



Frances Coats of The Ardonagh Group with Liam Richardson of Pure

RISING STAR IN-HOUSE COUNSEL OF THE YEAR

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FRANCES COATS THE ARDONAGH GROUP

DEMONSTRATING VALUE AT CRITICAL MOMENTS

Described as a real asset by group GC Geoff Gouriet, Coats heads up the non-contentious legal team at Ardonagh. After jointly leading the five-way merger and the bond, bank finance and convertible debt refinancing that created the group in 2017, last year saw her lead on one of the group's acquisitions as well as further crucial financings that needed to be carefully structured to fold into the group's existing arrangements.

Coats is noted for her advice to the Ardonagh board of directors, the executive and management and acts as a key

link between diverse stakeholders including investors, rating agencies, hedging counterparties, external advisors and finance providers. Following the launch of the public notes offering, she was praised by the newly-arrived CFO for her 'tenacity and diligence in getting the job done – I have seen first-hand what an asset to the company you are, amazingly calm through what could have been such chaos!'

COMMENDED

GORDON BLAKEWAY KNIGHT FRANK

The real estate business' only lawyer, Blakeway is described by colleagues as 'the next superstar', and is praised for his intellect and approachability. Not only does he handle all legal issues such as corporate, GDPR and intellectual property for Knight Frank, but also found time to set up Next Generation Counsel, a popular in-house networking group.

ANGELIQUE DE LAFONTAINE BUPA

Bupa senior legal adviser Angelique de Lafontaine was the legal lead on the international healthcare company's launch of a digital innovation incubator named Blue Table. She has also been consistently praised for work outside of day-to-day tasks and singled out for praise by Bupa chief legal officer Penny Dudley: 'her work has been critical for us.'

NICOLA HUGHES MARSH & McLENNAN

Head of privacy for Marsh UK & Ireland in addition to her role as a senior litigation lawyer, Hughes has won plaudits from colleagues, the insurance industry body and law firm partners for her work preparing Marsh for GDPR and demonstrating thought leadership through her work with the UK insurance industry to lobby for crucial changes to data protection legislation.

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Pure congratulations. Frances Coats.

Pure would like to congratulate **Frances Coats, Chief Counsel - Corporate & Commercial at The Ardonagh Group** on her win of the **Rising Star In-House Counsel of the Year** award. As the sponsor of the award, it was a pleasure for the legal team at Pure to present Frances with the esteemed prize at the ceremony.

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CELEBRATING

20
YEARS

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