



RELEVANT EXPERIENCE DOCUMENT

Food & Beverage

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

A&L Goodbody is delighted to present our expertise in the Food & Beverage sector. We believe our experience, combined with our collaborative approach to client work, significantly increases the value you receive from legal services providers. We believe that A&L Goodbody is ideally positioned to provide Food & Beverage companies and organisations with the highest quality and best value legal advice, support and service in Ireland due to the following:

- **Team & Experience.** The A&L Goodbody Food & Beverage Group is led by individuals who are widely recognised as market leaders in their fields and have particular expertise in the Food & Beverage sector.
- **Approach.** Our approach to client relationships and managing assignments is underpinned by our collaborative client service, responsiveness, innovation and integrity. We listen to and strive to meet the requirements and preferences of our clients in terms of delivery of legal services and working style.
- **Value.** In addition to pricing and billing structures that are competitive, commercial and flexible, we offer a range of value-add services free of charge including legal and sectoral updates, seminars, training and more.
- **Reputation.** A&L Goodbody is internationally and domestically recognised as one of Ireland's leading law firms. We have a true international focus and client base and are one of the very few Irish law firms operating on an 'all-island' of Ireland basis, with offices in Dublin and Belfast.



John Coman

Partner, Corporate

T. +353 1 649 2211

E. jcoman@algoodbody.com



OVERVIEW

1. OVERVIEW

A&L Goodbody

A&L Goodbody is a leading Irish law firm which provides a full range of business legal services to the corporate sector across the island of Ireland:

- With offices in Dublin and Belfast - We can provide the necessary legal advice and support for transactions or legal matters with a connection to any or both parts of the island of Ireland.
- We have a strong international focus with offices in London, New York, Palo Alto and San Francisco. Our international reach and connections enable us to service international clients with interests in Ireland. We are regularly retained as Irish advisors in legal matters or transactions with a multi-jurisdictional element.
- We operate the most extensive range of specialist services available on the island of Ireland through over thirty specialist practice groups. The range and calibre of specialist practices, enables us to offer in depth expertise to cater for the full spectrum of business needs that may arise in any given period or legal matter.
- Our Food & Beverage Group contains specialists in the different legal fields relevant to the sector. As well as expertise in legal matters relevant to the sector, this grouping has well established lines of contact and communication to key players in the Food & Beverage industry in Ireland.
- A&L Goodbody advises and have advised many of Ireland's most successful international and indigenous companies in the Food & Beverage sector including:

» C&D Foods	» Coca-Cola	» ED&F Man
» Premier Foods	» Brown-Forman	» Batchelors
» Yoplait	» Heineken	» Bewleys
» Axereal	» C&C	» Strathroy Dairy
» McDonalds	» Irish Distillers	» Kilhorne Bay Seafoods
» Britvic	» BWG Foods	» WD Irwin & Son
» Cadbury / Kraft	» Kellogg's	» Suki Teahouse
» Starbucks	» Origin Enterprises	» Devenish Nutrition
» Pisces Fish Foods	» Danone	» Lily O'Brien's Chocolates
» Sysco	» Nestlé	» PJ Carroll & Co
» ABP Food Group	» Tesco	» British American Tobacco
» Procter & Gamble	» Campari	
» Pernod Ricard	» Greencore	

The Food & Beverage Sector in Ireland

The Food & Beverage sector is a fundamental part of the Irish economy and plays a key role in growing the Irish economy. There are approximately 230,000 jobs linked to the industry.

The export figures for the Food & Beverage sector continued to demonstrate the upward trend shown in 2012. In 2013, exports approached €10bn in value for the first time which brought the increase over the last four years to approximately €3bn (or 28%).

Ireland's food sector will play a significant role in economic growth with exports estimated to grow by 40%, up to €12bn, by 2020. Food and livestock is currently the 4th largest export category in Ireland.

Central to the industries future is the relationship with the EU's Common Agricultural Policy (CAP). Among the developments on CAP, milk quotas are to be abolished in 2015 which will present significant opportunities for the Irish dairy industry. A reformed CAP is expected to be in place as from 1 January 2015. The European Commission presented a Communication on 18 November 2010 called "The CAP towards 2020", which outlines options for the future of the CAP. In October 2011 the Commission presented a set of legal proposals designed to make the CAP a more effective policy for a more competitive and sustainable agricultural industry. Subject to European Parliament and Council approval these proposals are expected to enter into force via implementing regulations and acts during 2014.

Irish food and drink exports to Asia are up by over 80% since 2010. Exports to China grew by over 50% in 2013, with values trebling over the last 3 years to €390m in 2013. Such increases are expected to continue and are further encouraged by recent trade missions by the Taoiseach, Enterprise Ireland (Agri services) and Bord Bia to the region. The establishment by Bord Bia of the China Food hub will provide further assistance to Irish food companies wishing to establish themselves within the market.

The strongest performing categories are dairy and ingredients, seafood, prepared foods, meat and beverages. The recent growth has been boosted by global prices and favourable exchange rates, but volume growth and improved market access accounted for a substantial amount of the increase.

With the strength and central importance of the Irish agri-food sector, the development of the CAP and the likely liberalisation of trade in agri-food products, the Irish agri-food industry will become even more market-oriented to take advantages of these development.

One impending development of interest in the Food & Beverage sector from a competition law perspective is the grocery goods provisions contained in the Competition and Consumer Protection Bill 2014. The Bill, which may be enacted as early as late Summer 2014, as currently drafted, provides power to the Minister for Jobs, Enterprise and Innovation to make regulations to specify that certain procedures must be followed in commercial relationships between grocery goods undertakings (and in particular agreements between smaller and larger grocery goods undertakings where there is a perceived inequality in bargaining power). The Minister has stated that the change is aimed at preventing certain practices such as the unilateral alteration of contracts by retailers, requiring 'hello money', for space on supermarket shelves and suppliers being required to bear the costs of promotions by retailers or for wastage or shrinkage.

In this context, A&L Goodbody has been providing legal advice to its agri-food clients as they evolve and develop to take advantage and meet these opportunities.

2. FOOD & BEVERAGE EXPERIENCE

A&L Goodbody advise many of Ireland's most successful international and domestic companies in the Food & Beverage sector.

MERGERS & ACQUISITIONS

A&L Goodbody has the leading Mergers & Acquisitions (M&A) and Corporate practice in Ireland. Our market position is endorsed by the work we do and by all the leading international publications and commentators. We hold the position of Irish M&A Law Firm of the Year (2012, 2013 and 2014) from each of Bloomberg (2007-2014), Thomson Reuters (2003-2014), Mergermarket (2012-2014) and Experian Corpfin (2012-2014).

Listed below are some of the more recent M&A transactions in the Food & Beverage sector A&L Goodbody has advised on. These transactions were often high profile, extremely complex and often had significant cross border aspects.

- **Nestlé's** acquisition of Pfizer's Infant Milk business.
- **Sysco Corporation** on the acquisition of Crossgar Foodservice.
- **C&D Foods** and **ABP Food Group** on the acquisition of the pan European pet food manufacturer Arovit A.S.
- **Lily O'Brien's Chocolates** vendor on the sale to Carlyle Cardinal Ireland.
- **Valeo Foods** on the competition aspects of its acquisition of Jacob Fruitfield Food Group.
- **Premier Foods** on its sale of certain brands to Boyne Valley Group.
- **ABP Food Group** on the acquisition of 50%, and later 30% interest in C&D Foods.
- **Cadbury** on the Irish aspects of its takeover by Kraft Foods.
- **Campbell Bewley** on the acquisitions of coffee distributor Darlington's and Bolling Coffee and its franchise agreements.
- **Axereal Union de Cooperatives Agricoles** on its acquisition of the malt business of Greencore Group.
- **Campari** on its €128.2m acquisition of Carolans, Frangelico and Irish Mist from William Grant & Sons.
- **Pallas Foods** on its acquisition of Crossgar.
- **Campbell Bewley** on the sale of Cambell Catering to Aramark.
- The shareholders of **Batchelors** on the disposal of its business to Capvest backed Valeo Foods.
- **C&D Foods** on its acquisition of a production facility from Nestle.
- **Heineken** on the Irish aspects of its acquisition of Scottish & Newcastle, securing an unconditional clearance for Heineken from the Irish Competition Authority in an unprecedented referral by the European Commission.
- **Britvic plc** on its €249.2m acquisition of the soft drinks and distribution businesses of C&C Group.
- **Nestlé** on the disposal of its ambient food business to Fruitfield Foods.
- **Pernod Ricard** on its €13.4bn acquisition of Allied Domecq.
- **The Board of Directors of BWG Group** on the management buy-out of the BWG Group.
- **Thai Union Frozen Products** on the Irish aspects of its acquisition of MW Brands and John West canned-fish brand from Trilantic Capital Partners.
- **Groupe Danone** on the sale of Jacobs Biscuits to United Biscuits, and the sale of Irish Biscuits to Fruitfield.
- **Stonyfield Europe**, the French holding company, in relation to its acquisition of a 37% stake in Glenisk.
- **Kilhorne Bay Seafoods** on its sale of the entire issued share capital of Rockall Seafoods.
- **Suki Teahouse** in its equity offering to Matthew Algje & Co.
- **Heineken** in relation to the examinership of the Thomas Read Group.
- **Bank of Scotland Ireland, Barry's Tea** and **Management** on the sale of Batchelors Foods to Valeo Foods Group.
- **Maiden Acquisition Company** (the vehicle formed by Barry's Tea and Bank of Scotland Ireland) on the €95m acquisition of the Irish operations of British Group Northern Foods.
- **Kellogg's** establishment of European Headquarters in Ireland and establishing of tax favourable Irish IP licencing structures to exploit global brands.

- **Brown-Forman** on international group wide restructurings and cash and dividend repatriation strategies.
- **Irish Distillers** on the disposal of the Old Bushmills Distillery Company to Diageo.
- **Coca Cola** on the legal work in respect of a new Coca Cola plant in Wexford.
- **Batchelors** on the acquisition of Erin Foods Ltd.
- **Chr. Hansen Holdings A/S**, the Denmark based developer of ingredients for the food, pharmaceutical, nutritional and agricultural industries, on the Irish aspects of its €1bn disposal to PAI Partners, the France based private equity firm.

Aside from our ability to advise, deliver and execute M&A transactions of whatever size, A&L Goodbody's closeness to the Food & Beverage sector has enabled us to identify at an early stage and advise accordingly on certain sector specific items or issues that can appear in the food sector. Such sector specific matters can include:

- Licensing and regulatory compliance matters including Food Standards Agency (UK) and the Food Safety Authority of Ireland approvals.
- Environmental and waste matters.
- Product recall policies and matters, shared contracts, change of control and possible effect of public procurement law.
- Food & Agri Government grants and related consents.
- Combined brand registration.
- Competition law matters.

REGULATORY

Our Regulatory Team provide dedicated support and direct ad hoc advice on all regulatory issues relevant to the Food & Beverage sector. We have advised clients across the whole sector and have a familiarity and understanding of the regulatory issues affecting them. This has included advising food processing clients on regulatory, labelling and other matters relating to alleged contamination of products. Regulatory issues in the food sector, such as foods for particular uses, often crossover with issues in other heavily regulated sectors, particularly in the area of medicinal products, veterinary medicinal products and chemicals regulation. We also advise such manufacturers and distributors of human and veterinary medicinal products, chemicals and biocides. We advise clients on internal investigations of regulatory issues and in respect of regulatory investigations by Irish authorities or by authorities in other jurisdictions.

Irish food law regulates food businesses operating at every link along the food chain from 'farm to fork'. We advise clients on day to day issues such as HACCP compliance and other food hygiene requirements in the manufacture and preparation of food, on food information & labelling, on advertising and promotion and on health claims. We also advise clients on 'emergency' issues, such as product recalls, food product liability litigation, on notifications to and enforcement actions by food regulators, as well as advising on the regulatory aspects of major mergers and acquisitions in the Food & Beverage sector. The regulation of the sector is, for the most part, overseen by the Food Safety Authority of Ireland & the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine, although a number of other statutory agencies play a role in regulating the activities of food businesses (including the Health Service Executive and the Advertising Standards Authority of Ireland). We have good lines of communication with key individuals in all of these agencies.

We understand the growing regulatory pressures on the activities of food business operators in the health and beverage sector and our tailored and focused regulatory advice helps to manage those pressures. One of the more heavily regulated areas in the sector, and one which is coming under increased regulatory pressure at the moment is food information (including labelling, packaging, advertising & promotion). EU Regulation 1169/2011, which modernises the rules in relation to food information, will apply industry wide from 13 December 2014 (with some exceptions) and applies to food businesses at all stages of the food chain where any of their activities concern the provision of food information to consumers. Between now and December 2014, food businesses will need to ensure that the manner in which they provide food information complies with this new Regulation and we can advise on how best to address these new requirements.

Clients we advise in the regulatory field include [Irish Distillers-Pernod Ricard](#), [ABP Food Group](#), [Starbucks](#), [Danone](#), [Responsible Retailing of Alcohol in Ireland \(RRAI\)](#), [Cadbury/Kraft](#), [Heineken](#), [Glanbia Nutritionals](#), and [Coca-Cola](#).

COMMERCIAL / CONTRACTUAL AGREEMENTS

Contractual agreements form the basis of business between parties at every level of the food business chain. Our extensive experience in the food sector provides us with a good commercial context to the advice we are providing and assists in ensuring legal items are identified and addressed in collaboration with our client. The Food & Beverage Group is involved in drafting, negotiating and advising on commercial contracts in their various forms, including supply agreements, distribution and agency agreements, franchise agreements, shared contracts, co-operation and partnering agreements, transition agreements, quality control and product recall agreements, brand agreements, bottling or other service agreements, manufacturing agreements, etc.

Change of control and assignment clauses are often key, as can be entire agreement clauses, contract defences, variation, direct/indirect losses clauses, liability (and limitation of same), governing law and jurisdiction.

A&L Goodbody is proactive in updating clients in relevant case law, in the law of contract and developments and in organising on-site contractual workshops if appropriate for the benefit of its clients and employees. Clients we advise regularly on contractual matters include [C&D Foods](#), [Coca-Cola](#), [Heineken Ireland](#), [Cadbury/Kraft](#), [Irish Distillers](#), [BWG Foods](#), [Bewleys](#) and [Danone](#).

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

Our IP & Technology Group provides a full suite of intellectual property services to clients in the Food & Beverage sector. We have acted for these clients in some of the leading trade mark/brand disputes to come before the Irish courts, including for Irish Distillers in a case involving the Jameson whiskey brand and United Biscuits in a precedent setting passing-off case. In addition, we advise on all commercial transactions with an IP dimension, including on the acquisition and divestment of IP portfolios, tax favourable Irish IP licensing structures, negotiating trade mark licence agreements and the outsourcing of IT and manufacturing functions by food and clients.

We also advise clients such as [McDonalds](#), [Topps International](#), [Danone](#), [Irish Distillers](#), [Coca-Cola](#), [Heineken](#), [Cadbury](#), [Danone](#), [Jameson Whiskey](#), [Kellogg's](#) and [Londis and BWG](#) on the full range of customer facing legal issues, including advertising and promotional campaigns and competitions, compliance with consumer protection legislation, website terms and conditions, data protection, privacy statements, sponsorship and product endorsements.

EU AND COMPETITION LAW

A&L Goodbody's Food & Beverage Group includes our EU & Competition Group who are actively involved in a wide-range of competition law matters in the agricultural, food and beverage sectors.

Our Group has acted for a range of companies in relation to all types of EU and Irish competition law matters, including acting: (i) in a successful defence against a claim of abuse of dominance against an Irish drinks company in relation to alcoholic beverages; (ii) for Origin Enterprises in a Phase 2 investigation by the Irish Competition Authority into a merger between its subsidiary, R&H Hall and W&R Barnett in the agri-inputs sector which resulted in an unconditional approval; and (iii) for an Irish drinks company before the European Commission in relation to the Guinness/Grand Met merger.

We advise a wide range of agricultural, food and drinks companies in cutting-edge EU and Irish competition law developments such as competition law advisory work, competition compliance, competition contractual drafting, dealing with competition complaints, merger control, providing advice on general EU law developments (such as recently in the beverages sector regarding the implications of EU legislation on geographic indications of origin) and international trade matters.

We regularly advise on all aspects of pricing, discounting and rebate schemes for dominant and non-dominant

products and parallel trade issues. We have devised numerous competition compliance programmes for undertakings operating in the retail sector, as well as advising on the application of the vertical block exemption regulation and notification requirements for some of the largest retail mergers and acquisitions in Ireland.

Our wide-ranging experience for both Irish and international clients (including [Heineken](#), [Pernod Ricard](#), [Kellogg's](#), [Coca-Cola](#) and [Valeo Foods](#)) gives a keen knowledge of how agriculture, food and drinks markets are structured and also the future dynamics of these sectors, in particular as EU law developments impact on our clients in these areas.

ENVIRONMENTAL & PLANNING

Our Environmental & Planning team provides legal advice on environmental, planning and health and safety issues to local and international businesses across a range of sectors, including agri-business, manufacturing, pharmaceutical, energy, construction and waste industries, as well as many others.

Environmental matters can have a strong relevance in the Food & Beverage sector particularly at the manufacturing level. Environmental issues for example are a major consideration in assessing site viability and in large scale acquisitions of manufacturing units.

On a separate level, we advise on issues such as assessing environmental risk, defending prosecutions and on regulatory and compliance issues. The team also works closely with our Corporate/M&A team in carrying out environmental due diligence, preparing and reviewing environmental warranties, and negotiating indemnities and disclosures.

More recently, and with the Environmental Protection Agency's greater focus being placed on the issue, we have been advising businesses on the financial provision requirements of IPPC licenses, particularly in circumstances where a license is being transferred. Our clients have included [Irish Distillers](#), [Pfizer](#), [Ervia](#), [Ferrovia Agroman \(Ireland\)](#), [élan](#) and [ED & F Man](#).

DISPUTE RESOLUTION

A&L Goodbody's dispute resolution team have advised on a significant number of disputes in the Food & Beverage sector including commercial court proceedings in relation to the termination of distributorship agreements, defence of passing off injunction proceedings and products liability claims, including:

- **Group Danone** in Commercial Court proceedings arising out the termination of a distributorship agreement in relation to two leading brands - Volvic and Evian mineral waters.
- **United Biscuits**, owner of several leading household brands including McVitie's in its defence of a passing off injunction action taken by Jacobs Fruitfield, in an attempt to prevent United Biscuits from launching its new Fig Rolls and Cream Cracker products on to the Irish market and which interlocutory injunction action was before the Commercial Court.
- **ABP Food Group** in relation to various matters with suppliers and distributors in the retail sector.
- **Ewos**, a fishmeal producer in defence of product liability claims by a number of Irish salmon farmers.
- **ED & F Man Nederland** in the prosecution of High Court proceedings arising out of the contamination of glucose & molasses with MPA (medroxyprogesterone acetate).
- **Pisces Fish Foods** in defence of High Court proceedings arising out of an allegedly defective fish feed product.
- **PJ Carroll & Co / British American Tobacco** in the successful defence of product liability claims and in the successful defence of regulatory prosecutor and on other regulatory matters.
- **Heineken** in a major joint venture dispute.

The Dispute Resolution Group regularly advises clients on how to investigate a deal with compliance or product safety issues, internal or external regulatory investigations, related reputation management issues, recovery claims against suppliers and related matters.

ADDED VALUE

In addition to the specific Food & Beverage experience outlined above, A&L Goodbody is a full service firm and has extensive expertise in all legal areas, including areas such as Tax, Property, Employment and Insurance that are relevant to operating businesses in any sector.

We possess a highly rated Knowledge team who support each of our practice areas. We regularly share information as a value-add initiative through seminars, sector focussed e-zines, development updates, on-site training and workshops. For further details on additional services provided please see [Section 4: Approach](#).



MARKET RECOMMENDATIONS

3. MARKET RECOMMENDATIONS

Our key business objective is to be the best law firm in Ireland focusing externally on our clients and internally on the development of and working environment of our staff.

Our track-record is internationally recognised, including most recently:



“Very strong, with an in-depth knowledge of the local market.”
IFLR1000 2016

“Extremely responsive and solution focused. They have the ability to resource a very significant scale mandate covering numerous services lines in an extremely tight timeline.”
IFLR1000 2015

“Renowned full service firm A&L Goodbody has one of the biggest and broadest offerings in Ireland.”
IFLR1000 2014

“A&L Goodbody is strong across the board and peerless in the Irish market.”
Legal 500 2014

“The team gives advice that is specifically tailored to a situation and is practical and commercial.”
Chambers Europe 2014

“The nature of the work required a lot of different legal disciplines to be brought in and the teams acted in a collegiate manner.”
Chambers Europe 2015



APPROACH

4. APPROACH

We approach all client engagements on the basis of the following principles:

Expert led: Our client service methodology stems from an expert team approach where legal services are provided by a dedicated team of relevant specialist partners and their teams.

Efficient allocation of resources: to ensure that the relevant expertise, at the appropriate level, is applied at all times in a cohesive and cost effective manner. While the support would be primarily partner led, we would also involve our experienced lawyers as required.

Relationship focused: We consider any engagement as an opportunity to start to build a solid and long term relationship. To that end, we happily extend our value added services appropriately tailored to your needs.

BENEFIT	DETAILS
Legal Update Service	We provide a weekly on-line update of legal developments. These updates cover the areas of domestic, EU and relevant UK law. Regulatory developments are also addressed. The updates focus on the practical implications of what's new and may be tailored to the specific needs of particular sectors of business, or the requirements of particular clients.
Client Knowledge Centre	The Knowledge Centre is an online resource of a range of useful know-how in the form of checklists, FAQs and practice notes across a number of practice areas including corporate, banking, employment, insolvency, procurement, discovery and litigation matters. It also provides access to copies of presentations from the firm-wide seminar programme. The training section contains online presentations which will qualify for CPD and there is a video gallery with some insights from the practice leaders on particular legal issues.
Courses and Seminars	We run a range of seminars ranging from annual round-ups of legal issues, to specific sessions on areas of specialist law related to the Food & Beverage sector. Some examples of topics covered in seminars include: Competition Law; Procurement; Employment Law; Developments in Contract Law; EU law and any proposed or newly implemented EU regulations.
PSL Helpline	We offer clients direct access to our Professional Support Lawyer (PSL) team. This facility enables clients to telephone or email the appropriate PSL with informal queries relating to legal topics of interest.
Legal CPD Tracker App	A&L Goodbody's CPD Tracker App helps in-house lawyers and legal professionals to log CPD records on the go and automatically calculates your outstanding CPD requirements. All CPD information may, at the touch of a button, be exported to your email. It also has a list of FAQs relating to CPD requirements. The CPD Tracker App, is available to download for free on iPhone, iPad and Android devices.



THE TEAM

5. TEAM PROFILES - DUBLIN



John Coman

Partner, Corporate and leads the Firm's Inward Investment team

T. +353 1 649 2211 E. jcoman@algoodbody.com

John Coman is a Partner in the Corporate Department and leads the Firm's Inward Investment team. His areas of practice include mergers and acquisitions, joint ventures, inward investment and general corporate work.

He joined A&L Goodbody in 1989 and became a Partner in 1995. During 1993 and 1994, John managed the Firm's New York office.

John has acted for numerous clients in the food sector including Irish Distillers, Pernod Ricard, BWG, Lily O'Brien Chocolates and C&D Foods.



Sheena Doggett

Partner, Corporate

T. +353 1 649 2332 E. sdoggett@algoodbody.com

Sheena Doggett is a Partner in the Firm's Corporate Department and has worked with A&L Goodbody for more than 25 years.

Sheena's key areas of expertise include Corporate Finance, Mergers and Acquisitions, Joint Ventures, Private Equity, Employee Benefits, Corporate Restructuring, Corporate Governance and General Commercial Matters.

Sheena has a wide breadth of food sector clients and her experience includes acting for Nestlé, Pfizer's Infant Nutrition business, Heineken, Pallas Foods, Cadbury/Kraft Foods, Kellogg's, Suntory and the Marfrig Group.



Eithne FitzGerald

Partner, Corporate

T. +353 1 649 2311 E. efitzgerald@algoodbody.com

Eithne FitzGerald is a Partner and Head of Corporate Finance in the Firm's Corporate department. She specialises in corporate finance, mergers & acquisitions, public takeovers, flotations, equity capital markets, private equity, venture capital, MBOs, insurance and general corporate law. Eithne is former Head of the Firm's London office.

Eithne has a strong base of food sector clients and her practice has included advising Britvic on its €249.2m acquisition of the soft drinks and distribution businesses of C&C Group, Campbell Bewley on the sale of Campbell Catering to Aramark and Campbell Bewley on its acquisition of coffee business Darlington's and Bolling, Nestlé on the sale of its ambient food businesses, Barry's Tea and Bank of Scotland on the acquisition of Batchelors and on its later disposal to Capvest backed Valeo foods.

5. TEAM PROFILES - DUBLIN



Alan McCarthy

Partner, EU, Competition & Procurement

T. +353 1 649 2228 E. amccarthy@algoodbody.com

Alan McCarthy is a Partner in EU, Competition & Procurement Group. Alan has significant experience representing clients in a range of sectors including the food, beverage and agriculture sectors.

Alan specialises in advice on the competition law implications of mergers and joint ventures and on the regulatory approval process including for Valeo Foods on its acquisition of Jacob Fruitfield Food Group and also on enforcement issues such as leniency applications, dawn raids, compliance programmes and competition law litigation. He also advises in relation to complaints to the Irish Competition Authority and the European Commission.



Liam Kennedy

Partner, Litigation & Dispute Resolution

T. +353 1 649 2501 E. lkennedy@algoodbody.com

Liam is a Partner and Head of the Firm's Commercial & Dispute Resolution team. Liam specialises in international and domestic commercial disputes including product liability, regulatory issues, mergers & acquisitions, securities and contractual claims.

Liam's practice has included advising on numerous high profile disputes and regulatory matters and his client base includes a number of blue chip corporates in the food and agriculture sector. He has advised such clients on product liability, food safety and product recall issues and related regulatory, reputational and commercial liability issues and has advised clients in respect of other investigations of such issues.



Vincent Power

Partner, Head of EU Competition & Procurement Group.

T. +353 1 649 2226 E. vpower@algoodbody.com

Vincent Power is a Partner and Head of the Firm's EU Competition & Procurement Group. The team is consistently ranked at the forefront of Irish law firms and in the *Global Competition Review's* top competition law teams worldwide.

Vincent has been involved in most of the leading competition, merger control, EU, cartel and state aid cases in Ireland in the past 25 years. From a Food & Beverage sector perspective his wide experience includes acting in the Heineken/Scottish & Newcastle, Britvic/C&C and Coca-Cola/Fresh Trading mergers and advising generally on competition/anti-trust legal compliance matters for clients such as Coca-Cola, Heineken, Tesco, Pernod Ricard and Kellogg's.

5. TEAM PROFILES - DUBLIN



Alison Fanagan

Consultant, Litigation & Dispute Resolution and Joint Head of Environmental & Planning

T. +353 1 649 2432 E. afanagan@algoodbody.com

Alison Fanagan is a Consultant in the Firm's Litigation & Dispute Resolution Department and a former Partner of A&L Goodbody. She is joint head of the Environmental & Planning Group.

As a litigator, Alison specialises in judicial review cases, challenging decisions of regulatory and public bodies. She advises on the full spectrum of both contentious and non-contentious environmental work including defending companies and directors against environmental and health and safety prosecutions, planning injunctions and other regulatory enforcement actions.



John Cahir

Partner, Intellectual Property & Technology

T. +353 1 649 2943 E. jcahir@algoodbody.com

John Cahir is a Partner in the Firm's IP & Technology Group. His practice covers both contentious and non-contentious aspects of intellectual property, information technology and data protection law.

John advises clients across a wide range of industry sectors including the Food & Beverage sector, on their intellectual property and technology law requirements. He has acted on some of the highest profile technology disputes to come before the Irish courts as well as on the leading transactions. He acts for many of the multinational corporations that have established their European operations in Ireland and he also advises a wide spectrum of domestic clients.



Jason Milne

Associate, Environmental & Planning

T. +353 1 649 2250 E. jmilne@algoodbody.com

Jason is an environmental lawyer, who previously worked as an environmental consultant and, as a result, has over 13 years experience in the field.

Jason specialises in the areas of environmental and planning law, as well as practising commercial litigation. He has gained extensive skills across a wide variety of environmental services, with specialist knowledge in the areas of Strategic Infrastructure, Environmental Impact Assessment, IPPC licensing, and contaminated land assessment, monitoring and remediation.

5. TEAM PROFILES - BELFAST



Peter Stafford

Partner, Corporate

T. +44 (0)28 9072 7590 E. pstafford@algoodbody.com

Peter Stafford is a Partner in our Corporate department and chair of our Belfast office. He specialises in corporate finance work including public and private company acquisitions and disposals, management buy outs, private equity transactions, projects and commercial contracts. In April 2013, Peter was awarded the prestigious award of “Dealmaker of the Year” by Insider.

Peter’s experience in the food sector includes acting for Sysco Corporation on its acquisition of Crossgar Foodservice, Kilhorne Bay Seafoods on its disposal of Rockall Seafoods Limited, Axereal Union de Cooperatives Agricoles on its acquisition of the malt business of Greencore Group; and for Britvic on the Northern Ireland aspects of its €249m acquisition of the soft drinks and distribution businesses of C&C Group.



Kate Keith

Associate, Corporate

T. +353 1 649 2250 E. kkeith@algoodbody.com

Kate specialises in assisting on mergers and acquisitions, joint ventures, partnerships, venture capital/private equity and general commercial intellectual property and technology. Before returning to Belfast in 2008 Kate spent four years at global law firm Linklaters LLP. Kate’s clients have included Sysco Corporation, Kilhorne Bay Seafoods and Heineken.

DUBLIN

IFSC,
North Wall Quay,
Dublin 1
E: dublin@algoodbody.com
T: +353 1 649 2000
F: +353 1 649 2649

BELFAST

42/46 Fountain Street,
Belfast BT1 5EF
E: belfast@algoodbody.com
T: +44 28 9031 4466
F: +44 28 9031 4477

LONDON

Augustine House,
Austin Friars,
London EC2N 2HA
E: london@algoodbody.com
T: +44 20 7382 0800
F: +44 20 7382 0810

NEW YORK

The Chrysler Building,
405 Lexington Avenue,
New York, NY 10174
E: newyork@algoodbody.com
T: +1 212 582 4499
F: +1 212 333 5126

SAN FRANCISCO

The Shell Building,
100 Bush Street,
San Francisco, CA 94104
E: sanfrancisco@algoodbody.com
T: +1 650 922 2074
F: +1 415 830 5925

PALO ALTO

228 Hamilton Avenue
Palo Alto, CA 94301
E: paloalto@algoodbody.com
T: +1 650 798 5183
F: +1 650 798 5001

www.algoodbody.com
