Foot Anstey The In-house Litigator

An early view on disputes without the cost and expense of fully instructing external counsel.

We understand Private Equity-owned businesses, the relationships they have with the Fund, how their boards are made up, the kind of disputes often acquired along with the company, and those which arise from growth strategies.

Our team spend a lot of their time:

- Advising post-deal about restructuring of management incentives (and about disputes arising out of earn outs);
- Advising about legacy shareholder challenges including minority shareholders; and
- Looking at strategies to disclaim or renegotiate uncommercial or unprofitable contracts (particularly long-term contracts) to improve margin.

Within growing portfolio companies (and Funds) disputes often aren't and shouldn't be the management team's focus but they often demand disproportionate attention compared to the value of the issues.

We can offer a range of support including:

- 24/7 telephone advice/support for sounding board conversations
- Acting as a 'critical friend' with fixed fee high level advice on merits or strategy of a dispute as part of go or no-go decisions.
- Contract audits to identify potential exits or abilities to renegotiate portfolios of contracts, to drive margin.
- Looking at dispute portfolios where themes arise (eg data breach, secret commissions, etc) and developing strategic responses.
- Project-based or time-based retainers or 'locum' arrangements to meet an urgent resource need.

• Full secondments, to develop long term strategies and processes.

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