

BWB Awarding Organisations

Understanding awarding organisations (AOs) and their regulation is a specialist area of law. BWB is one of the few law firms with a dedicated team providing legal services to these bodies. We understand the business behind developing and awarding prestigious qualifications, as well as the often complex corporate structures and highly regulated aspects of AO's business.

As a full service firm, with highly-ranked Public and Regulatory, Education, Charity and Social Enterprise departments (among others), we are uniquely positioned to advise AOs on a broad range of regulatory, corporate, commercial, education, property, governance, charity, IP, IT and contentious issues, including judicial review and appeals to the First Tier Tribunal. Particular specialist advice includes:

- Ofqual regulation, including the imposition of sanctions
- Regulation by, and other relationships with, other regulators and public bodies
- Centre agreements
- Consortia arrangements
- Governance and policy reviews
- Corporate structures
- Challenge to regulatory decisions in the First Tier Tribunal and by Judicial Review
- Equality law
- Handling malpractice and maladministration
- Handling complaints and appeals
- Responding to whistle blowers
- Disputes between awarding organisations and centres and/or other contractors
- Education law and advice
- Qualifications being provided overseas
- Merging Ofqual-regulated organisations
- Managing non-compliant centres
- Real Estate issues and transactions
- Funding arrangements
- Competition matters
- Intellectual property issues
- Procurement law
- Data protection and data sharing
- Employment law
- Safeguarding matters

Examples of recent work

- Advising on management of Adverse Effects and the regulatory consequences including sanctions (Ofqual, Charity Commission and other regulators)
- Acquisition of an AO by another AO
- Advice on GDPR
- Consortia arrangements
- Supporting operation of Apprenticeships and preparation for implementation of the Skills Plan
- Governance and policy reviews
- Advising a number of AOs on their operations outside of England and Wales and guiding AOs through the dos and don'ts of operating overseas, including which qualifications are and aren't regulated
- Restructuring awarding activity
- Disputes with third party contractors (including centres)

BWB has special discounted rates available to members of the Federation of Awarding Bodies. Please contact Emma (overleaf) for details.

We also provide training on pertinent legal issues through FAB. Please see their website, and ours, for more details.



Emma Dowden-Teale is 'someone in whom clients feel complete confidence in', standing out for her niche expertise in awarding body regulation.'

Emma is also recommended for her work in professional discipline.

Legal 500 2017

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PRIMARY CONTACT



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