



Graham Burns

Director & Solicitor

Graham has specialised in Public Private Partnerships and Joint Ventures since 1996. Before joining The Projects Partnership as a Director, Graham was the lead projects lawyer in the City office of Eversheds.

Graham started his legal career in local government. He has a particular interest in education schemes, and is currently engaged on a number of major leisure and education projects, both with LEAs and in the higher education sector.

He specialises in complex procurements and major commercial transactions in the local authority sector handling a broad range of commercial and legal issues.

Graham has substantial and leading-edge experience of major and complex public private partnership deals.

Graham has extensive experience of major public procurement exercises, and has particular expertise in local authority legal matters.

In December 2005, Graham successfully completed the largest schools partnership contract in England for Northamptonshire County Council. The contract is worth around £1 billion over its life and will bring in capital investment of over £200 million to 41 schools. As part of that Scheme, Graham is currently leading on a major disposal of property assets by the Council, and the addition of a new Special School to the Scheme.

In April 2006, Graham completed a innovative 35 year PPP project for the provision of student accommodation in the University sector.

In 2007, Graham led the legal team on the first completion of London's first BSF Scheme on behalf of the London Borough of Lambeth. As part of the scheme, Graham successfully varied the existing ICT PFI Agreement, and has recently closed out the third phase of the BSF Agreement using a new form Design and Build Contract.



Admitted as a solicitor

1989

Qualifications

LLB Hons (Upper Second Class) in Law from Manchester University

Three Academic Law Prizes, including Administrative Law

Completed Projects

Servite Houses, £20m Student accommodation PPP for Middlesex University

Northamptonshire County Council £200m - major PFI project for forty-one schools in Northamptonshire in accordance with the latest OGC Guidance and Standardised Schools Contract

Trustees of Central Foundation Schools, £50m advising the Trustees and Governing Body on the Tower Hamlets Grouped Schools PFI project
Elmbridge Leisure Centre, advising the PPP contractor on this Pathfinder PPP Project based on prudential borrowing to fund a £13m Leisure Centre and associated leisure facilities.

Lambeth Schools ICT PFI Project – advising the borough's schools on the completion of this innovative ICT PFI Project

Brighton & Hove City Council, £45m procurement and commercial development of a major PFI library project

Local Authority Leisure Trusts – Graham has led on the establishment of new Leisure Trusts at South Northants, Redbridge and Maidstone

London Borough of Lambeth, £45m Design and Build Contracts for three Special and one Secondary School

Current Projects

Northamptonshire County Council – advising on the disposal program for school sites made surplus by a recent Grouped Schools PFI

Lambeth Schools BSF project, £200m capital value procurement of new Local Education Partnership

Leisure Centre Projects – a range of PPP projects where Graham is advising both private, trust and public sector clients

Ealing Schools BSF Project – advising the Council on the procurement of a £250m school improvement programme.