



 rollits
...more than a law firm

Food

Sector specialism

Food

Sector overview

Constantly evolving and increasingly sophisticated, the UK food and drink market is hugely important to the economy and closely watched by an international audience, keen to learn from this country's innovative ideas. The export market continues to grow to meet worldwide demand for British products.

Food and drink companies operate in a very challenging environment. The sector is highly competitive and regulated, and surges in commodity prices, coupled with pressure from retailers to keep prices low, have resulted in manufacturers being squeezed hard. This has impacted upon product development and innovation, which is a major issue as new products are regarded as the lifeblood of the sector in the UK. It is a volatile market and there have been many acquisitions and much consolidation in recent years.

At the same time, UK consumers are becoming a lot more demanding about quality, sustainability and issues of provenance and traceability, and their shopping habits have altered dramatically, with e-commerce and home delivery becoming ever more important.

The Yorkshire and Humber region, through its rich farming lands, fishing heritage and proximity to major ports, has become a leading location in the food and drink sector, and Rollits is proud to play a part in its success.

Our sector experience

Rollits' experience in the food and drink sector is quite exceptional and extends beyond the basic provision of legal services.

The Rollits Food Group works principally in the UK and Irish markets, but also with multinational clients, and has a very strong presence in Yorkshire and the Humber. Our clients are a broad range of quoted and privately-owned companies that supply the major retailers, the independents, the food service market and other food manufacturers. Many of our clients have national brands and are household names.

We are also actively involved with agri businesses from large livestock producers to salad growers.

During our decades of working in this vibrant sector, we have become the first choice in our region for advising on mergers and acquisitions either from the buying or selling side. We can identify suitable buyers to obtain the best valuation for clients and we can select companies that are good targets for clients on the acquisition trail, with a full awareness of the specific issues around buying and selling food businesses.

Our work also covers management buy-ins and buy-outs and we are fully involved on the financial side, organising equity finance and debt funding from major banks.

Rollits Food Group clients benefit from our extensive knowledge and contacts – we always have an ear to the ground. We know what is out there and what deals are being made.



Why use Rollits?

Rollits is unique in being the only law firm in the country that provides such a wide range of services to the food sector backed up by practical, hands-on experience in the food industry extending more than 30 years. Our sector intelligence and knowledge are second to none.

We place great importance on developing the services we offer and are very proactive in helping our clients so that they keep abreast of all the latest industry developments. We are always very happy to pass on our knowledge and expertise.

On a regional level, we are very much involved in supporting the growth of local producers and suppliers, which we demonstrate through our sponsorship with the Regional Food Group, deliciouslyyorkshire.

With offices in Hull and York, we are located in the food centre of the UK, meaning that we are perfectly placed to give specialist, personal service to our clients, many of whom we have worked alongside for many years.

Our services

We provide a wide range of legal services and financial advice to food companies which benefit from our knowledge of the sector, including:

Mergers and Acquisitions

Joint Ventures

Company Formations and Restructuring

Property Transactions

Regulatory including Health and Safety and Food Standards

Employment

Contracts and Commercial

Intellectual Property

IT and Information Law

Rollits is a trading name of Rollits LLP. Rollits LLP is a limited liability partnership, registered in England and Wales, registered number OC 348965, registered office Wilberforce Court, High Street, Hull HU1 1YJ.

A list of members' names is available for inspection at our registered office. We use the term 'partner' to denote members of Rollits LLP.

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