

LLP Conversion

The partnership of Blackhurst Swainson Goodier will convert into a Limited Liability Partnership (LLP) under English law on 1 April 2010. We will become Blackhurst Swainson Goodier LLP.

With effect from 31 March 2010, the partnership of Blackhurst Swainson Goodier will cease to trade.

What is an LLP?

An LLP is a separate corporate entity which is governed by the Limited Liability Partnership Act 2000. An LLP, which has members rather than partners, is itself liable for any debts of the business, as opposed to individual partners under a conventional partnership. Law firms with LLP status are required to publish their annual financial results.

Reasons for the Change

Many UK accounting and legal firms now practice as limited liability partnerships. We believe that conversion to an LLP provides us with the most appropriate and modern structure in which to operate our business. This in turn means that we will continue to provide high-calibre client service. Converting to an LLP allows us to adopt a practical and modern corporate structure that was not available to a general partnership constituted under the laws of England and Wales.

Will Blackhurst Swainson Goodier LLP still have partners?

LLPs have members instead of partners. However, in common with other law firms that have converted to LLPs, the members of Blackhurst Swainson Goodier LLP will be known as partners.

How will our conversion affect our relationship with you?

The delivery and quality of the services we provide will not change.

Blackhurst Swainson Goodier LLP will continue to maintain the same level of professional indemnity insurance that was available to the partnership of Blackhurst Swainson Goodier except none of our members, employees or consultants will have personal liability for work carried out on behalf of Blackhurst Swainson Goodier LLP.

What happens to matters current at the date of conversion?

Blackhurst Swainson Goodier LLP will continue to provide legal services to clients whose current matters pre date 1 April 2010 on the same terms and conditions of Blackhurst Swainson Goodier's letter of engagement and terms of business. However, new terms and conditions of business will apply to all work which Blackhurst Swainson Goodier LLP is instructed to carry out on or after the 1 April 2010. You will receive a copy of these new terms and conditions whenever we are instructed after that date.

What if I have any further questions or concerns?

Should you have further questions or concerns regarding our conversion to an LLP, please do not hesitate to contact your usual client partner or any other of our partners.