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BIOGRAPHY

Nick has a varied corporate practice, acting for major companies and financial intermediaries on public and private M&A transactions, IPOs and secondary fundraisings and advising listed companies on company law, governance and reporting issues. Nick has particular experience in the financial services, technology and infrastructure sectors.

ADMISSIONS

England and Wales

RELATED PRACTICE AREAS

- M&A & Corporate Finance
- Private Equity
- Infrastructure
- Corporate
- Israel Practice
- UK Public Company

EXPERIENCE

- Kape Technologies on its US\$1.6bn takeover by Unikmind Holdings, its acquisition of US internet privacy business Private Internet Access for \$95m and its acquisition of Express VPN for US\$936m.
- Blackstone Tactical Opportunities and TPG Special Situations Partners on their £180m acquisition of Kensington, the specialty residential mortgage lender, from Investec, their acquisition of Acenden mortgage servicing and a subsequent acquisition of a mortgage portfolio with a face value of £3.8bn (US\$5.bn) from GE.
- Samathur Li and Samuel Tak Lee on the sale of a 26% interest in Shaftesbury plc to Capco for £436m.
- SEACOR, a major international offshore support vessels operator, on its disposal of North Sea offshore safety vessel business Boston Putford Offshore, the disposal of North Sea offshore crew transfer vessel business Windcat Workboats and related prior corporate re-organisations.
- The Globe Invest family office group on numerous investments in, and acquisitions and disposals of, technology businesses, including the sale of Safecharge for US\$889m.
- Redde on its all-share merger with Northgate, forming a group with a value of £680m.
- BCA Marketplace on its £1.9bn takeover by funds managed by TDR Capital.
- Flybe on its formal sale process and takeover by a consortium formed by Virgin Atlantic,
 Stobart and Cyrus Capital.
- EY as administrators of Flybe and its parent, Connect Airways, on numerous company and asset disposals.

- Playtech on its £2.7bn takeover offer from Aristocrat Leisure.
- MTTA on the disposal of its stake in Gdansk container port, alongside Macquarie, for \$1.3bn.
- Ancala Partners on the acquisition of a portfolio of water assets serving the Ministry of Defence estate and anaerobic digestion power plants.
- LabTech Investments on its £892m takeover of Market Tech Holdings.
- The shareholders of Lloyds insurance broker Alston Gayler & Co on its sale to Miller Insurance.
 - AIG, Everest, Aviva and other W&I insurers on their underwriting of dozens of M&A W&I deals.

RELATED INSIGHTS

Insights Jan 23, 2024

FRC revises UK Corporate Governance Code

Following the May 2023 consultation on the UK Corporate Governance Code ("Code"), the FRC has published a revised Code. The changes focus primarily on one area - Internal Controls whilst other changes have been kept to a minimum in a move to promote smarter regulation. The 2024 Code will apply to financial years beginning on or after 1 January 2025 save for new Provision 29 (board declaration on effectiveness of their material internal controls) which will apply to financial years beginning on or after 1 January 2026. Revised guidance on the 2024 Code will be published on 29 January 2024.

Insights Oct 31, 2023

The Takeover Panel publishes changes to Rule 21 (restrictions on frustrating action)

Following on from its earlier consultation, the Code Committee of the Takeover Panel has published its amendments to Rule 21 of the Code which take effect on 11 December 2023 and apply to on-going transactions which straddle this date. The principal changes amend Rule 21.1 so that the board of a target company would no longer be restricted from taking an action that either is not material or is in the ordinary course of its business and which would not result in an offer or bona fide possible offer being frustrated. The aim of the changes are to increase flexibility for target companies to carry on their ordinary course activities, including where these involve buying and selling assets, and to provide greater clarity as to the action that will and will not be restricted. Separately the Panel Executive has published changes to Practice Statement No. 5 (Rule 13.5 – invoking conditions and pre-conditions).

Insights 25 May 2023

FRC publishes consultation on the UK Corporate Governance Code

Following the government's white paper on 'Restoring trust in audit and corporate governance', the FRC has published a consultation on the UK Corporate Governance Code ("Code"). The consultation focuses on changes to: reflect the responsibilities, diversity of skills and experience on boards and the expanded responsibilities of audit committees; improve the transparency of malus and clawback provisions for directors' remuneration; and update the Code to ensure it aligns with the government's draft legislation (not yet published). Comments are requested by 13 September 2023. It is expected that the revised Code will apply to financial years beginning on or after 1 January 2025 to allow sufficient time for implementation.

Awards Apr 04, 2023

IFLR1000

Insights

Mar 21, 2023

FCA Primary Market Bulletin No. 44

Primary Market Bulletin No. 44 reminds issuers of the: use of multimedia content (including audio and video) in regulatory news announcements; FCA's position on the requirement for a prospectus when shares are allotted under a scheme of arrangement (mix and match facility); and new disclosure obligations under the Listing Rules on diversity and the FCA's approach to monitoring compliance.

Insights

Mar 16, 2023

Update from Parker Review 2023

An update report from the Parker Review on Ethnic Diversity highlights that 96% of FTSE 100 companies have met the target of at least one minority ethnic director on their boards. FTSE 250 companies are making progress towards meeting this target by 2024. The report also sets out new targets for each FTSE 350 company to set a target percentage for senior management positions that will be occupied by ethnic minority executives and for 50 of the UK's largest private companies to have at least one ethnic minority director on the board.

Insights Feb 14, 2023

Preparing for your 2023 AGM

Insights Jan 06, 2023

BCLP Israel Deal Round-up 2022

Insights

Dec 14, 2022

FCA publishes Primary Market Bulletin No. 42 and Market Watch 71

The FCA has published Primary Market Bulletin No.42 which, amongst other things: (i) discusses themes from the FCA's enquiries into unlawful disclosure of inside information (ii) highlights the relationship between the National Security and Investment Act and market abuse; (iii) provides guidance for issuers disclosing against the TCFD framework; and (iv) reminds cash shell companies of the rules in relation to reverse takeovers. This follows on from the government's recent publication of the 'Edinburgh Reforms' for 'Building a smarter financial services framework for the UK' and reinforces the current focus to support market integrity and ensure a regulatory focus

on growth and competitiveness.In addition the FCA has published Market Watch 71 where they share their

observations about changes in advisory firms' insider lists.