

Christopher Somorjay

Counsel
London

Biography

Chris Somorjay works with his institutional investor and pension fund clients to manage their real estate portfolios. Having worked with a number of his clients since he qualified with us in 2001, he combines his eye for detail and calm but tenacious approach with a deep understanding of their business needs.

Chris brings to the table extensive experience from across the commercial real estate sector, delivering high profile City office lettings for M&G and both shopping centre and science park acquisitions and disposals for the Mars UK and Dutch pension funds. Having also acted for a number of occupier clients, Chris has the perspective and acute commercial focus necessary to bring those complex multi-faceted deals to a close.

Finely attuned to industry trends, Chris makes sure his clients reap the benefits of his knowledge, whether he's leading initiatives to increase the speed of lease negotiations or drafting and launching 'green leases'.

Representative experience

Leading for M&G on the purchase, development and lease of brownfield land at Trentham Lakes, Stoke-on-Trent.

Acting for M&G on a sale and leaseback, with development funding, for a Sainsbury's and Premier



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Languages

English

Practices

Real Estate

Industries

Real Estate

Inn at Garratt Lane, Wandsworth.

Acquiring shopping centres in Uxbridge and Hartlepool for the Mars UK pension fund.

Leading a cross-practice team for Mars on a portfolio disposal of nine office properties.

Acting for Equitable Life to pre-let a major new-format Debenhams store and then to sell trophy asset Coliseum Retail Park with the pre-let in place.

Delivering a series of high profile lettings of Oxford Street retail stores and flagship City offices for M&G.

Acting as primary adviser to GAM in relation to its London office requirements, including taking a pre-let of new headquarters office space in St James's.

Latest thinking and events

■ News

- The Supreme Court decides on COVID-19 business interruption coverage – What does this mean for real estate?

■ News

- What's happening with the Retail Prices Index and why?

■ Hogan Lovells Publications

- UK COVID-19: The FCA Business Interruption Test Case ruling – the end of the 'Covid clause' in leases? *Keeping It Real Estate*

■ Hogan Lovells Publications

- A sign of the times – Land Registry start accepting electronic signatures *Keeping It Real Estate*

■ Hogan Lovells Publications

- SDLT: same tax; different filing window *Keeping It Real Estate*

■ Hogan Lovells Publications

- Dancing to the wrong tune? Theresa May's additional SDLT levy on foreign buyers *Keeping It*

Areas of focus

Corporate Occupiers

Real Estate Development

Real Estate Investment

Education and admissions

Education

LPC, The College of Law, Guildford, 1999

B.A., Merton College, Oxford, (Hons)

Real Estate