

The background of the page is a blurred, bokeh-style image of green and yellow foliage, creating a soft, natural aesthetic. A semi-transparent white rectangular box is positioned in the upper left quadrant, containing the main title text.

Agriculture
& Landed
Estates

Farm sales & purchases

We help clients with transactions involving all aspects of rural property, including acting in the sale and purchase of farms, landed estates and agricultural land, with associated residential property, farm cottages and commercial units. We can help with other rural property issues, such as finance and refinancing, easements and boundary adjustments, and the letting of associated houses, cottages and commercial / agricultural units.

Agricultural tenancies

We regularly provide clients with advice on tenancies under the Agricultural Holdings Act 1986 and the Agricultural Tenancies Act 1995 (Farm Business Tenancies). We have helped clients with a range of matters including: tied cottages, grazing agreements, farm business tenancies, agricultural holding tenancies and agricultural residential tenancies.

Employment law

We act for thousands of businesses across the agricultural and many other sectors, whom we help not only to respond to employment issues that arise but also to set up their contracts, policies, and procedures in such a way as to avoid problems arising in the first place.

More often than not farms tend to be a family run business with a high dependency on seasonal workers. The need for flexible approaches to working hours can add another level of complexity. Our solicitors are extremely experienced in the agricultural sector and can draft employment contracts that are designed to suit your particular situation.

Agricultural succession planning

Our expert solicitors are knowledgeable and experienced when it comes to assisting the agricultural community. However you hold your land and property, livestock, stocks and shares, businesses or cash, our solicitors will be able to advise you for the benefit of you, your family and the beneficiaries of your estate.

Agricultural assets may benefit from Agricultural Property Relief (APR) and Business Property Relief (BPR). However, it is very easy to fall foul of the various conditions governing the availability of APR and BPR and other reliefs and exemptions. We therefore strongly advise clients to seek advice on how to pass their assets on in a tax-efficient way.

Animal welfare, wildlife & firearms

We have particular expertise in countryside-related criminal and regulatory matters, such as animal welfare, wildlife crime, firearms, and other legislation. We regularly act for individuals, farms, hunts, shooting estates and other rural businesses facing offences under the following: Animal Welfare Act 2006, Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981, Hunting Act 2004, Protection of Badgers Act 1992, Firearms Act 1968, The Environmental Protection Act 1990, Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974.

We also have extensive experience acting on behalf of clients wishing to appeal against licensing decisions in relation to firearms, including revocations, refusals to grant and refusals to vary certificates.

Farming family divorce

Divorces are never easy but when the divorce involves a person who has inherited assets that may have been in their family for multiple generations it can become even more complicated. On divorce, courts will divide the assets between the couple in a way that it deems fair. Inherited farms can be ring-fenced but the court will ensure that the other spouse is provided for and so property and land may have to be transferred or disposed of. Our family solicitors have extensive experience in helping farming families with: divorces, prenuptial agreements and cohabitation agreements.

We also help clients with:

- Sporting rights
- Disputes over access rights
- Trespass claims
- Flooding problems
- Boundary disputes

“They handled the situation in a way which filled me with confidence, leading me to believe that I had the right team behind me to secure a positive outcome.”

Chambers UK

***Recommended as a top tier law firm for
agriculture & estates - Legal 500***

We have a long established relationship with farmers, landowners and landed estates having acted for several generations of farming families for over 200 years.

Our agricultural and landed estate team has regularly been recognised as a leading firm in the legal directories, Legal 500 and Chambers UK. Our solicitors provide specialist advice on rural matters, but can also draw on expertise from other areas of the firm. This allows us to offer an integrated approach based on a clear understanding of your needs. Our aim is to provide advice that is prompt, practical and cost effective.

We help clients with:

- Farm sales & purchases
- Agricultural tenancies
- Agricultural employment issues
- Agricultural succession planning
- Farming family divorce
- Animal welfare, wildlife & firearms
- Firearms licensing appeals
- Sporting rights
- Disputes over access rights
- Trespass claims
- Flooding problems
- Boundary disputes

Services for individuals

- Trusts, Wills & tax planning
- Probate & estates
- Relationships & family matters
- Residential property
- Employment advice for employees
- Personal disputes & civil litigation
- Criminal & regulatory offences
- Rural & agricultural matters
- Services for elderly & vulnerable clients
- Notary

Services for businesses

- Corporate commercial
- Intellectual property
- Commercial property
- Property & lease disputes
- Employment law
- Commercial disputes & litigation
- Debt recovery
- Rural & agricultural matters
- International network
- Notary

Specialist sectors

- Agriculture & landed estates
- Equine & equestrian
- Technology, media & telecoms

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