

HFW



WHY CHOOSE HFW?
OFFSHORE WIND FARM PROJECTS

“The HFW team is strong in the area of maritime and offshore projects. It has a well versed and experienced team which provides insightful, well-reasoned and instructive legal services in these areas.”

LEGAL 500 UK

HFW is one of the leading law firms in the world for offshore wind farm projects.

Our construction team has worked in this sector since 2010, when we were involved in advising on the London Array, at the time the largest windfarm in the world. We have developed our expertise as the market has grown. To date, we have acted for clients in relation to 70% of the UK's offshore wind farms, as well as many other offshore wind projects in continental European waters and the rest of the world.

We have advised on the world's largest offshore wind farms by turbine count and turbine size, as well as on new cutting-edge technology projects including the use of suction bucket jacket foundations and 66kV cabling.

The firm's highly regarded global construction team combined with our maritime heritage gives us an unparalleled insight and expertise in this sector.

Our expertise falls into three main areas:

Procurement and contracts. We draft and negotiate the full range of project documentation, as well as advising on all commercial, contract and tendering strategies, joint venture agreements, public procurement and compliance issues.

On-going project support. We advise on projects during the delivery stage, helping with the commercial and contractual issues that arise. This will involve advising on entitlements and contractual mechanisms and procedures.

Disputes. We have unparalleled experience of international arbitration, litigation, DAB, adjudication and mediation in the offshore wind sector. Our extensive network of offices means that we have on the ground knowledge of the local law and local court system in the jurisdictions you are working.



“They have an enviable track record relating to offshore renewable projects and have been shown to have provided good advice on particularly complex matters.”

LEGAL 500 UK

Our experience

Foundations and jackets

We have advised on projects using monopile foundations, as well as pin pile and suction bucket foundations. We regularly advise on contract provisions aimed at managing risk arising from the use of cutting edge technology and engineering solutions.

Cabling

We have very significant experience of advising on, drafting and negotiating subsea cable contracts, including inter array and export cables. Our experience means we have developed valuable insights into the risks involved with the subsea cable projects and how best to manage those risks in the contracts. We also have substantial experience of interconnector cable projects.

Balance of plant

In addition to multi-contracting, we have unrivalled experience drafting and negotiating BOP contracts on some of the largest wind farm projects in the world. We provide clear practical advice on the contractual mechanisms and procedures to follow to minimise risk.

Turbine supply

We have experience advising on and negotiating turbine supply agreements dealing with all aspects of component delivery, inspection and acceptance, and damages for late delivery.

Vessels and charter parties

As the world leading shipping practice we regularly advise on charter parties – including in the offshore wind sector - as well as claims and incidents arising from the use of vessels.

Onshore interface

The breadth of our offshore wind and sub-sea cable experience means that we fully understand the interface between the offshore work and onshore operations. We regularly act on horizontal directional drilling (HDD) projects where the offshore cables are brought onshore through ducts.

Decommissioning

We have drafted decommissioning contracts for offshore wind installations. Our global shipping, energy and construction expertise means HFW has considerable worldwide experience of decommissioning contracts and managing disputes arising from such work.

Marine warranty surveyors

Our considerable experience on projects means we understand the role and obligations of a marine warranty surveyor, and the contractual risk allocation between the employer and contractor.

Geographical reach

HFW is a global law firm and our offshore wind team includes lawyers with expertise across jurisdictions. As well as having English and Scots qualified lawyers to advise on UK projects, our team includes French and Belgian lawyers to provide local expertise. As a result, we have assisted clients on projects across a range European jurisdictions. We have advised on offshore wind in other parts of the world, including projects in the USA, Taiwan and Australia. Whilst the team spans the globe, it is a cohesive unit, sharing expertise and experience to provide a first class service wherever our clients' projects are located.

700+

We have over 700 lawyers working across our 21 international offices



The Lawyer's independent rankings recognised HFW as the UK's most active law firm in the London Commercial Court in 2021

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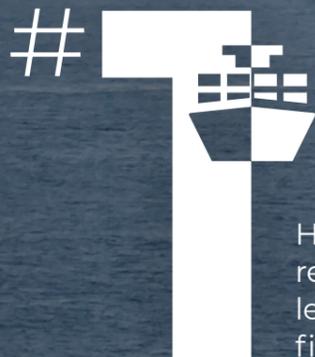
HFW's London team is ranked in the Band 2 of the UK 2025 Legal 500

70%

The firm has acted for a variety of different companies on approximately 70% of the UK's offshore windfarm projects

130 YEARS

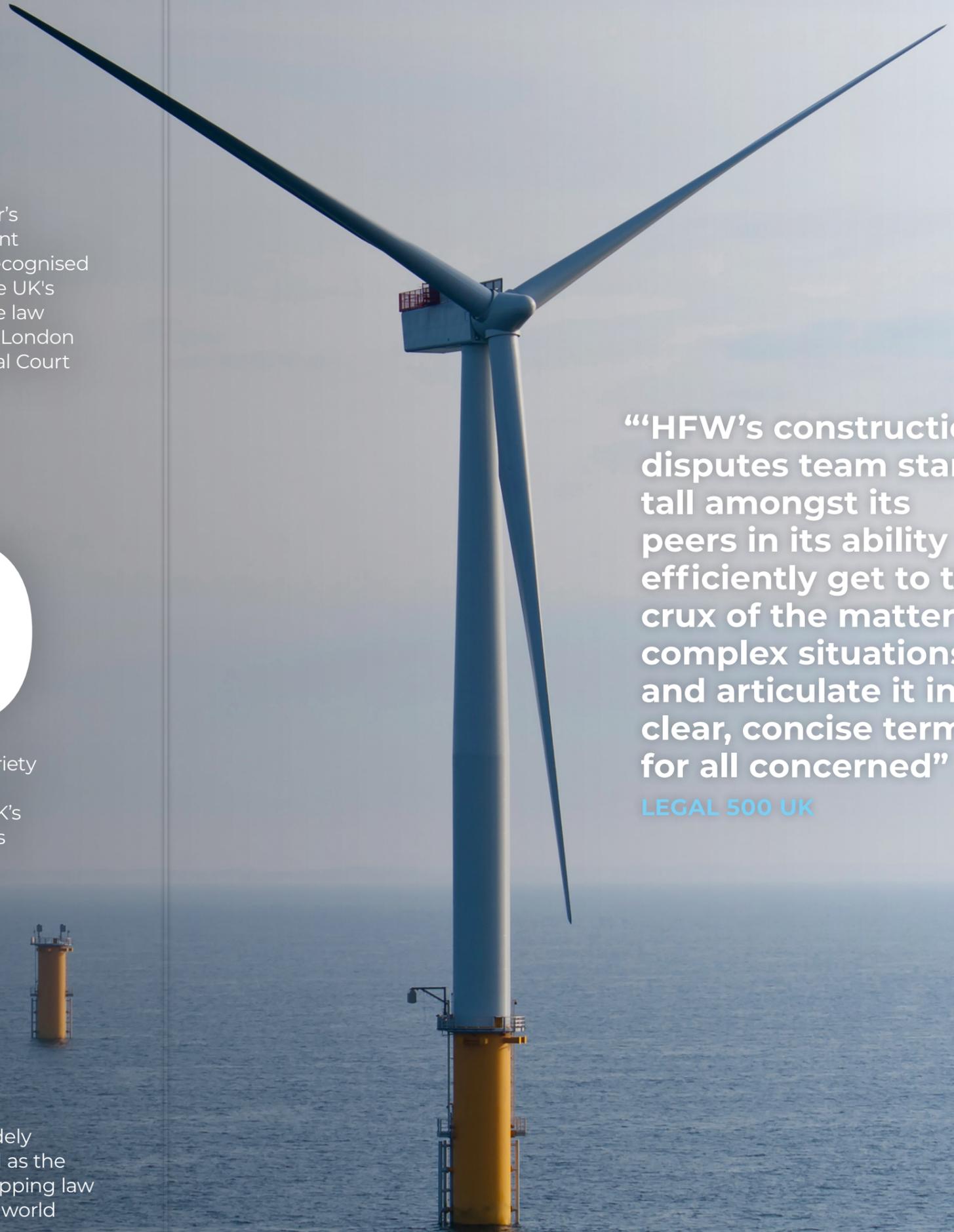
The firm has been in existence for over 130 years, making us one of the most established law firms in the world

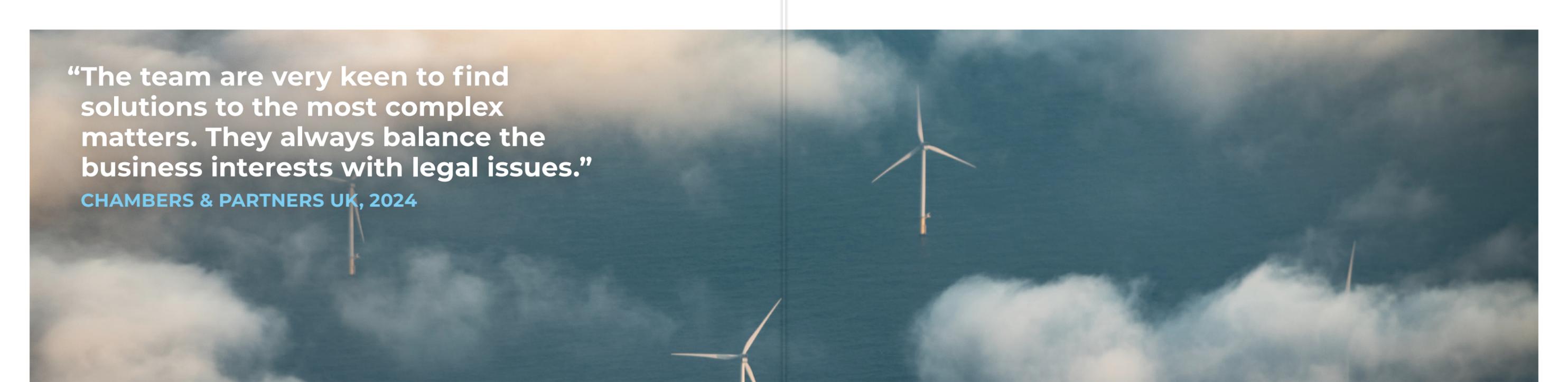


HFW is widely recognised as the leading shipping law firm in the world

“HFW’s construction disputes team stands tall amongst its peers in its ability to efficiently get to the crux of the matter in complex situations, and articulate it in clear, concise terms for all concerned”

[LEGAL 500 UK](#)





“The team are very keen to find solutions to the most complex matters. They always balance the business interests with legal issues.”

CHAMBERS & PARTNERS UK, 2024

Comprehensive advice

We advise on a wide range of legal and contractual issues in relation to offshore wind projects.

Contract documentation

Our team regularly draft and negotiate the full range of project documentation, as well as advising on all commercial, contract and tendering strategies. We are experienced with all forms of standard industry contract and the typical amendments required for the offshore wind market. We are recognised in the market as having particularly strong experience of the FIDIC form of contract. One of our partners co-wrote the leading practitioner text on the 1999 Edition and we were also on the reviewing panel for the 2017 Edition.

Joint venture and consortiums

As well as construction contracts, we also assist our clients in relation to joint venture or consortium arrangements, drafting and negotiating such documents.

Project support

We advise on projects during the delivery stage, helping with the commercial and contractual issues that arise (e.g. unforeseen ground conditions). This will involve advising both contractors and employers on contractual entitlements and mechanisms operating under contracts, such as notices, termination and extensions of time.

Delay and disruption

We understand how projects can be delayed and disrupted and how entitlement arising needs to be analysed and presented. We are extremely experienced at investigating, documenting and presenting claims arising from complex delay and disruption events.

Planning

HFW has experience of advising on planning disputes relating to the construction of offshore wind farms and onshore substations.

Public tender challenges

Our regulatory team works closely with our construction team in circumstances where public tender challenges are required. We have an established track record of acting for clients on challenges under the Utilities Contracts Regulations and the Public Contracts Regulations.

Insurance

Our market leading insurance and reinsurance practice is recognised internationally as an industry leader, we offer a comprehensive range of dispute regulation, transactional and regulatory legal services to the insurance sector. Our insurance team has substantial experience of insurance in the offshore industry.

Variations and change orders

We wrote the only specialist book on this key topic called *Construction Contract Variations*. We are the go-to advisors on variations and change orders and we understand the law on this area inside out.

Defects

Our experience includes managing high value defect claims, including cable failure (and preventative maintenance), foundation and turbine blade defects. We are experienced at understanding how to investigate and document the cause of defects and the contractual liability arising.

For more information about the capabilities of our construction team, please contact:



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Our global reach

We have 21 offices around the world and also work with top local firms and experts in their sectors.



Abu Dhabi
British Virgin Islands
Brussels
Dubai
Geneva
Hong Kong
Houston
Kuwait
London
Melbourne
Monaco
Paris
Perth
Piraeus
Rio de Janeiro*
Riyadh
São Paulo*
Shanghai
Shenzhen
Singapore
Sydney

*via our cooperation arrangement with Brazilian law firm Costa, Albino & Rocha Sociedade de Advogados (CAR)



AEROSPACE



COMMODITIES



CONSTRUCTION



ENERGY



INSURANCE



SHIPPING

THE FUTURE OF SUSTAINABLE BUSINESS

Scan the QR code to download the latest HFW Sustainability report:

The Future of Sustainable Business, covering key issues such as the vital transition to renewable energy, the decarbonisation of aviation and shipping, the need for more resilient infrastructure to withstand environmental changes, and the role of new financial instruments in the fight against climate change.



HFW has over 700 lawyers working in offices across Australia, Asia, the Middle East, Europe and the Americas. For further information about our construction capabilities, please visit [hfw.com/construction](https://www.hfw.com/construction)