

How to Attract Investment? Legal Issues

Emma Cameron - Corporate Partner



vwv.co.uk | Offices in London, Watford, Bristol & Birmingham



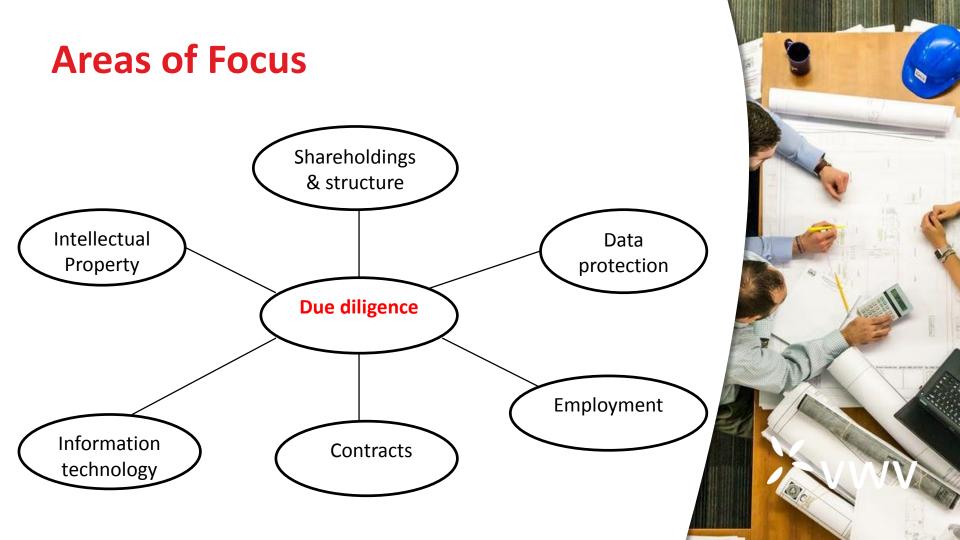
What I Will Cover

- Investment readiness what is it?
- Legal due diligence what is important to an investor?
- Common legal pitfalls (and how to avoid them)
- Benefits of investment readiness
- Key issues on investment deals

Investment Readiness

- PE or VC will carry out legal due diligence
- Due diligence can impact on day job
- Legal audit







Common Pitfalls

- Statutory books missing or incomplete
- Anti-dilution protection for previous investors
- Shareholders gone AWOL
- Key customer and supplier arrangements
- Systemic issues with T&Cs
- Intellectual property not owned by company
- Employment status unclear

Benefits of Investment Readiness

- Identify and rectify areas of weakness
- Protect the company's valuation
- Reduce risk of deal aborting
- Confidence in negotiations
- Compilation of key documents



Key Issues on Investment Deals (1)

- Limitations of Liability time, money and others
- **Disclosure** its importance and the practicalities
- Investor consent matters things you can't do without their approval
- **Good/bad leaver/reverse vesting** doesn't just protect investors





Key Issues on Investment Deals (2)

- Preference rights (not SEIS/EIS) -
 - Liquidation/exit preference & enhanced dividends
 - Anti-dilution and 'pay to play'
- **Convertible Loan Notes** what are they?
- Warranties what is their purpose?

Final Thoughts & Key Lessons

- Allow time to prepare
- Take advice before issuing shares
- Keep your records up to date





Q&A



Emma Cameron

Corporate Partner ecameron@vwv.co.uk 07939 261 632



linkedin.com/in/cameronemma

@vwvlawfirm

vwv.co.uk | Offices in London, Watford, Bristol & Birmingham Lawyers & Parliamentary Agents

