

30 March 2020

### Payne Hicks Beach adds further senior hires in the Dispute Resolution and Family departments

Leading London law firm, Payne Hicks Beach, is pleased to announce the appointment of a new Partner, Jessica Henson, and a Legal Director, Sarah Williams, who join the Dispute Resolution and Family departments respectively. Jessica was previously at Bryan Cave Leighton Paisner and Sarah joins from Vardags.

Jessica joins the thriving Dispute Resolution department where she will specialise in contentious trusts and estates work. She has extensive experience advising on contentious trusts including in the context of family disputes and divorce. She also has expertise in estate planning to avoid disputes in the future. Jessica has been cited in a leading legal directory as a "Next Generation Lawyer" and is co-founder and co-chair of ConTrA (the Contentious Trusts Association). ConTrA holds seminars and conferences for over 400 members both domestically and offshore.

Sarah joins the firm as a Legal Director in the firm's renowned Family department and will be the Head of Fertility and Surrogacy, a new offering from Payne Hicks Beach that will provide advice on all aspects of fertility law, including assisted and donor conception, domestic and international surrogacy and modern family law. A qualified and experienced barrister, Sarah was called to the Bar in 1995 and has since built up considerable experience across the broad spectrum of family law. She was previously appointed Junior Counsel to the Crown and has appeared regularly in the High Court and Court of Appeal.

Robert Brodrick, Chairman of Payne Hicks Beach, comments:

*"I am very pleased to announce the appointments of both Jessica Henson and Sarah Williams".*

*"The considerable level of talent and experience that Jessica and Sarah bring with them are a perfect complement to our well-established and highly regarded Dispute Resolution and Family Departments. Bringing on board our new colleagues, and the addition of a Fertility and Surrogacy offering, are further evidence of the ongoing strategic expansion of the firm and our commitment to provide legal expertise and counsel in the areas that our clients need".*

**Ends**

#### NOTES TO EDITOR

- Payne Hicks Beach has 80 lawyers and provides specialist legal services to private and commercial clients.
- The firm has a reputation for handling complex problems. They provide solutions that are incisive, straightforward and creative.
- The structure and commitment to outstanding client service means that all their specialist advisers work closely with each other to deliver seamless advice across their practice areas.

#### PRESS ENQUIRIES:

Nick Parker, Byfield Consultancy, [nick@byfieldconsultancy.com](mailto:nick@byfieldconsultancy.com), 02070923182

For further information  
please contact:

**Virginia Farquharson**

Director of Management

020 7465 4300

[vfarquharson@phb.co.uk](mailto:vfarquharson@phb.co.uk)

Photos are available on  
request.

To remove your name from our mailing list, please click [here](#).

Questions or comments? email us at [sbridgewater@phb.co.uk](mailto:sbridgewater@phb.co.uk) or call +44 (0)20 7465 4300