

ashfords

FOCUS ON FOOD & DRINK



We work alongside you from farm to fork.

We can help in a proactive way by providing advice before you make, label, supply, sell or advertise your products, and in a reactive way when things don't quite go to plan such as product recalls or notices from EHO.

Key specialisms:

- Produce and Products
- Retail
- Logistics
- Finance and Enterprise
- Notices, claims and prosecutions



We provide commercial services for our clients within all stages of the food cycle including producers, wholesalers, distributors and retailers to provide a complete solution to our clients' requirements. You will not need to go anywhere else.

We have listed our key areas below; however please do ask if your query is not listed as we have come across most things from mice infestations to dodgy claims on packaging.

PRODUCE & PRODUCTS

We help food and drink producers with all aspects of the production process from food hygiene, to the rules regarding food of animal origin to food information and which allergens have to be listed on the label or which advertising claims can be made. We can assist with recalls and working alongside you to put in place HACCP systems and policies to minimise the risk of the problem occurring again.

NOTICES, CLAIMS & PROSECUTIONS

When things don't quite go to plan we can be there for you. This could be providing an action plan for EHO, dealing with a food poisoning claim or supporting you to get the label you want for your product.

RETAIL

We benefit from specific sector knowledge to help reduce risks, nurture growth and support clients in developing strategies for success. We have retail clients that represent over 2000 outlets and £300+ billion turnover. Our retail experience is enhanced by lawyers whose day-to-day work supports nationally known retailers such as Majestic Wines and Subway franchisees.

FINANCE & ENTERPRISE

Our team is nationally recognised for the quality of its advice, its sector understanding and expertise when assisting businesses with their finance and enterprise requirements. We advise businesses with their on-going business needs, helping them achieve their commercial goals. This could be advising you regarding bringing an investment on board, reorganising your business for a future sale or purchasing a complementary business.

LOGISTICS

We can help you get your products from A to B, whether that is advising on a distribution contract, dealing with a dispute about delivery or assisting with workforce issues.



ADVICE TO YOUR BUSINESS:

- Food safety and product liability
- Supply chain contracts
- Import and exports
- Workforce issues including immigration and right to work obligations
- Purchasing, selling or reorganising your business
- Product recalls
- Commercial disputes including prosecutions by EHO
- Insolvent suppliers
- Agricultural technology
- Leasing, purchasing and selling premises
- Waste management
- Business regulation
- Labelling

OUR RECENT EXPERIENCE

Consortium of food businesses

Advising Somerset Larder (a consortium brought together to service Hinkley) on construction, corporate, regulatory and employment issues.

WC Rowe (Falmouth)

Advising on the sale of the entire issue share capital of WC Rowe (Falmouth) Limited to Iberia Industry Capital Group Sarl.

Fast food franchisee

Acting for the owner of 12 fast-food restaurants on an appeal of two Civil Penalties imposed by the Home Office for allegedly employing illegal workers. We successfully appealed both penalties saving our client £40,000 in fines and also avoided negative publicity and reputational damage for the business.

Fresh food distribution company

Advising a fast-growing food company on all aspects of regulation and supporting them through undertaking a gap analysis, audits and training.

A soft drinks provider

Acting for a manufacturing company in its pursuit of a claim against a large soft drinks provider for damages arising out of an alleged breach of a Manufacturing Agreement.

International juice and coconut water provider

Advising an international smoothie company wanting to expand into the UK on product safety, labelling and packaging requirements.



ABOUT ASHFORDS

Ashfords is a national provider of legal, professional and regulatory services.

We work with many different kinds of clients – business owners, public sector, large corporates, private individuals and not for profit organisations – to help them make the most of their opportunities, whilst effectively managing risk.

We provide legal advice that is not just technically sound, but is rooted in a wider appreciation of the real world in which we all exist. A world that is constantly changing, frequently surprising and invariably hard to navigate.

Whilst we recognise that no two clients' legal issues are the same, we aim always to provide straightforward, timely advice, delivered in clear and simple language.

Above all, we believe that every client should expect and receive value for time and value for money. Which means working with lawyers who make your life easier, share your values and are good to work with. Lawyers who deliver advice grounded in your world.

Ashfords LLP

Real world advice for real world issues.

KEY CONTACTS



Darren Blackburn

Head of Agriculture
d.blackburn@ashfords.co.uk
Direct +44 (0)1884 203049
Mobile +44 (0)7976052660



Andy Braithwaite

Commercial Partner
a.braithwaite@ashfords.co.uk
Direct +44 (0)117 321 8088
Mobile +44 (0)7785 950050



Andrew Worley

Real Estate Partner
a.worley@ashfords.co.uk
Direct +44 (0)117 321 8089
Mobile +44 (0)7590961285



Kirsty Cooke

Employment Senior Associate
k.cooke@ashfords.co.uk
Direct +44 (0)1392 333908
Mobile +44 (0)7889170945



Jack Baumgardt

Business Risk & Regulation
Solicitor
j.baumgardt@ashfords.co.uk
Direct +44 (0)117 321 8021



Joanne Saye

Commercial Litigation Solicitor
j.saye@ashfords.co.uk
Direct +44 (0)117 321 8037
Mobile +44 (0)7702 540025