

# Clear thinking. Better outcomes.

**OUR PENSIONS OFFERING** 



# Why choose us?

We understand the wide range of information and advice you need to navigate today's environment. We are at the leading edge of innovation in pensions law and practice.

Our long-standing clients include many of the UK's largest pension funds as well as major employers, and we have partnered and guided them through change after change. We keep track of what's on the horizon and engage with policy makers and industry players. This enables our clients to predict and manage new risks and opportunities with confidence.

Pensions is a highly complex and technical field and the financial risks are significant. Clients need to know that their advisers have the right experience and expertise and won't compromise on quality. But we understand that you also need advice that delivers real value – practical and commercially strategic solutions, provided in a straightforward and efficient way. And you need advisers who are as committed to your goals as you are.

This is the combination that we provide. We have one of the largest pensions practices in the City, and pensions clients are priority clients across our firm. We seamlessly encompass all the technical legal specialisms you need across a range of specialist lawyers who are themselves leaders in their fields. We ensure that you get the clear answers and options you need to help you to predict and plan for the future of pension provision.

As an independent law firm, we work closely with carefully chosen overseas law firms who share our specialist strengths and very demanding quality standards. This approach benefits our clients, allowing us to select the best lawyers for the job in each location.

# Our approach







Innovative



Practical

## **Pensions at Travers Smith**





The team works closely with other practitioners in the firm to provide clients with a joined-up service: "They are good at engaging teams right across the firm and bringing in experts to match the needs of the client."

**Chambers and Partners** 

#### **PIPA**

# Pensions Law Firm 2021

Winner, FT Pensions Expert
Pension and Investment
Provider Awards

#### PROFESSIONAL PENSIONS

# UK Pensions Awards 2021, 2020 & 2018

Winner, Diversity & Inclusion Excellence Award

# **Recent highlights**

#### **Arcadia**

Advising the trustees of the Arcadia Group Pension Schemes on new funding and security arrangements in connection with company voluntary arrangements (CVAs) for group companies.

## The British Steel Pension Scheme

Advising the British Steel Pension Scheme on the separation of BSPS from Tata Steel, setting up a new BSPS with modified benefits, the "Time to Choose" exercise for its 125,000 members, the transfer of most members and over £10bn assets to the new BSPS, and the old BSPS going into a PPF assessment period.

#### **AXA**

Acting for the trustees of the AXA UK Group Pension Scheme on a range of legal issues, including day to day advice as well as large projects including the £2.8bn insurance-wrapped longevity hedge using a captive insurance structure and putting in place a covenant-enhancing asset-backed contribution structure ("ABC").

#### Nortel

Advising the Nortel Networks UK Pensions Trust Ltd on a £2.4bn PPF-plus buy-out for the Nortel Networks UK Pension Plan with Legal & General, allowing the Plan to exit its 10 year PPF assessment period.

#### **Laura Ashley**

Advising Laura Ashley on pensions and other aspects of refinancing, restructuring and administration.

## Reach plc

Advising the MGN Pension Scheme throughout the acquisition by Reach plc (formerly Trinity Mirror) of Northern & Shell's publishing business

# Association of British Insurers

Advising the Association of British Insurers on the creation of the "Pensions Dashboard", the new digital initiative promoted by HM Treasury.

#### **Vodafone**

Advising the Vodafone Group Pension Scheme on its merger with the Cable & Wireless Worldwide Retirement Plan, including the transfer of nearly £2bn of investment products.

#### Stena Line Ltd

Representing Stena Line Limited in proceedings in the High Court and the Court of Appeal which brought about new funding arrangements for the industrywide Merchant Navy Ratings Pension Fund.

#### **Lehman Brothers**

Advising the Lehman Brothers
Pension Scheme on all aspects of
the bank's insolvency including
PPF assessment, the Financial
Support Direction litigation (up
to the Supreme Court) and the
settlement and buy-out to secure
all member benefits in full.

# Pensions Infrastructure Platform (PiP)

Advising the Pensions Infrastructure Platform (PiP) established by PLSA and certain leading UK pension funds to encourage more UK infrastructure investments.

### **Willis Towers Watson**

Acting for the trustees of the Willis Pension Scheme on a range of legal issues, including day to day advice as well as large projects including the \$18bn merger between Willis and Towers Watson

# **Key contacts**



Susie Daykin Head of Pensions susie.daykin @traverssmith.com +44 (0)20 7295 3247



Daniel Gerring Partner daniel.gerring @traverssmith.com +44 (0)20 7295 3341



Jonathan Gilmour Partner jonathan.gilmour @traverssmith.com +44 (0)20 7295 3425



Niamh Hamlyn Partner niamh.hamlyn @traverssmith.com +44 (0)20 7295 3287



Peter Hughes
Partner
peter.hughes
@traverssmith.com
+44 (0)20 7295 3377



David James
Partner
david.james
@traverssmith.com
+44 (0)20 7295 3087



Chris Widdison
Partner
chris.widdison
@traverssmith.com
+44 (0)20 7295 3604



Joseph Wren
Partner
joseph.wren
@traverssmith.com
+44 (0)20 7295 3401



Sarah Boon Consultant sarah.boon @traverssmith.com +44 (0)20 7295 342



Charlotte Feld
Consultant
charlotte.feld
@traverssmith.com
+44 (0)20 7295 3469



Tom Green Senior Counsel tom.green @traverssmith.com +44 (0)20 7295 3076



Karen Sahota Senior Counsel karen.sahota @traverssmith.com +44 (0)20 7295 3348



Harriet Sayer Senior Counsel harriet.sayer @traverssmith.com +44 (0)20 7295 3815



Carmel Williams Senior Counsel carmel.williams @traverssmith.com +44 (0)20 7295 3135



Nick White Knowledge Counsel nick.white @traverssmith.com +44 (0)20 7295 3472

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