

## Press Release

10 October 2007

### Taylor Walton highly recommended by “The Legal 500” in the 2007 survey

Taylor Walton LLP, with offices in Luton, Harpenden and St Albans, has had its position as one of the region's leading law firms confirmed by highly respected independent directory The Legal 500. According to the recently released survey, Taylor Walton is acknowledged as one of only three firms listed as a “regional heavyweight” in the Herts, Beds, Bucks and Middlesex area, with the Managing Partner, Dermot Carey, being singled out for praise.

Areas where the survey particularly recognises the firm's teams for excellence are:

#### **Corporate & Commercial:**

Specialist banking advice to Barclays bank, and the work by head of commercial Mike Pettit in the management buy-out of Fujifilm Electronic Imaging, a transaction announced to the Tokyo Stock Exchange.

#### **Commercial and Property Litigation:**

Andrew Knight's team has added partnership and intra-company disputes to its specialisms, as well as working on restrictive covenant claims. The Firm has maintained its reputation for dealing with commercial property disputes. Partner Tracy Harris led the advice on the nationally reported "Rolling Stones' banker" case that featured in the national press in early 2007.

#### **Commercial Property:**

Taylor Walton has maintained its strong reputation within the commercial property sector. Angela Thomas' team “exceeds expectations”, and work has included a £80m refinancing of a UK investment portfolio.

#### **Employment:**

Clients say they enjoy a “good trusting relationship” with Heather Cowley's team. The Firm has enhanced its profile over the last year by winning a variety of employment work, including acting for an airline.

#### **Family:**

Aileen Hartnett is recognised for dealing with issues arising from relationship breakdowns and high-net-worth ancillary relief matters.

**Personal Tax, Trusts & Probate:**

Alison Voyce is recognised as having “extensive experience” in complex lifetime and tax planning and heavyweight probate work. The team also handles contentious probate, trusts and estate administration.

Managing Partner, Dermot Carey, commented:

“Recognition by The Legal 500 is very reassuring for the Partners and staff at Taylor Walton, as well as our clients. Everyone has worked extremely hard to achieve these results”.

These strong rankings conclude an impressive year in which Taylor Walton has:

- Opened a new landmark office in Harpenden, which has significantly raised its profile in the local area
- Converted to a Limited Liability Practice
- Retained its place on the Barclays legal advisory panel
- Further expanded its employment department which advises many substantial employers including a major high-street chain
- Grown its Private Client practice, which is advising an increasing number of high-net-worth individuals.

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Taylor Walton is a 22 partner firm with approaching 200 staff in three offices strategically located close to but not in London.

Taylor Walton is highly rated by leading independent legal directory The Legal 500 that ranks a number of its teams in the top division of South East firms, and quotes clients as describing the firm as “commercial, pragmatic and quick”.

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