

RISING STAR IN-HOUSE COUNSEL OF THE YEAR SPONSORED BY PwC

Kumar Tewari

Lloyds Banking Group

Technical ability and commercial awareness combined

Glowing testimonies from external counsel and strong support from senior lawyers at Lloyds Banking Group (LBG) and on our judging panel made Kumar Tewari a clear winner in this category.

Tewari, a banking and finance specialist who retrained to work in LBG's corporate real estate group, is a versatile lawyer with experience across leveraged finance, funds lending, corporate lending and real estate finance. External counsel note his innate ability to work with colleagues and panel firms alike in a highly collaborative and effective way to get under the skin of the transactions he is working on.

Says one real estate partner: 'Kumar is a highly skilled and technically strong lawyer who focuses on key issues without ever losing sight of the ultimate goal of the transaction. He manages his transactions in an effective way which balances commercial dynamics with a keen eye for detail to manage risk.'

His combination of impressive core legal competency combined with excellent soft skills genuinely mark him out as future leader in the field.



(L-R) Tracey Groves of PwC with winner Kumar Tewari

HIGHLY COMMENDED

KENT DREADON

Telefónica UK

As head of legal, Dreadon is effectively number two to general counsel Edward Smith in this telecoms giant's respected UK legal team. Headline work includes handling exclusive deals with Amazon for its first handset and responding to and shaping Ofcom's proposed guidance on mid-contract price rises. Despite the workload, Dreadon has been instrumental in helping reduce external legal spend dramatically in two years.

MARTIN GRAHAM

Oaktree Capital Management

This influential lawyer's role involves managing and executing pan-European distressed debt and private equity investments. Promoted to senior vice president in 2014, standout work for Graham last year includes \$1bn of debt fundraising across five different financing instruments for three portfolio companies.

HOWARD LANDES

BG Group

Reporting to GC Graham Vinter, as chief counsel, corporate finance, Landes' role sees him responsible for BG Group's M&A

and corporate finance brand globally. Recent achievements include leading the legal function in successfully delivering multibillion-dollar securities fundraisings in the US and Europe.

JENNY LOWE

Aggregate Industries

Since joining the manufacturer and supplier of construction and building materials in 2012 from McGrigors, this senior legal counsel for property and planning has commanded the respect of peers and external lawyers alike for her authoritative handling of property-related transactions. Since joining, Lowe has significantly reduced legal spend on all matters under her remit.

ALICE MARSDEN

Thomas Cook

Marsden only joined Thomas Cook in January 2014 from Latham & Watkins and became UK and Ireland head just three months later – just seven years after qualification. Now heading a team of ten lawyers as the company looks to improve the quality of its own legal offering, Marsden has been singled out as having the ability and temperament to succeed at the highest level.

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