

# CORPORATE AND COMMERCIAL LAWYER

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<b>Job description:</b>	Partner
<b>Job title:</b>	Partner (non-director)
<b>PQE required:</b>	Dependant on experience
<b>Location:</b>	London/South East/South Wales/South West (Bristol)
<b>Reports to:</b>	Stephen Downie, Partner and Director

## WHO WE ARE

20 years in business this year, we are a young, friendly and approachable law firm with big plans. Commercial, committed to continuous improvement and genuinely collaborative, our outstanding lawyers are supported by a bright and committed support team. We really care about giving our clients the best possible service and we embrace technology and new ideas to achieve it.

## ROLE OVERVIEW

By reason of the growth in demand for services to SME companies, high net worth clients and director/corporate governance services, and further to our need for increased support in terms of commercial matters relating to SME businesses and the additional corporate services required, FWJ is seeking the addition of someone at a partner level to more properly fulfil this function with a more medium-term objective of building a team and therefore a more rounded corporate practice at FWJ.

We would also welcome any with experience of banking and property related matters, although principally the following experience is sought:

- drafting simple and complex shareholder agreements and advising therein
- drafting litigation settlement agreements, either between corporate entities or in insolvency disputes
- drafting asset / share purchase agreements for business and equity sales and completing sale and purchase transactions
- supporting the Director Services team in terms of corporate government advice, the City Rules and associated corporate governance matters
- reviewing commercial agreements in conjunction with disputes which the litigation services provided by FWJ
- dealing with corporate takeovers, accelerated M&As and business acquisitions or mergers generally
- effecting changes in corporate structures, incorporating new vehicles and issuing / amending /cancelling share structures
- overseeing and advising on corporate governance and issues regarding compliance with articles and company law generally
- supporting the Banking & Finance team with structured facilities where corporate structuring issues are involved
- dealing with required corporate filings

Ideally the individual would have a following or be able to build up a following as part of the role.

You will be supported by partners and other senior associates across a range of cases, but most particularly the Director Services team. You will also be supported by access to our website and online marketing tools, and CRM systems, to generate business from web enquiries.

You must be proactive, have energy and an initiative with ideas to deliver swift, high-quality responses to clients that focus on achieving the best commercial outcome for them and FWJ.

Our people are central to the success of Francis Wilks & Jones and ensuring the successful candidate (and any other members) fits into our culture is important to us. We are therefore looking for candidates who:

1. Are enthusiastic in what they do both in and outside the office;
2. Want to learn and improve, aren't afraid to ask questions, and aren't afraid of hard work;
3. Are personable and understand the importance of getting on with colleagues and clients;
4. Enjoy being busy and working in a team;
5. Can work under pressure;
6. Demonstrate an understanding of technology and are open to learning new systems and contributing to the firm's development in this regard;
7. Are keen to learn about the asset based lending and alternative finance markets and willing to engage in marketing efforts with new and existing clients.

Despite WFH, at FWJ the recent economic changes have had a very limited impact on our business model, with particularly our services to SME companies and directors growing. We are focused on technology, with regular use of Teams, Zoom, conferencing, online discussions and training.

#### **SPECIFIC EXPERIENCE SOUGHT:**

The successful candidate should ideally be able to demonstrate a range of experience in corporate/commercial services, including, where possible, experience of the following areas:

- drafting and advising on shareholders agreements
- drafting and advising on SPAs, APAs and completing sale and purchase transactions
- any experience of advising on any other business sale agreements, including insolvency pre-pack sale agreements, would be advantageous
- an understanding of the drafting, registration and disputes on commercial and residential charges and company debentures would be an advantage
- any previous experience of the asset-based lending industry would be of interest
- this role will extend to advising on and assisting clients with a majority of commercial agreements that form part of our client instructions

- any previous experience of banking and related commercial finance matters would be an advantage
- a thorough experience of fiduciary advice, corporate governance and corporate governance protocols in the UK would be a distinct advantage
- any offshore experience in the above areas would also be of interest.