





ELIZABETH HEAD

OF COUNSEL

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Elizabeth advises and represents clients on financial crime matters.

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KEY SERVICES

Corporate Crime and Investigations
Sanctions

KEY SECTORS

Financial Institutions

EXPERIENCE

Elizabeth is part of our top-ranked and award-winning global financial crime and investigations team. She advises clients in relation to fraud, corruption and money laundering, and also regularly advises clients in different industries on issues relating to international sanctions. She acts on complex national and international investigations and compliance matters, and has a particular specialism in relation to UK and EU sanctions, particularly those affecting Russia, Iran, Syria and Libya.

Elizabeth has significant experience advising on internal and external investigations, including those conducted by, or at the instigation of, the Serious Fraud Office, the Financial Conduct Authority, and Her Majesty's Revenue & Customs. She advises a wide range of financial and non-financial sector clients on their internal compliance procedures with a particular focus on sanctions compliance, including in the context of corporate and finance transactions.

Elizabeth is described as “a star in the making” in the Legal 500 UK 2020 rankings (Crime, fraud and licensing – Fraud: white-collar crime) and, in 2018, was named as one of only 11 associates in Global Investigations Review’s “Women in Investigations” Survey, which profiled 100 female investigations specialists. She has spent time on secondment to the Corporate Crime & Investigations team in Herbert Smith Freehills’ New York office, and has also been seconded to the compliance departments of two large investment banks, both in London and New York.

Elizabeth's experience includes:

- successfully defending former Barclays Middle East investment banker Mr Roger Jenkins in the prosecution of Barclays senior executives in relation to Qatar’s 2008 investment in the bank
- advising a bank in respect of an FCA investigation regarding potential failings in relation to its anti-money laundering systems and controls
- acting as part of the team appointed as the independent monitor of Oxford University Press, pursuant to settlements entered into by it with the World Bank and the Serious Fraud Office
- advising a number of global financial institutions in respect of anti-money laundering compliance (including customer due diligence and suspicious activity reporting) and sanctions compliance (including advising on sanctions policies and procedures and reporting/seeking licences from HM Treasury)
- advising international energy sector companies on issues relating to EU and UK sanctions, in particular as regards Russia, Iran and Syria, their applicability to non-EU headquartered groups and their interrelationship with secondary criminal offences under English law