

UK



PLG Member Firms

Pannone LLP, Manchester
Pritchard Englefield, London



Pannone LLP is a progressive full service law firm based in the heart of Manchester in the North of England with roots that can be traced back as far as 1852. The firm currently has 111 partners, 246 lawyers, a total staff of over 700 and unlike other firms of a similar size, the ability to service all types of legal advice for both commercial and private clients. Our unrivalled scope of practice comes as a result of our ability and desire to continually expand into new and emerging fields of work, and we are now the largest single site (save for 2 satellite offices in Cheshire) law firm in the North West of England serving clients throughout the UK and internationally.

Pannone has wide ranging and extensive experience in dealing with the full range of legal services necessary to set up and carry on business at a global level. More importantly we have a strong network of law firms, accounting firms and other advisors both inside PLG and in other countries where our working relationship is second to none. Our lawyers work with open minds and understand the importance of flexibility, adaptability and pragmatism when negotiating across different countries and cultures. We regularly give advice and assistance to clients directly and to other lawyers and law firms both inside and outside PLG with setting up companies and branch offices in the UK and overseas and providing company secretarial support, inward investment projects to the UK, structuring of investments, acquisitions and disposals, joint ventures and strategic alliances, distribution and agency agreements, franchising, manufacture and supply agreements and outsourcing arrangements, day to day support for UK subsidiaries of foreign parent entities in relation to matters of corporate governance, company secretarial compliance, compliance with regulatory laws, and observance of labour law in the UK, UK and European competition law compliance, protection, exploitation and transfer of intellectual property, international dispute resolution and work permit applications.

The lawyers working in our International Practice Group all have experience in representing UK and non-UK companies and businesses in a broad range of international matters, and have access to staff in the firm who are fluent in many foreign languages.

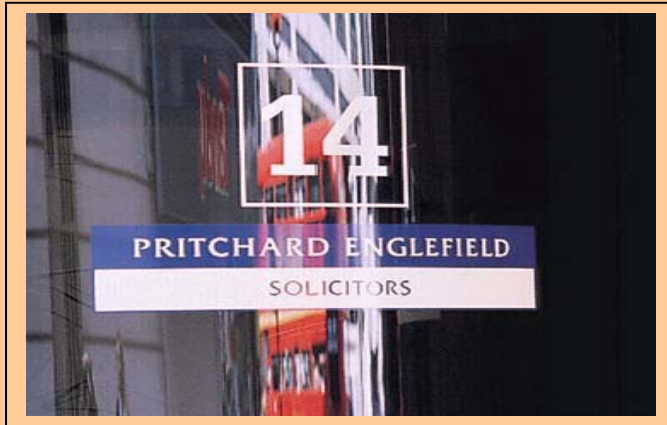
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Pritchard Englefield, London
Pannone LLP, Manchester



Pritchard Englefield can trace its origins back to 1848 and is a well-known law firm situated in the City of London. The firm has 21 partners and approximately 86 staff. In addition to looking after our core client base of businesses and individuals based in the UK, the firm is a leading law firm in the sphere of Anglo-German and Anglo-French trade and commerce. A number of our lawyers are dually qualified and many members of the firm speak a second and third language. At least 50% of all fee-earners and support staff are fluent in German or French. More than half of our partners conduct a significant proportion of their work in a European language in addition to English. The firm employs German and qualified Austrian lawyers who are also dually qualified as English solicitors. This, combined with many years operating actively in Europe, provides the firm with a unique understanding of other legal systems and business cultures within the European Union.

Pritchard Englefield is a full service law firm: Company Commercial, IP/IT, Corporate/Banking, Disputes Resolution, Commercial Property & Construction, Employment, Probate & Tax Planning, Family, Personal Injury

During the last few years, the firm has evolved, and has developed new niche practices which compliment our existing range of services and meet clients' needs for specialist advice. This can be best illustrated by the successful creation and growth of our AIM practice (AIM being the Alternative Investment Market of the London Stock Exchange).

We have a very broad range of clients. The "European" groups (the German group - including Austria and Switzerland - and the French group) include a number of very substantial, often publicly quoted foreign corporations, and the members of these groups look after those companies' interests in the UK. For example, we work for a number of the top 20 German public companies. Many of our German clients are medium-sized private companies investing in the UK. The banking department includes nearly 20 foreign banks among its clients. Our client base also includes medium and substantial corporations based in North America.

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Country Facts

Legal Facts:

Constitution: written and unwritten constitution made up of statute law, common law, conventions and works of authority.

Legal system: Common Law tradition with early Roman and modern continental influences.

Geographical Facts:

Area: total: 244,100 sq km / 94,247 sq mi (UK figures).

Natural resources: coal, petroleum, natural gas, tin, limestone, iron ore, halite, kaolinite (china clay), chalk, gypsum, lead, silica, arable land.

Demographic Facts:

Population: approximately 62 million

Languages: English (official) – spoken monolingually by more than 95%. Other approximately 5% (Scots, Ulster Scots, Irish Gaelic, Welsh, Scottish Gaelic, Cornish, Manx Gaelic, Jersey Legal French)

Government: Constitutional Monarchy coupled with a Parliamentary democracy

Administrative divisions: 27 two tier counties, 56 unitary authorities, 36 metropolitan districts, 32 London boroughs and the City of London.

Economical Facts:

GDP: £1,396 billion

Unemployment rate (end of Q4 2009): 7.8%

Exports (2009): approximately £227,500 million

Exports partners (2009): US 15.0%, Germany 11%, France 8%, Netherlands 7.8%, Ireland 6.8%, Belgium 4.7%, Spain 4%, Italy 3.7%

Imports (2009): approximately £309,400 million

Imports partners (2009): Germany 12.8%, US 9.3%, China 7.5%, Netherlands 6.9%, France 6.6%, Norway 4.9%, Belgium 4.8%, Ireland 4%, Italy 3.9%, Spain 3%.

Taxation:

UK companies pay corporation tax at a rate of up to 28% on their worldwide profits and gains. Value Added Tax is charged at a standard rate of 17.5% (until 4 January 2011 then raising to 20%) on certain goods and services supplied in the UK by registered businesses. Stamp Duty Land Tax of up to 5% must be paid on transfers of land and Stamp Duty of 0.5% must be paid on transfers of shares and certain securities. Employers must make national insurance contributions of 12.8% of an employee's salary. Individuals pay Income Tax on earnings, dividends and savings under different bands ranging from 10% to 50% and must also pay Capital Gains Tax of up to 28% on the increase in the value upon disposal of an asset.

Links of interest:

www.connect2law.com, www.lawsociety.org.uk, www.hmrc.gov.uk/index.htm