

COMPANY COMMERCIAL LAWYER

COMMERCIAL TEAM

We have available a full-time role in our commercial team, based out of our Leeds and Harrogate offices, to deal with company-commercial work as part of a team dealing with a broad range of businesses but with a specific focus on technology businesses under our Berwins Digital brand. This role is for a lawyer with good experience in the field and with the assurance and ability to develop and attract business to the team.

The Role

Berwins' commercial team is led by highly-rated technology and commercial lawyer, Paul Berwin, and includes senior associate Sam Crich, who specialises in technology contracts, as well as a junior assistant. This role would involve working very closely with the team, which work flexibly whether from Leeds, from Harrogate or from home. The Leeds office is based at the Leeds Tech Hub at Platform Leeds 1.

Berwins work requires versatility – to deal with share structures, shareholders agreement and share schemes, to acquisitions and sale, and a range of commercial agreements whether for technology or more traditional businesses; clients are start-up, scale up and established owner managed businesses

The wider Berwins commercial team, which is otherwise based in Harrogate, has strengths in dispute resolution, property and employment, and the team works as a closely integrated unit with appropriate cross-team paralegal and administrative support.

This role arises through the growth of the team and its genuine success, and is an opportunity to build on that success to attract and do work in the Yorkshire area but also in the rest of the country and overseas. We have a London virtual office presence which we are working to build upon, and a growing number of London based clients.

Job Description

The job would involve;

- Working directly with Berwins key commercial clients
- Having an important role in developing the business of the team, deepening links with existing clients, where possible bringing your own contacts, and winning new work through creating relationships, maintaining a consistent social media profile, writing blogs and showing thought-leadership and consistent networking activity
- Working on commercial and corporate transactions, involving structure and growth of businesses as well as acquisitions and sales, with the ability to lead on these.
- Ability to “right-size” transactions so as to be able to deal with small-scale business sales and purchases, as well as corporate transactions.

- An ability to deal with a broad range of commercial needs which business clients, may have, including creating, negotiating and developing commercial contracts.

The successful candidate would be expected to work across Berwins Leeds and Harrogate offices – currently operated as three full days from Leeds, two from Harrogate (though actually mainly working without difficulty from home). We operate in a paperless environment which gives us great flexibility to work from whatever location is most effective, with each lawyer being equipped with a Microsoft Surface Pro, Samsung Galaxy mobile device, and additional screens

We have full access to PLC materials as well as other training as appropriate.

Salary will depend on experience.

Person Specification

Regardless of the level of experience, we would expect the successful candidate to be able to work with and develop valuable commercial contracts and businesses.

We would expect particular knowledge and strength in:

- Company issues, including share schemes
- Commercial contract issues
- Business structures

To maintain versatility across the team, we would expect to see knowledge of:

- Intellectual Property, especially around copyright and trademarks;
- Data Protection;
- And a good awareness of the key tax aspects relating to the aspects covered

We would expect any candidate to have:

- Excellent interpersonal and communication skills;
- Understand clients' commercial objectives;
- Be organised and methodical;
- Be a team player, with willingness to assist team members to help deliver a joint outcome;
- Be able to work to deadlines and to prioritise conflicting objectives;
- Have good research skills;
- Accurate, with good attention to detail;
- Commercial in outlook, both in terms of fee generation and work generation

Berwins expects every lawyer to be part of the marketing of the firm, working with the team and the firm's marketing team, and having personal visibility in the business community. Every team member is asked to contribute to blogs and other social media content, and to attend and seek out networking opportunities.

About Berwins

Berwins is one of the leading law firms in Harrogate and in the North Yorkshire area, and with a niche digital-sector office based at Platform, in Leeds – details at www.berwins.co.uk. For the Berwins Digital aspect, see www.berwinsdigital.com

We are repeatedly ranked for the quality of our work in directories such as Legal 500 and Chambers and Partners. Our core values are passion, care, ownership, teamwork and accessibility - and to make sure we're not just talking the talk we have our files externally audited. We use the phrase which a client gave to us - no ordinary lawyers - as an aspiration against which to measure what we are achieving.

Berwins offer a range of benefits including flexi time, company pension scheme, 25 days annual leave plus Bank Holidays, death in service benefit, health cash plan, cycle to work scheme, childcare vouchers and on-site parking on a rota basis at our Harrogate office.

To Apply

Please send your CV to PaulBerwin@berwins.co.uk

Berwins is an Investor in People. Berwins welcomes applications from suitably qualified people regardless of age, race, ethnic or national origin, religion, marital status, disability or sexual orientation. All applications for employment are considered strictly on merit. Berwins is committed to flexible working and diversity and inclusion.