term and the steps that can be taken to mitigate their obligation and seek to rebalance the company's obligations.</p>

Our team



Martin Cross

Partner

T: +44 (0)129 374 2810

M: +44 (0)7712 535 425

E: martin.cross@irwinmitchell.com

"Martin Cross has a very analytical mind. He analyses step by step and reaches conclusions and options. Sometimes you might think "where is he going with this?" but it is a really smart way of doing it. It teases out all the necessary legal issues at the same time." **Finance Director, Petroleum Pipe Limited**



Daniel Bastide

Partner

T: +44 (0)129 374 2756

M: +44 (0)7739 984 450

E: daniel.bastide@irwinmitchell.com

"If you were to look at it, most people see legal services as a bit of a commodity, which is true - any law firm can offer you the service. From my perspective it's the people that are delivering the service, so the key is the relationships with the people I work with on a day-to-day perspective. That's what keeps me with Irwin Mitchell." **Jonathan Cowles, Finance Director, Micheldever**



Bryan Bletso

Partner

T: +44 (0)207 650 3819

M: +44 (0)7770 795 703

E: bryan.bletso@irwinmitchell.com

"Overall my opinion is extremely positive. Irwin Mitchell is a fantastic firm. I have worked with Bryan Bletso and Charlie Milsom and they have been extremely available, and quick to respond. Those are great elements of strength." **Marco Schiavetto, Advisor**



John Vickery

Partner

T: +44 (0)161 838 3159

M: +44 (0)7896 526 236

E: john.vickery@irwinmitchell.com

"John Vickery has a 'depth of experience that makes him a very good judge of tactics'; he is rated for his ability to 'outline the legal issues and implications clearly'." **Legal 500**

 0370 1500 100

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For a list of our offices visit our website

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