



Simplifying corporate structures

 Smith &
Williamson



About Smith & Williamson

We have been looking after the financial affairs of individuals, families and businesses for more than a century. We aim to deliver imaginative yet pragmatic advice and tailored solutions. We achieve this by providing deep sector expertise and taking the time to understand your organisation, its objectives and the longer-term challenges you're likely to face.

How we can help



Dedicated

Your organisation will benefit from our coordinated, cross-disciplinary service. We are a leading provider of accountancy, tax and advisory services. Our experts work closely with each other, right across these specialist disciplines.



Experienced

You'll have direct access to highly qualified, senior-level experts with sector and situation expertise who will work closely with you and your teams. We can help steer your management team through challenges and to enable you to effect change successfully.



Forward thinking

We seek not just to solve but anticipate future challenges your business faces. We combine insight with innovation to deliver tailored solutions, working with you to deliver the right result for your business into the future.



Holistic

You'll have access to senior people from across our diverse business, as well as benefiting from our global reach and local knowledge in overseas markets through our membership of Nexia International.

Group acquisitions can result in a complex and burdensome structure, with the following issues:

- Administrative burden of day- to- day management, reducing the time available for value-added activities
- Inflated compliance costs (audit, tax and, Companies House returns)
- Increased risk caused by complexity
- Value trapped in group structures and dividend blocks caused by revaluation of inter-company balances or historic negative reserves
- Tax risk/cost associated with holding multiple inter-company balances
- Legacy issues that are maintained and not resolved
- Managers at risk of censure by regulators for not mitigating risk and being effective caretakers

Often, the barriers to corporate simplification are:

- Lack of bandwidth to step back and plan the revised structure, and manage the project day-to-day through to completion
- Risk around triggering tax liabilities
- Missing in-house expertise - for example, only licenced Insolvency Practitioners can complete solvent liquidations
- Other tax/accounting/legal complexities in tidying up entities prior to elimination

Contact



Claire Burden

Partner, Advisory Consulting

Smith & Williamson LLP

t: 07824 687 585

e: claire.burden@smithandwilliamson.com



Alistair Shaw

Partner, Business Tax Services

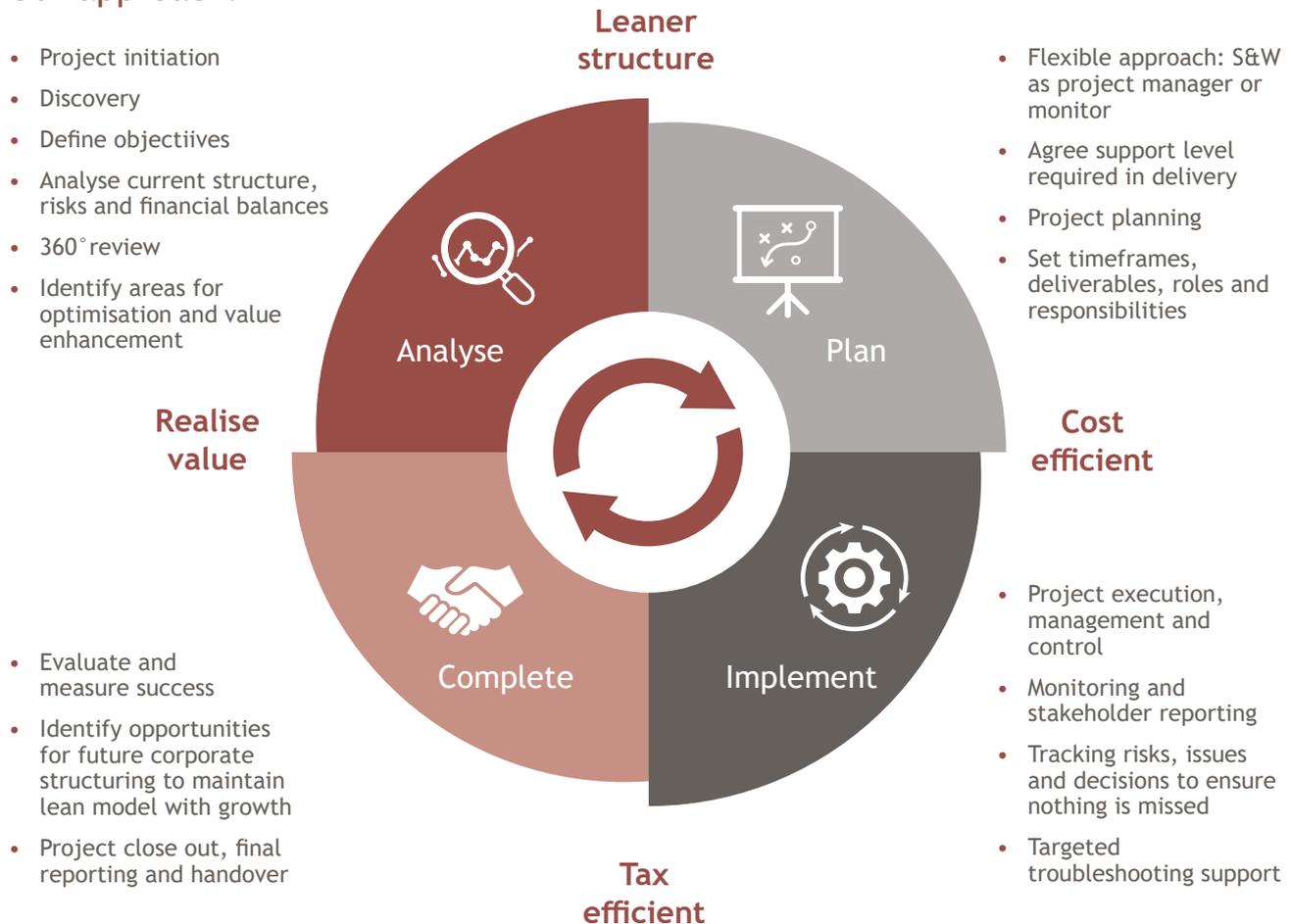
Smith & Williamson LLP

t: 020 7131 4456

e: alistair.shaw@smithandwilliamson.com

Smith & Williamson overcomes these barriers to offer a flexible, integrated corporate simplification service delivering cost effective, lower risk structures and returning capital in a tax efficient way to realise value.

Our approach:



Project management and implementation

- Scope the project requirements (entities, phasing, target group structure and proposed timing) and build a project plan for each phase, by workstream (such as contracts, inter-company balances, assets, security releases and so on) and activity to ensure all areas are covered
- Act as project manager, focussing on dependencies and grouping activities to minimise company staff time in delivery, but reporting blockers and offering solutions
- Regular progress updates covering risks, issues and decisions, and contact with management to act as adviser, supporting as required with tax considerations, troubleshooting blockers, bottlenecks, and decision points

Tax structuring and specialist technical support

- Review of project requirements to identify and resolve any tax issues in terms of compliance, valuation and transfer of assets, clearing inter-company balances and making distributions
- Advising on optimal exit structure from a tax perspective
- Compliance support with obtaining HMRC clearances prior to rationalisation, preparing final tax returns, de-registrations and removing entities from group registrations
- Insolvency Practitioners to process solvent liquidations (i.e. Members' Voluntary Liquidations ("MVL")) and section 110 reconstruction schemes

For more information and insight, please visit our website:

www.smithandwilliamson.com/en/services/advisory-consulting/

Tax and Government legislation is that prevailing at the time, is subject to change without notice and depends on individual circumstances. Clients should always seek appropriate tax advice from their financial adviser before making financial decisions. HMRC Tax Year 2021/22.

By necessity, this briefing can only provide a short overview and it is essential to seek professional advice before applying the contents of this article. This briefing does not constitute advice nor a recommendation relating to the acquisition or disposal of investments. No responsibility can be taken for any loss arising from action taken or refrained from on the basis of this publication.

Smith & Williamson LLP Regulated by the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales for a range of investment business activities. Registered in England No. OC 369631. Smith & Williamson LLP is a member of Nexia International, a leading, global network of independent accounting and consulting firms. Please see <https://nexia.com/member-firm-disclaimer/> for further details. 53721eb and 30/04/2022.

[smithandwilliamson.com](https://www.smithandwilliamson.com)