SQUIRE PATTON BOGGS

Amanda Small

Partner

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About Amanda

Amanda Small is a partner in our firm and leads our Manchester Pensions Practice Group.

She has over 16 years of experience advising trustees, corporate sponsors and pension providers across a wide range of defined benefit (DB) and defined contribution (DC) arrangements.

Amanda is known for providing clear, solution-focused pensions advice with a practical and personable approach. She is consistently ranked in the legal directories, where she has been described as “practical, very experienced in pensions and always available”, and praised for delivering “clear, practical advice”.

Amanda is also recognised for quickly grasping complex issues and providing efficient, effective guidance.

Experience

- Leading a cross-practice team advising the trustees of a £40 billion-plus DC master trust on (i) the implementation of, and transition from, pooled to segregated mandates and (ii) the appointment of a new in-house subsidiary to provide investment advice.
- Advising a large financial institution on the transfer of its own trust-based DC scheme, with assets in excess of £6 billion, to a master trust – one of the largest DC transfers to a commercial master trust to date.
- Advising a large commercial DC master trust on a DB surplus solution for current and prospective employers, as well as trustees and sponsors on the use of DB surplus.
- Advising a trustee client on a potential transfer to a DB superfund, including the related "gateway" test.
- Advising Wirral Borough Council, as administering authority of the Merseyside Pension Fund, on securing around £200 million of liabilities with Aviva in a complex and innovative transaction, one of the first occasions on which a Local Government Pensions Scheme (LGPS) pension fund had used a buy-in policy in this way.
- Advising on several large and complex buy-in transactions, including (i) negotiating and agreeing loan agreements with sponsors; (ii) advising on deferred premium agreements; and (iii) advising on, and agreeing the terms of, the sale of private equity assets.
- Advising the corporate sponsor of a multimillion-pound pension scheme on all aspects of its triennial valuation, including (i) reviewing and modifying existing security arrangements; (ii) advising on a new funding agreement setting long-term funding targets and future de-risking arrangements; and (iii) engaging with The Pensions Regulator on its behalf.
- Advising trustees on the implications of the sale of a sponsor, including negotiating the replacement of the sponsor and appropriate mitigation arrangements, with security provided by an overseas parent company.

Credentials

Education

- Manchester Metropolitan University, Legal Practice Course, 2005
- Manchester Metropolitan University, LL.B. (Hons.), 2003

Admissions

- England and Wales, 2008

Memberships & Affiliations

- Member, Association of Pension Lawyers
- Member, DC Committee of the Society of Pension Professionals

Recognitions

- Recognised by *Legal 500* as a Next Generation Partner – Pensions
- Ranked by *Chambers UK* for Pensions

Expertise

Services

- Pensions

About our firm

One of the world's strongest integrated law firms, providing insight at the point where law, business and government meet. We deliver commercially focused business solutions by combining our legal, lobbying and political capabilities and invaluable connections on the ground to a diverse mix of clients, from long-established leading corporations to emerging businesses, startup visionaries and sovereign nations. More than 1,500 lawyers in over 40 offices across four continents provide unrivaled access to expertise.