



The Law Society

## 2009 and the challenges ahead: leading law firms through the global downturn

### Speakers:

Rt Hon Alderman Ian Luder, Lord Mayor of the City of London  
David Morley, Senior Partner, Allen & Overy LLP  
Lord Myners, Financial Services Secretary to the Treasury

21 January 2009

8.00 am - 10.00 am



legal  
breakfast series

Venue: The Law Society, 113 Chancery Lane, London WC2A 1PL

# 2009 and the challenges ahead: leading law firms through the global downturn

## 2009 and the challenges ahead: leading law firms through the global downturn

This is the fourth in a series of legal breakfasts being held by the Law Society to explore the business of law in the new landscape created by the Legal Services Act.

The event will begin at 8.00 am, with registration and breakfast until 8.30 am. After hearing from the speakers there will be an open debate with contributions from delegates.

### Speakers

**Ian Luder** is the 681st Lord Mayor of the City of London. He was a partner in Arthur Andersen from 1989 to 2002, heading their private client practice for over a decade and since 2002 has been a partner with Grant Thornton UK LLP. He served on the Council of the Chartered Institute of Taxation from 1983 to 1997 and as President in 1994-95. As Lord Mayor, Alderman Luder will play a key role in promoting the Square Mile as the world's leading international financial and business centre.

**David Morley** is worldwide Senior Partner of Allen & Overy LLP. He joined Allen & Overy as a trainee in 1980, qualifying as a solicitor in 1982 in the banking department. He spent a year on secondment at a US investment bank and became a partner in 1988. In 1998 he became the global head of the banking practice and in 2003 he was elected worldwide Managing Partner. David has wide experience advising banks and financial institutions, as well as borrowers, on all types of debt and structured finance transactions.

**Paul Myners** was appointed Financial Services Secretary to the Treasury in October 2008. Prior to that he was Chairman of the Guardian Media Group and of Land Securities Group. He is a former Chairman of Marks & Spencer and Deputy Chair of PowerGen. He has held a number of third sector posts, including Chair of the Trustees of the Tate Gallery and Chair of the Low Pay Commission and the Personal Accounts Delivery Authority. Paul worked as a teacher before joining The Daily Telegraph as a financial journalist. He has worked for N M Rothschild & Sons merchant bank and Gartmore, of which he became Chair in 1987. He has held directorships with Bank of New York, IMRO, Bridgepoint, Coutts, Lloyd's Market Board, NatWest, O2 and Orange.

### Issues

- How can international law firms remain competitive in a global downturn?
- Has the perceived failure to prevent excesses in the financial sector changed the regulatory discourse forever, or will the phrase 'light-touch' be heard again?
- Is the contribution of the legal services sector to the resilience of the City as a whole properly understood by policy-makers?
- How can the regulatory regime enable or inhibit world-scale law firms' successful operation in many jurisdictions?
- If the most innovative businesses find opportunities in the hardest markets, how will this recession challenge the business model of legal services?
- Is there a risk of increasing protectionist sentiment threatening the openness of international legal markets?



## Who should attend?

- Senior partners, managing partners and practice directors in top 100 law firms
- Banks, venture capital funds and other potential investors
- General Counsel of FTSE100 companies
- Parliamentary spokespeople
- Senior government officials
- Non-lawyer practice managers and senior practitioners in related professions
- Academics
- Others with an interest in the future development of legal businesses.

## The Law Society's legal breakfast series

This series of monthly discussion events brings together business leaders from the legal profession with potential partners, investors, policy-makers and high-profile speakers to debate the construction of a successful, sustainable legal business sector for the 21st century. The events contribute to an emerging understanding of the public policy and business strategies required for growth in the legal services sector and inform the Law Society's position as the voice of the profession.

The events consider the commercial structures, regulatory environment and global economic framework within which legal businesses will operate. For more information e-mail [legalbreakfast@lawsociety.org.uk](mailto:legalbreakfast@lawsociety.org.uk).

Future topics will include:

- The future of regulation - what is the most effective model for assessment and enforcement in the regulation of legal services?
- Leadership in law firms - what are the qualities that will shape the successful legal business of the future?
- Valuing the legal business - exploring models for the valuation of law firms
- Talent management - attracting, managing and retaining the quality of professionals needed by the successful legal business.

After each event, a webcast of the speakers is made available to view at [www.lawsociety.org.uk/legalbreakfast](http://www.lawsociety.org.uk/legalbreakfast). A summary of the proceedings is also posted on the website.