

## Technology

### Expertise

- Digitalisation and technology refresh projects
- Online platforms for payments, trading, or social media
- Data sharing frameworks and data analytics
- IT outsourcing and managed services
- Regulatory frameworks for blockchain, crypto-currencies and other virtual assets
- Data protection, cyber security and handling cyber incidents
- Protecting rights in the metaverse and NFTs
- Investment transactions in the technology sector
- Technology disputes and protecting intellectual property rights
- Procurement of large-scale IT infrastructure
- New disruptive technologies, such as the use of AI and machine learning
- Fintech business models, contracting and compliance
- Software licensing and critical implementation projects

In today's digital world, you may find yourself being the 'first' in your market, or you may encounter issues that do not have a straightforward solution. We recognise that you need lawyers who are innovative, forward-thinking and able to anticipate future changes and challenges.

Stephenson Harwood's Technology Group provide a full range of legal services to businesses involved in the technology sector. Our clients range from established global technology companies to new-age start-ups disrupting the market, and include a variety of businesses procuring and implementing technology and data into their business, products and services. We provide support on the whole business and product lifecycle, providing market insight from a unique legal perspective.

### Deep sector knowledge

Our experts understand the technology sector, both in terms of the underlying technology products as well as the market trends and practice, and deliver high-quality, pragmatic legal advice.

### Specialist teams

We put together highly specialised teams to align with your business requirements and the issues involved, and we create meaningful and collaborative partnerships with our clients.

### Delivery innovation

We have an internal innovation team focused on assessing and deploying legal tech, including automation, machine learning, collaboration and data analytics related technologies.

"It is very rare to find an external legal team that not only provides excellent legal advice, but provides excellent practical legal advice."

**The Legal 500 UK 2023**

## Our experience

### Digital transformation project

A multi-disciplinary team advised the UK-based business of one of the world's largest outsourced asset managers on the implementation of its solution for the UK's pensions dashboard programme – an industry-wide digital transformation project to enable individuals to view pensions data across multiple schemes. We advised the client - who administers multiple schemes - on its technical integrations and critical third party agreements, in addition to advising on data protection compliance and the client's contracting approach with scheme users and outsourced providers.

### Metaverse

We advised an immersive gaming developer on the legal considerations in creating its metaverse. We assisted the client with trademark searches and the protection of the name of its metaverse, and, in collaboration with our corporate investment team, advised the client on and drafted its Token Sale Agreement in view of an initial coin offering to provide additional finance. We also supported the client on a strategic brand collaboration agreement for the development of NFT collections involving the products of different brands, which were to be sold in its metaverse.

### Fintech platform

We assisted a prominent Hong Kong financial conglomerate in establishing its digital wealth management platform, as well as providing guidance on the regulatory issues from online client on-boarding and the offering of investment-related products/services via a mobile app, and further assisted with the revamp of its end client documentation.

### Contact us



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### Technology disputes

Our London litigation team advised a major European airline in relation to disputes with various online travel agents concerning the unauthorised use of online bots to screen-scrape information from the airline's website in breach of the website's terms and conditions. We also advised on related referrals to the UK Civil Aviation Authority (as regulator for travel organisers), the UK Information Commissioner's Office, the Competition Markets Authority and the Payment Systems Regulator.

### Infrastructure

A cross-office team advised on a multi-million dollar project to construct a Bitcoin mining data centre in Azerbaijan. As part of this project, we advised and led negotiations with a cryptocurrency services provider on a bespoke agreement for custom-made equipment to construct the data centre. We also advised on the legal issues present in Bitcoin mining services.

### Investment

We advised a UK-headquartered global leader in cloud-based public sector software on its acquisition of an expenses management software provider which supports carbon measurement and reduction. This transaction involved a multi-disciplinary team leading on the transaction documents and assisting on critical IP and technology due diligence.