

Legal services for

Managing Trustees across the Methodist Connexion



THE LAW FIRM WITH A PASSION FOR PEOPLE

We're genuine experts

We have the expertise and experience to support and meet the needs of Managing Trustees. We count over **400 schools and charities as clients**, and advise a wide range of faith-based organisations and educational institutions.

HCR Law is a top 60, award-winning full service law firm. Our 800+ lawyers are split into service teams by legal discipline, and our Charities and Not-for-profit team sits as one multi-disciplinary service team and provides expert specialist advice in specialist markets.

There is very little we haven't encountered before – we get to the heart of the issue quickly and deliver highly specialist and relevant advice.

Our advice is decisive, proportionate and always in the context of your mission. We know your complex legal challenges don't always fall into neat legal disciplines and we're used to working together across the team to develop holistic solutions.

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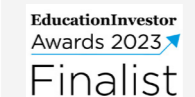
Virginia Henley is a brilliant lawyer. I have 100% confidence in her knowledge and understanding of all aspects of charity law. She really understands the sector very well and has a practical, client focused approach. I couldn't recommend her highly enough.

Client quote, Legal 500 2023

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Passion and commitment to their profession and a drive to go beyond for their clients. Clear management of expectations. James Frankland is outstanding.

Client quote, Legal 500 2024





Our strengths



Charity Law – We can advise on all aspects of charity law in England and Wales and we will help to ensure good governance, regulatory compliance and protection of your assets. Our team is long-established and deals with the full range of issues for charities, their trustees, staff and volunteers at all stages and in all aspects of their work.



Commercial – We can support on all commercial and operational issues. Our experts advise a wide range of charities on a variety of commercial, IP, IT and data protection matters. This includes joint ventures and partnerships, fundraising and sponsorship agreements, trading arrangements, service and supply contracts and GDPR compliance and documents.



Ecumenical work – We can help to facilitate important partnerships between The Methodist Church and other Christian denominations. Working together, we can effectively develop the relationships between churches and promote unity. Whether Local Ecumenical Partnerships (“LEP”) are needed in relation to a single congregation, or for the sharing of a church building or co-operation in chaplaincy, we can advise in respect of the creation of an LEP.



Legacies – Our experts will help you maximise the benefit of legacies – we advise local and national charities on the tax implications and administration of complex wills, trusts and estates. Working closely with legacy officers, we ensure the case handling is sensitive to your aims, purpose and reputation.



Reputation management – We will help you protect your reputation, your most significant asset and which is key to maintaining the trust of your congregation, communities and donors.



Civil litigation and safeguarding matters – We will be your first port of call in managing a crisis and resolving any type of dispute. Recognising the reputational issues we will develop proactive strategies to avoid litigation.



Compliance – We fully understand the regulatory and legislative framework relating to charities and our team is distinguished by its ability to advise on every issue likely to be encountered – there are few other firms that offer such a breadth of expertise. As such, our experts will help you successfully and confidently navigate these legislative and regulatory frameworks to protect your reputation and meet your objectives.



Employment – Our team can support and advise across all aspects of employment law, meaning we will help you recruit, manage and develop your people lawfully. Our experience covers all employee-related matters such as grievances, disciplinary issues, performance, sickness absence, redundancy, trade union matters, discrimination, TUPE and settlement agreements.



Property transactions – We help charities acquire, develop and maintain land, property and estates, including investment property. Our 100+ strong Property team combines years of experience and professionalism with a warm and friendly approach covering commercial and residential property law in managing large, complex property portfolios.



Schools – Our market-leading education team has advised the education sector for over 50 years. With hundreds of academy conversations under our belt, our knowledge and experience is second-to-none. We have worked with several church schools, creating or joining multi-academy trusts to build a strong network of schools so we are your trusted legal adviser to manage and grow your multi-academy trust.

We're a Top 60 UK law firm



Our roots go back to the 1700's and our growth has always been in response to client demand. With ten bases in England and Wales our well-established presence stretches from west to east, ensuring clients can access a full-service legal offering no matter where they're located.

We have solid connections in the communities we work in, and a track record of delivering legal advice to charities, businesses and individuals throughout the areas we base ourselves in.



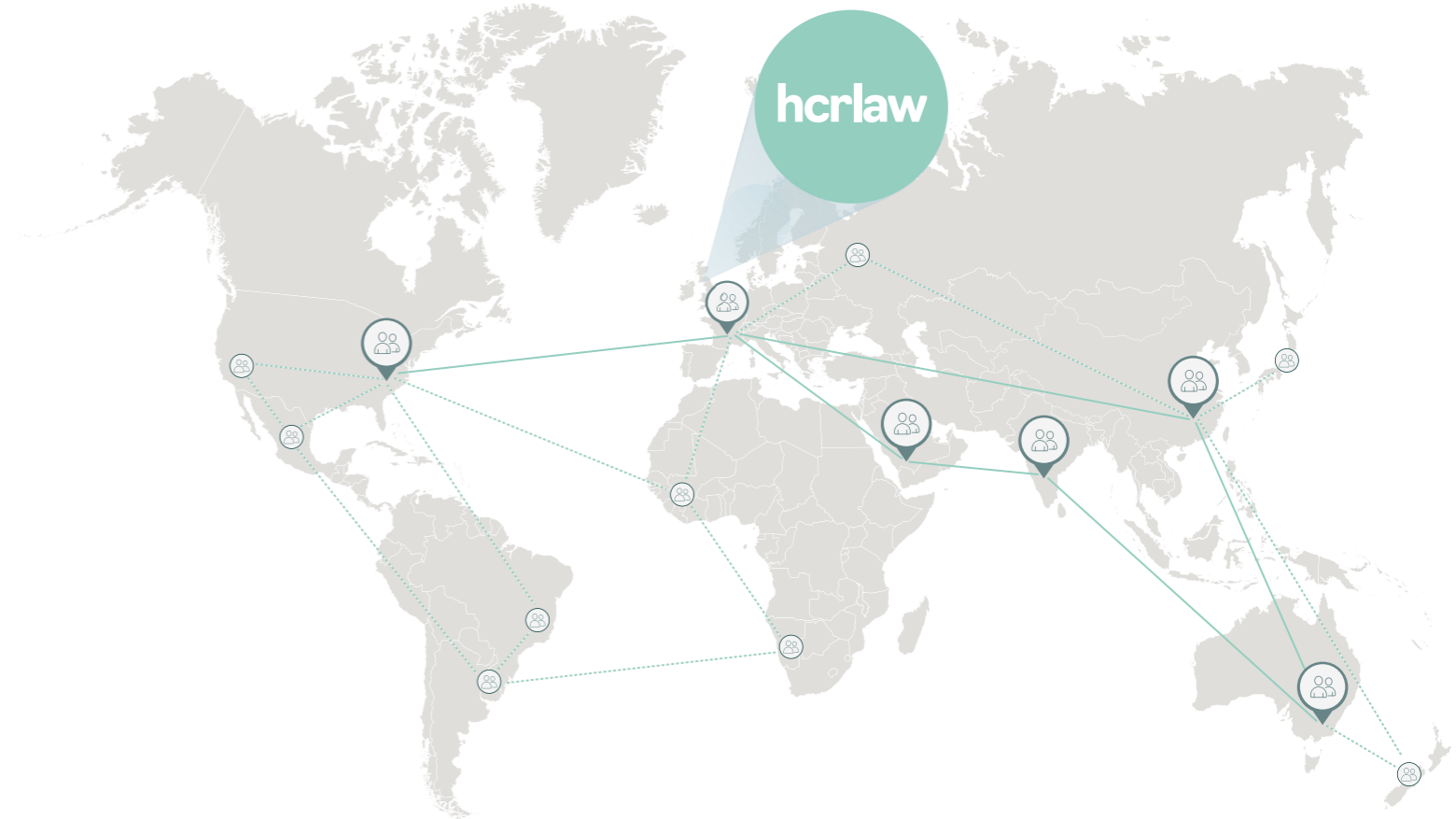
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| 1. BIRMINGHAM | 6. HEREFORD |
| 2. CAMBRIDGE | 7. LONDON |
| 3. CARDIFF | 8. THAMES VALLEY |
| 4. CENTRAL ENGLAND | 9. WORCESTER |
| 5. CHELTENHAM | 10. WYE VALLEY |

Further afield

We have specialist expertise and collaborative relationships in Australia, China, Europe, India, the Middle East and the USA, where our relationships with the people and institutions that might affect you are tried and tested.

Our legal, commercial and government connections within those areas are extensive and deep – we work with individuals that we've personally known for years.

Beyond our regions of specialist expertise, we are a member of Law Exchange International (LEI), which gives us access to the expertise of 37 independent law firms across five continents and 31 countries. LEI was founded in 1994 by one of HCR's predecessor firms. The network enables us to obtain reliable and cost-effective advice from lawyers we trust, from Belgium to Brazil and from Turkey to Texas.



Meet the team



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The Education team at HCR law is a high performing and experienced team of partners and associates who are market leaders in their sector. They provide a comprehensive and ‘one stop’ option for busy clients who require timely and pragmatic advice to complex issues.

Client quote, Legal 500 2024



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