## Meet the team

Nick Lewsley

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## What do you do at Outset and how do you support our clients?

As a corporate lead on the business sales and acquisition work, I'm involved in overseeing the transaction process, and I'm the main point of contact for the client and the other party's lawyers. I also deal with negotiating the main corporate documents (including the acquisition agreement), and I work with our team to identify, analyse and report on issues to help clients manage risks and achieve their goals.

### Give us a brief timeline of your career so far

After studying a degree in History and a master's degree in International Business, I felt that working in law (particularly corporate and commercial law) would be a natural next step – so I went on to study law at BPP in London. Then, after a short stint working at a global food processing company it he Highlands, I went on to train as a lawyer at a large regional law firm based in Tunbridge Wells. Outset got in touch a few years later, attracted me with the quality and quantity of their deal work, and now, 7 years on and having worked on over 350 business sales and acquisitions....here I am, still very much enjoying myself.





## What has been your biggest challenge in your role?

Doing business sale and acquisition work doesn't easily fit into a 9 to 5 work day, and it can get quite intense particularly in the lead up to completions – so it can be a challenge getting the work life balance right. I try to take advantage of the quieter periods by taking it easy as much as I can and recharging myself.

## What do you enjoy most about your job?

Working in a team, managing projects, and working with other advisers (including other party's lawyers) – with the overall objective of helping clients achieve their goals. I find this very enjoyable and rewarding.

#### What do you think sets Outset apart?

Extremely friendly, approachable, and down to earth group of people. It was the feeling that first struck me when I walked through the door on my first day at Outset, and it is a feeling I continue to feel now - 7 years later.

### What do you enjoy doing when you are not working?

Spending time with my family, horse riding, hockey, skiing, lobster fishing, and walking our two dogs (a Sloughi and an Irish wolfhound).

What do you wish someone had told you when you started out? Or what piece of advice were you given early on that has stuck with you?

I was encouraged early on in my legal career to give clients clear, easy to understand, practical advice – and that's always stuck with me whenever I'm advising clients.

For a lawyer starting out – I'd tell them to work hard, try your best, be pleasant, and don't take yourself too seriously.

(I'd also be tempted to mention to them that, if they're not aware already, (a) always keep a note book (electric or hardcopy) so they have a single central place to keep notes and reminders, and (b) Word's Format Painter button is a really useful button when formatting documents).



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## When you were young, what did you want to be when you grew up?

I always quite liked the thought of being a soldier. As a boy I enjoyed war films and comics and I had a large toy soldier collection. I continued this interest during my education, joining the army cadets school, and joining the Officers Training Corps at University. Not sure if I would have made a very good soldier though – I was a terrible shot and hated the cold! It was more the camaraderie that appealed to me.

#### Who inspires you most and why?

Ben Stokes with either a ball or a cricket bat and his back against the wall can be quite inspiring – an ability to stay positive and focussed in challenging circumstances.



# What piece of advice would you give someone in business?

If you are a business owner or in a position of leadership – listen to, care for and empower your staff.

And finally... What is one thing you've learnt during lockdown?

To appreciate the little things in life.



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