



What Clients Say About Us...

"Mason Hayes & Curran did great work setting up our Irish UCITS. They had a good sense of key concepts and resolved issues that arose during the process quickly and efficiently. All round, I was very satisfied with their work."

Jeffrey Bronheim, Partner and General Counsel,
Cheyne Capital Management (UK) LLP

"Mason Hayes & Curran were highly recommended to us when we were considering establishing a Qualifying Investor Fund in Ireland and I was very satisfied with the outcome regarding quality and time. They were responsive, efficient and very helpful in ensuring a successful start of the Fund."

Götz J. Kirchhoff, Managing Partner, AVANA Invest GmbH

"The firm has great depth. They seamlessly advised on all regulatory, corporate, tax, technology, employment and pensions law issues during our transaction and we got a first-class service from them. I would have no hesitation recommending Mason Hayes & Curran to anyone in the financial services industry."

Peter Schifsky, Chief Legal Officer, LaCrosse Global Fund Services,
part of the Cargill Group

"The team worked very much in partnership with us in establishing our UCITS fund. They are very pro-active and innovative in their approach, which was crucial, as we were breaking new ground with our MENA Fund. Their lawyers are technically excellent and also have a real sense of our commercial objectives."

Walid Hayeck, Managing Director, Asset Management,
The National Investor, the first Abu Dhabi-based promoter
to be approved to establish Irish funds

What Others Say About Us...

"It is a modern, forward-looking firm with a great ethos."

"It puts in the hours to make sure what we need happens and will reach out to others to make sure that we stay on target."

Chambers Europe - The World's Leading Lawyers,
Chambers and Partners, 2012

"This group has been at the forefront of industry developments with lawyers representing clients in structuring and establishing some of the most innovative fund products in recent years."

"'Fionán has a great overview of the industry and understands the minutiae of the development of the market' say sources."

"'Mason Hayes & Curran is extremely proactive, and you can trust the group to let it run with its initiative' say clients."

Chambers Europe - The World's Leading Lawyers,
Chambers & Partners, 2010

"At Mason Hayes & Curran, Fionán Breathnach is praised for his 'deep local knowledge' and 'regulatory awareness'. 'The team is experienced in the establishment of UCITS and QIFs.'"

Legal 500, 2010



Investment Funds Practice

Mason Hayes & Curran's dedicated Investment Funds practice specialises in advising fund managers and promoters on structuring, establishing and distributing Irish-domiciled Investment Funds.

Our lawyers have advised a wide variety of clients on structuring and promoting funds, ranging from UCITS targeted at the retail sector to Qualifying Investor Funds ("QIFs"), which are targeted at the most sophisticated investor level. We advise on the legal structure of funds, their regulatory classification and on establishing specialist vehicles such as hedge funds, private equity funds, real estate funds, funds of funds, feeder funds, money market funds and more.

We have expertise in the regulation of Investment Fund products and their related transactions as well as the increasingly sophisticated financial instruments and techniques being utilised by asset managers.

We have particular expertise in the area of alternative investments and are committed to seeing Ireland's continued development as a domicile for regulated hedge funds and sophisticated UCITS products, to complement its now firmly established reputation as a jurisdiction of choice for the servicing of hedge funds.

Our Approach

At Mason Hayes & Curran we recognise the need for responsive, innovative and strategic legal advice in the dynamic Investment Funds industry.

Our lawyers are known for their straight-talking, solution-driven approach to business and we have built a first class reputation with clients on this basis. We are a progressive firm, regarded as approachable and easy to do business with.

We make it our priority to understand our clients' objectives. Our focus is on delivering fully on client expectations and achieving successful commercial outcomes.

Our clients value the accessibility and responsiveness of our Partners. Our lawyers have been involved in the development of policy and regulation in the Investment Funds industry in Ireland for the past 15 years and apply this specialist knowledge in a commercial manner to achieve client objectives. The fact that most of our lawyers also have in-house experience in industry and international experience, enhances the commerciality of our approach.



Fionán Breathnach

Partner

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Contact Partner:

Fionán Breathnach is a Partner practising in the Financial Services Department and is head of Mason Hayes & Curran's Investment Funds team. He advises fund promoters on structuring, establishing and listing Investment Funds in Ireland and in other jurisdictions. He has served on the Legal and Regulatory Committee of the Irish Funds Industry Association for many years. Fionán is recommended as a leader in the Investment Funds field by Chambers and Partners, 2011.



Mark Browne

Partner

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Contact Partner:

Mark Browne is a Partner practising in the Financial Services Department. A member of the Investment Funds team, he has over 10 years' experience in the Funds industry and advises on all aspects of the structuring, establishment and ongoing operation of Investment Funds in Ireland, as well as issues affecting service providers such as administrators, custodians, distributors and investment managers. He also has extensive international experience and is recommended by Legal 500 in the Investment Funds field.

Complementary Services

When advising clients, our dedicated team of Investment Fund lawyers can also draw upon the expertise of specialists in our other departments.

As a full service law firm, we regularly advise financial services clients on a wide range of issues that need to be considered when setting up in business or establishing an investment fund in Ireland, as well as those that arise during ongoing operations.

Consistently recognised as one of Ireland's leading business law firms, we are committed to providing optimum solutions to promoters, asset managers and fund service providers in Ireland. We can assist you with every aspect of your business.



John Gulliver

*Principal,
Head of Tax*

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Taxation

We advise on tax disclosures in fund offering documents, the use of double taxation treaties and general structuring issues, including the use of Section 110 companies as investment subsidiaries of QIFs.

Contact Person:

John Gulliver leads our Tax team and advises some of the largest Irish, UK and US groups on the tax structuring of their operations for more than 20 years. His clients include some of the largest enterprises in Ireland and numerous Irish based real estate syndicates with substantial prime commercial properties located in Ireland and the UK. John is recommended as a leader in his field by Chambers and Partners, 2011.



Declan Black

Partner

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Litigation and Dispute Resolution

We advise on a range of litigation matters relating to the Funds industry in Ireland.

Contact Partner:

Declan Black leads our diverse Litigation Practice, which is among the largest in Ireland. His personal focus is on commercial litigation and insolvency. His experience includes many high value contractual and tortious disputes, commonly with an international component. Declan is recommended as a leader in his field by Chambers Global, 2011.



David O'Donnell

Partner

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Corporate

We have advised various fund service providers on corporate transactions, including mergers, acquisitions and establishment of new operations.

Contact Partner:

David O'Donnell is Head of our Corporate Department. Practising in the areas of mergers and acquisitions, securities law, joint ventures, corporate establishments and corporate finance, he has a reputation as a straight-talking lawyer who works tirelessly to ensure that deals are completed to his clients' satisfaction. David is recommended as a leader in his field by Chambers and Partners, 2011.



Jeanne Kelly

Partner

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Data Protection

We advise on fund groups transferring investor data to and from Irish administration subsidiaries and on appropriate disclosures in fund subscription documentation.

Contact Partner:

Jeanne Kelly is a Partner in our Commercial Department. Jeanne frequently advises on data protection matters particularly focusing on international data transfers. She co-authored the book "Data Protection Law in Ireland". Jeanne is recommended as a leader in her field by Chambers and Partners, 2011.



Christine O'Donovan

Partner

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Banking and Structured Finance

We advise on loan facility agreements and derivative instruments and on the use of Section 110 companies as subsidiaries to Irish authorised QIFs to hold specific investments.

Contact Partner:

Christine O'Donovan is Head of our Financial Services Department. She is an experienced banking & finance lawyer having worked in private practice and in-house. Christine's practice focuses on corporate lending, project and acquisition finance, asset financing, cross-border leasing and aviation. Christine is recommended as a leader in her field by Chambers and Partners, 2011.



Paula Phelan

Director

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Company Secretarial

We act as company secretary to Investment Funds structured as Irish corporate vehicles.

Contact Person:

Paula Phelan is Director of our Company Secretarial Department. Paula has extensive and wide experience as a chartered secretary having previously worked in the company secretarial department of a leading accountancy firm and, before that as deputy company secretary of a large quoted plc.



Philip Nolan

Partner

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Information Technology

We advise on licensing and contractual issues relating to information technology for a range of financial services companies and fund service providers.

Contact Partner:

Philip is Head of our Commercial Department. He advises both public and private clients in relation to communications, information technology, intellectual property and competition law. Philip has also developed a focused regulatory advisory practice which includes public procurement law, data protection law and energy law. Philip is recommended as a leader in his field by Legal 500, 2011.



Melanie Crowley

Partner

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Employment

We advise on directors' service contracts and with regard to employee issues for a range of fund service providers in Ireland.

Contact Partner:

Melanie Crowley is a Partner practising in Employment Law. She is involved in all aspects of contentious and non-contentious employment law on both the employer and employee side. Melanie regularly assists clients in drafting employment contracts, agreements and HR policies and procedures. Melanie is recommended as a leader in her field by Chambers and Partners, 2011.

Investment Funds

Our Investment Funds practice advises on the establishment and ongoing operation of Irish domiciled Investment Funds. Sample recent client transactions undertaken include:

Mason Hayes & Curran advises on

Establishing New UCITS

Example:
Thornburg Global Investment plc

Mason Hayes & Curran advises on

Establishing New QIFs

Example:
Avana Funds plc

Mason Hayes & Curran advises on

Obtaining Fund Promoter Authorisation

Example:
The National Investor, Abu Dhabi

Mason Hayes & Curran advises on

Converting QIFs to UCITS

Example:
Horizon Global Advisers Umbrella Fund plc

Mason Hayes & Curran advises on

Establishing Regulated Fund Service Providers

Example: Centaur Fund Services Ltd

Mason Hayes & Curran advises on

Converting PIFs to UCITS

Example:
Heptagon Fund plc

Mason Hayes & Curran advises on

Obtaining Irish Regulatory Approval for US Asset Managers

Example: Yacktman Asset Management Co.

Mason Hayes & Curran advises on

Irish Private Placement Rules

Example:
Delaware Limited Partnerships

Mason Hayes & Curran advises on

Launching New Sub-funds for Existing Platforms

Example: Oppenheimer Developing Markets Equity Fund



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