

Governance and Compliance Senior In-house Counsel (Contracts/ Commercial)

Location: Leeds or Manchester

EVERSHEDS
SUTHERLAND

About Eversheds Sutherland

Eversheds Sutherland represents the combination of two firms with a shared culture, values and commitment to client service excellence. We are each known for our commercial awareness and industry knowledge and for providing innovative and tailored solutions for every client.

As a full service law practice, we act for the public and private sector across the UK, Europe, Middle East, Africa, Asia and the US providing legal advice to clients across the Company Commercial, Employment, Labour & Pensions, Litigation and Dispute Management, and Real Estate practices.

With more than **70 offices** in more than **30 countries** worldwide, we have become one of the largest law practices in the world and a great place to work and develop your career.

Global reach

We have offices in Europe (including Belgium, France, Germany, Luxembourg, Netherlands, and the UK), Asia and the Middle East and the US. We deal constantly with large-scale projects involving multiple jurisdictions as well as countless day-to-day activities that help our clients manage their operations across the world.

We have local knowledge, combined with an international overview and complex legal work is handled by some of the leading lawyers in the business. Our multi-office structure also gives us the flexibility to apply creative and competitive pricing solutions. From our international offices, we specialize in many areas. These include: banking, litigation/international arbitration, competition and regulatory, tax, financial services (including insurance, pensions and funds advisory), M&A and private equity, major international infrastructure projects.

In addition, we have experts in sectors such as industrials, real estate, consumer, energy and transport and technology.

The Team

The Governance & Compliance Team consists of the firm's in-house counsel team headed by the Chief Governance Officer and General Counsel working with lawyers and other colleagues around the business to develop and implement effective policies and procedures and ensure compliance with new legislative and regulatory requirements and oversees other issues affecting the firm's risk profile and reputation. Amongst other things, the Governance & Compliance Team manages the firm's insurance and claims, contractual and commercial arrangements with clients, suppliers and other third parties, new business intake and conflict management, legal and regulatory compliance (including privacy) and the firm's ISO9001 accreditation. The Governance & Compliance Team is successfully creating a robust framework for managing risk across all parts of our business, which continues to expand internationally.

The Role

The Governance and Compliance Team's remit is across our UK, Europe, Asia and Middle East offices, supporting the business, our legal and other colleagues. We are a vibrant and enthusiastic team, and following recent investment we are now looking to expand the team once again.

This role is to work within the Contracts & Commercial team, supporting the Director of Contracts & Commercial, to support the firm with its contracting arrangements with clients, suppliers and other third parties and generally its client and supplier management processes and policies. This is an additional role to work within the existing dedicated team of eight.

The role is extremely varied; the issues that arise and the queries from our legal teams mean that no two days are ever the same. The work is a mix of strategic projects and ongoing work. Examples of strategic projects include supporting our international expansion by office opening, joint ventures, implementing major new client wins and implementing new legislation or regulation.

You will have constant interaction with partners, legal advisers and business colleagues at all levels across the firm as well as directly with clients and suppliers. You will be dealing with contacts in all Eversheds Sutherland offices and will gain profile and reputation with them. This is an international role.

The Governance and Compliance team has the ability to draw on the expertise of our own lawyers and you will often be working with experts in the particular area. It is a great opportunity to work as an in-house lawyer in a fast-moving corporate environment within a strong team and with the resources of a major global law firm.

Key Responsibilities

- Reviewing, drafting, advising on and negotiating contracts with suppliers across business

areas, including facilities management, marketing, IT and HR and Practice Groups

- Advising the firm generally on contractual matters
- Supplier management policies, procedures and processes – including due diligence programme, database and ongoing review
- Responsibility for standard engagement documentation
- Reviewing, drafting and advising on client specific agreements and then agreeing terms with that client

that client

- Supporting on client pitches, reviewing requirements and terms
- Support on our constitutional structure and advising on related queries and projects
- Advising on the firm's contractual arrangements with other law firms and other third parties
- Assisting on key projects that support the firm in achieving its strategic objectives
- Reviewing and considering new legislation and its impact on the firm, advising the business on changes needed and designing new policies and procedures, changes to contracts and client terms

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Designing and delivering training sessions as part of project work and as part of the firm's ongoing compliance programme

- Working with the wider Risk & Knowledge team on projects from time to time

Supervising and supporting more junior members of the team

- Advising the firm at a strategic level on various commercial & contracts issues and projects

Skills & Competencies required

A qualified solicitor, ideally with a minimum of 6 years PQE in commercial and contracting work

Excellent communication skills, both written and verbal, and the ability to deliver sensitive messages tactfully when required

- A pragmatic and innovative approach to meeting client needs
- The ability to demonstrate commercial awareness when providing technical advice
- The ability to think independently, contribute to projects and confidently engage with and influence colleagues at all levels

influence colleagues at all levels

- Strong commercial and financial awareness
- Strong organisational skills
- Excellent time management skills and the ability to prioritise
- Enjoys working under pressure and meeting tight deadlines
- Ability to work with minimum supervision, in an autonomous and independent way
- A team player, willing and able to work closely and collaboratively with immediate and wider teams

teams

- A lively, energetic personality and enthusiasm for providing excellent client service
- A tenacious yet practical approach to problem solving
- Excited and challenged by the pace and demands of a corporate environment
- High degree of commercial awareness, with the ability to contribute to the wider business agenda

agenda

A range of influencing skills, personal impact and communication skills that will ensure success and command instant credibility at all levels of the organisation

- A high degree of flexibility and responsiveness in approach to work
- Service-orientated with an ability to understand the varied issues facing the offices across the firm's network and provide possible solutions to challenges
- Resilient under pressure and willing to work with the challenges brought by change

Diversity and Inclusion

At Eversheds Sutherland, we recognise that having diverse talent across our business brings many benefits, and we are committed to accessing a wide range of views and thinking in all that we do. A culture of inclusion, where each person feels able to be their true self at work and reach their full potential is key. We recognise that bringing together the perspectives of individuals of all backgrounds, life experiences, preferences and beliefs is critical if we are to serve our global client base, people and communities as a leading global legal practice.

Should you require any reasonable adjustments to enable participation in the recruitment process, please contact us so that we can discuss how best to assist.

We are open to considering flexible working options for our vacancies. Whilst we are not able to offer flexible working across all of our roles, many of our people work flexibly in some way, and we would encourage you to talk to us about this during the hiring process if you would like to explore further.

We are a LGBT+ inclusive employer and are Stonewall Corporate Champions.