HARNEYS

Biography

Matthew Howson

Counsel | Private Wealth | London

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Expertise

Private Wealth , Family Office , Private Trust Companies , Probate & Letters of Administration , Trusts , Wills

Matthew Howson is a member of our London office, specialising in BVI and Cayman trust law, general private client and estate planning matters. His clients include individuals and families, trust companies and family offices, as well as institutional clients such as banks.

His current practice includes creating, administering and advising on often complex trust structures. He also drafts wills covering BVI assets, and administers BVI estates. His work invariably has an international and multi-jurisdictional dimension.

Matthew is a full member of the Society of Trust & Estate Practitioners (***STEP***). He regularly speaks to small and large audiences worldwide about succession planning, and also assists in developing new BVI legislation. He has contributed to publications such as the STEP Journal, Trusts & Estates Law & Tax Journal, Private Client Adviser, and LexisNexis Seminars.

Prior to joining us in 2016, Matthew worked at leading London private client firm Penningtons Manches LLP.

Recommendations

Matthew is recognised as a "leading associate".

- Legal 500 UK, 2025

Matthew is recognised as a rising star. Sources say: Matthew is a “private wealth specialist whose personality makes him a pleasure to work with.” (2023 guide)

- Legal 500 UK, 2021 – 2024

Matthew is recognised in the global excellence category (2024), he was previously recognised as a rising leader (2022 - 2023).

- Legal Week – Private Client Global Elite, 2022 - 2024

Matthew is recommended in the British Virgin Islands Trusts/Private Client guide.

- Legal 500 Caribbean, 2019

Matthew is recognised in the Top 35 Under 35 guide.

- Eprivateclient, 2019 – 2020

Bar Admissions

British Virgin Islands
2017

England and Wales
2013

Education

Kaplan University (LPC)
2011

BPP University (GDL)
2010

University of Oxford (MSc)
2008

University College London (BA)
2007

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Legal 500