



Pensions team in 2023

Our year in review

Gowling WLG's award winning pensions team completed 2023 on a high with two multi-billion pensions risk transfer transactions completing in Q4 2023. In a changing and busy pensions market, Gowling WLG's pensions team delivered practical and commercially-focused solutions for its growing client base.

FOUR new partners

In May 2023, Ben Goldby and Maddy Frost became the pension team's newest partners. To add support to our work for trustees, the firm also announced the appointments of Katherine Rainwood as an investment funds partner and Naina Patel as a partner in its Banking & Finance practice.



Promotions in 2023

In 2023, we were proud to announce Hannah Beacham and Sarah Tate's promotion to Legal Director and Alison Garton and Stephanie Nicholls-Hinks' promotion to Principal Associate.

Our growing team



We were pleased to welcome three experienced lawyers to the pensions team in 2023. Murray Keir and Sian Williams joined the team as Principal Associates and we were delighted to welcome back Lynne Holcroft as a Senior Associate, returning to pensions after working in legal education.

NQ and junior boost



The pensions team was joined by two newly qualified lawyers and an associate in 2023. Our new NQs, Jessica Bisla, Thomas Luck, and our new associate, Sophia Hoondle, brought the total number of fee earners in the team to 50. Gowling WLG is one of the UK's largest and most experienced pensions law practices.

£4 Billion

Advising Rothesay on Co-op Pension Scheme buy-in

Our pensions risk transfer specialists provided legal advice to Rothesay on the £4 billion buy-in of the Cooperative Pension Scheme (PACE) Group Section.

£2.7 Billion

Advising Thales trustees on full scheme buy-in

We advised the Trustees of the Thales UK Pension Scheme on a buy-in deal that secured the benefits of 16,000 members with Rothesay..

What our clients said about us in 2023

"The pensions team is well established and experienced, with the ability to extend the team to include members from other areas such as litigation when required."

"I have complete confidence that our key contacts can provide strong, pragmatic advice on all matters, and that they leave no stone unturned."

"Gowling gives well-measured and thoughtful advice delivered to add value."

"Gowling's team of pensions lawyers are very personable, easy to interact with but also technically knowledgeable. They wear their knowledge well ... you feel like you're having an actual conversation with them instead of being fed information."

8 Ranked lawyers

Eight of our lawyers were ranked by Chambers and Partners as Notable Practitioners in pensions and pensions litigation. Our top ranked team was recognised for pensions in both the pensions advisory and pensions litigation categories.

£6 Billion

New trustee client wins

The way we support our trustee clients and the day to day work that they do has helped us to win several new clients over the last 12 months. These new trustee clients have schemes with combined assets of over £6 billion.



Setting up three new public service pension arrangements

During 2023, our sponsor advisory team worked with two different central government bodies to establish three new public service pension arrangements.



Pension disputes team in the Court of Appeal

We acted for the principal employer of the CMG UK Pension Scheme in the case heard by the Court of Appeal in 2023. The judgment has significant implications for trustees who wish to recover past overpayments.



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Pensions in 2024

Click here for our guide on what to expect in the world of pensions in 2024. Are you ready for the new normal?



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