

18 February 2019

### A new generation of management for Payne Hicks Beach

Leading central London law firm, Payne Hicks Beach, is pleased to announce a newly created Management Board and changes to the Heads of the firm's renowned Family and Private Client Departments, effective from 1 June 2019. Private Client Partner, Robert Brodrick, will become Chair of the Management Board, which will also consist of the Head of Dispute Resolution, Dominic Crossley and the Head of Corporate, Jonathan Gatward. Virginia Farquharson remains as the firm's Director of Management.

Alastair Murdie will retire on 31 May 2019 after an illustrious career at Payne Hicks Beach both as a private client solicitor, Head of Department and Senior Partner. Alastair became Senior Partner in 2010. Ian Airey will also step down as head of the firm's Family Department to focus on his busy practice as a Partner. Under Ian's long stewardship, and with the tireless work of Baroness Shackleton and the wider team and Partners, the Family Department has dealt with many of the biggest and most complex family law cases in the UK.

Rebecca Cockcroft and Philip McGuirk have been appointed Co-Heads of the Family Department. Having joined the firm in 2014, Rebecca's practice encompasses all aspects of private family law. She has specialist experience in matrimonial finance often with international elements and children matters and is regularly instructed in City based divorces. Philip McGuirk has been at Payne Hicks Beach for nearly 20 years and has particular expertise in financial remedy work with extensive experience in complex international family financial disputes.

The Private Client Department will be led by Partner, Rosamond McDowell. Rosamond specialises in tax and estate planning advice, including contentious trust matters. Rosamond's clients mirror those of the wider Department, consisting of a wide-ranging client base of domestic and international high net worth individuals, trusts, estates and family businesses.

Robert Brodrick, incoming Chair of the firm's Management Board, comments:

*"I would first like to thank Alastair on behalf of the firm for his outstanding leadership and wisdom over the years. Payne Hicks Beach has an enviable history, and he is leaving it stronger than ever with an exciting future ahead. I very much look forward to working with Dominic and Jonathan in providing leadership to the firm within the Management Board. The newly appointed Heads of Department have a wealth of expertise, experience and energy. Rosamond, Philip and Rebecca will build on the great successes and steady growth seen by both those key departments.*

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*I would also like to take this opportunity to congratulate Baroness Shackleton on the recognition she has had from The Legal 500 at their UK Awards 2019 for her Outstanding Achievement in Legal Services. Her continuing contribution to the success of the firm, its clients and to the legal community are second to none.*

*Payne Hicks Beach will continue to provide the highest quality service, along with the forward-thinking mindset and astute advice that our clients have come to expect."*

**Ends**

#### **NOTES TO EDITOR**

- Payne Hicks Beach has 70 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:**

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