



Solicitor – Property Securitisation NQ - 2 yrs PQE - Colchester

The Firm:

Devonshires has been based in the City of London for more than 150 years. From our offices in London, Leeds, Birmingham, and Colchester, we provide legal services across the UK. We act for a broad range of clients, including private and public companies, developers, local authorities, funders, and regulators. We also act for a significant number of charities and housing associations. We are a “full service” firm with specialists in Banking, Commercial/Corporate, Litigation, Housing, Employment, Projects & Property.

Our main client base is Registered Providers (RPs) of social housing and the firm is ranked Tier 1 for its work in this sector. Over the past few years, we have grown significantly and now have approximately 280 staff and a growing international reach.

The Department:

The Securitisation team are at the heart of Devonshires’ business within the firm; with four dedicated partners, 14 solicitors and 1 Chartered Legal Executive Lawyer and a presence in London, Leeds, and Colchester. The team works on property transactions with a broad range of clients from registered providers of social housing and care homes, charities, and private developers, acting on developments of varying sizes, from those with just a handful of units, to those with thousands.

Job Purpose:

To act on behalf of clients in the charging of properties to lenders under loan facilities, Bonds and Private Placements for amounts ranging from £1m to £500m.

This work requires the production of a Certificate of Title for the lender, reporting on matters which will affect the value and marketability of Properties being charged and satisfying any applicable conditions precedent or conditions subsequent, as set out in the relevant banking documentation, to enable the client to draw down funds.

Main Duties and Responsibilities of the Role:

- Responsible for the day to day running of files to include, but not limited, to:
 - drafting and negotiating Certificates of Title;
 - identifying issues which will result in properties being unacceptable as security or difficult to charge and resolving these;
 - satisfying all conditions precedent required for completion of the charging exercise;
 - understanding and advising on matters which cause restrictions in value to EUV-SH and advising on suitable rectification work where appropriate

- negotiating and drafting deeds of variation to S.106 agreements, leases, transfers etc to maximise the funding capacity of the RP's;
- To supervise the paralegals assisting on each matter;
- To keep clients constantly updated with progress and meet their deadlines;
- Organise and maintain tidy and accurate files electronically;
- To meet fee targets;
- To provide support to other fee earners across the department and to share knowledge as and when required;
- To take on an active role and responsibility for training and delegating to junior members of the team when required;
- To follow department procedures, the Solicitors' accounts rules and the Firm's policies and procedures as detailed in the Staff Manual, including LEXCEL;
- Undertake such duties and tasks that are appropriate for the role of Solicitor such as changes in information systems and new technology as may reasonably be required.

This is not an exhaustive list and from time to time it may be necessary to vary these to meet the department and business needs.

Person specification

Attributes and Skills Required:

- Newly Qualified or up to 2 years' PQE;
- Ideally experience of charging properties to mainstream lenders or, as a minimum, broad property work;
- A strong academic background, ideally gaining a 2:1 at degree level;
- Excellent communication skills, both written and verbal, focus on keeping clients updated consistently;
- Team worker who enjoys building relationships with clients;
- Self-starter, able to work on own initiative;
- Ability to prioritise workload and thereby increase efficiency of the team;
- Commercially aware, proactive and able to convey clear and concise information to clients and external organisations;
- Excellent attention to detail with the ability to produce work / documentation which is consistently of a high standard;
- A flexible approach to work with a strong focus on meeting client deadlines;
- Able to undertake routine work with minimal supervision but be keen to gain experience of more complex transactions with supervision;
- To be familiar with Word, Excel, Outlook and Internet applications.

If you would like further details or wish to apply for this position please email your CV and covering letter direct to legal.recruit@devonshires.co.uk and also complete the diversity monitoring questionnaire which can be accessed by [clicking here](#).

Devonshires Solicitors LLP is committed to providing equal opportunities in employment and to providing a workplace free from discrimination and harassment. As such all applicants, employees, partners and third parties, who come into contact with us, will receive equal treatment, regardless of age, disability, gender identity, marriage and civil partnership, trade union activities, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex or sexual orientation. We welcome applications from groups where we are currently under-represented. For this reason, we ask that all candidates complete the [recruitment monitoring survey](#) in complete confidence for statistical purposes in order that we can effectively monitor how well our Diversity procedures are working. To review our policies on Diversity & Inclusion and Dignity at Work please visit our recruitment pages at www.devonshires.com.