

James Houston

Partner



Jim is a graduate of the University of Exeter (LLB) and became a partner in Cleaver Fulton Rankin in 1998. He is involved in all aspects of commercial property work and has particular interest in both commercial and residential developments, acting for local and national developers.

Jim acts for landlord and tenants in retail, office and general commercial leases, his retail tenants including Signet, H Samuel and Specsavers.

He leads a strong telecommunications team of the firm, managing the Northern Ireland portfolios of many leading companies and institutions including the Royal Mail, BT, ESB (the Republic of Ireland Electricity Supply Board), O2 and NGW.

Jim advises various other clients on their property requirements. These include several government bodies, a local city council, banks, schools, sporting bodies, churches, a buildings preservation trust and a local radio station.

Key Transactions

Acts for Titanic Quarter Limited in relation to their development opportunity at Queens Island, Belfast presently the foremost commercial Property development in the United Kingdom. This includes completing development finance and development and construction agreements for the Abercorn Residential/Retail Complex and the Gateway Office Developments.

Also advising Titanic Quarter in relation to the PFI project for construction of the new Belfast Metropolitan College at Titanic Quarter.

Leads the property team charged with this years release of 475 apartments at the Abercorn Residential Complex.

Acted for the call centre operators, First Source, in their development of two Northern Ireland call centres in central Belfast and in Londonderry.

Endorsements

Recognised for his expertise in Northern Ireland Business Tenancies Legislation and Commercial Lease Rent Reviews and lectures on these subjects to the RICS in Northern Ireland. He is recognised in Chambers as a leader in Northern Ireland real estate.

Professional Associations and Qualifications

Qualified as a Solicitor in England and Wales in March 1989 and was admitted as a solicitor in Northern Ireland in 1990.