

## Corporate Deal *Highlights* H1 2024

Our Tier One ranked Corporate Team advised on a wide range of M&A, Private Equity and Capital Markets transactions in the first half of 2024. We are pleased to have worked with clients on the following deals:

### Vistry Group

Advised Countryside Partnerships, part of the Vistry Group, on its joint venture with Abri to develop 1,500 homes in Arundel, West Sussex. The site was sold to Countryside Partnerships and Abri who will jointly deliver an equal split of market sale and affordable housing on the site as well as developing wider community infrastructure including commercial and retail space, a primary school, and a care home.



Advised US corporate, Entrepreneurial Food Group LLC, on the sale of two UK food production businesses, Zorba Foods and SK Chilled Foods, to The Compleat Food Group. Zorba and SK are category leaders in private label chilled party foods, dips and deli fillings, with a combined turnover of over £160m and over 1,150 employees across the NE of England and Wales.



Advised the management sellers of Membr on its sale to Xplor Technologies. This acquisition will allow Xplor Technologies to bring a premium club management software solution to the fitness industry and further expand its global footprint.



Advised long-standing client Puma Private Equity on a £10m investment round into Transreport, the UK's fastest-growing accessibility technology company. This investment, with participation from Pembroke VCT, will enable Transreport to expand its Passenger Assistance technology to anyone who needs assistance whilst travelling, facilitating quicker and easier use of public transport and also will enable the company to continue its expansion into the aviation sector.



Advised CLA UK (CliftonLarsonAllen UK Ltd.), a subsidiary of CliftonLarsonAllen LLP, the eighth-largest accounting firm in the United States, on its acquisition of Engine B, a UK-based technology firm. The acquisition demonstrates CLA's commitment to harnessing cutting-edge technology to enhance client service and will allow CLA professionals to focus more on client engagement, pursuing new business opportunities, and delivering value-added services.



Advised the buyer on its acquisition of the entire issued share capital of Feliciano EFL Limited, holder of a 90% stake in Wycombe Wanderers Football Club Limited.



Advised longstanding client AgDevCo, a specialist impact investor, on its equity investment in East African agri-business platform, Agris. This equity investment involved AgDevCo acquiring a significant minority position in Agris, the agriculture division of Maris Ltd.



Advised long-standing client Advania, a leading managed and professional services provider and one of Microsoft's leading partners in the UK, on the acquisition of Servium. This deal allows Advania to widen its range of services, software and hardware procurement for customers, as well as strengthen relationships with leading manufacturers and distributors.



Acting as UK counsel for Hibbett, Inc, a US-based athletic fashion retailer, on the UK aspects of its proposed \$1.1 billion acquisition by JD Sports Fashion Plc, Britain's biggest sports retailer.

Panmure Gordon



Advised on three secondary fundraises across three different markets (Main Market, AIM and AQSE) in a month.

The team acted for Panmure Gordon in its role as Joint Bookrunner, Corporate Broker and Corporate Adviser on a fundraise for AQSE-listed Equipmake plc.

The team was then called on to act for Allenby Capital in its role as broker on a fundraise for AIM-listed Fusion Antibodies plc.

The team finally advised Main Market-listed HeiQ plc, a leading company in materials innovation and hygiene technologies on a fundraise and convertible loan note issue.



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"Charles Russell Speechlys has a *strong experienced team*; its members have great *knowledge* on a wide range of matters."

*Chambers UK 2024, Corporate/M&A: £10-100 million client*