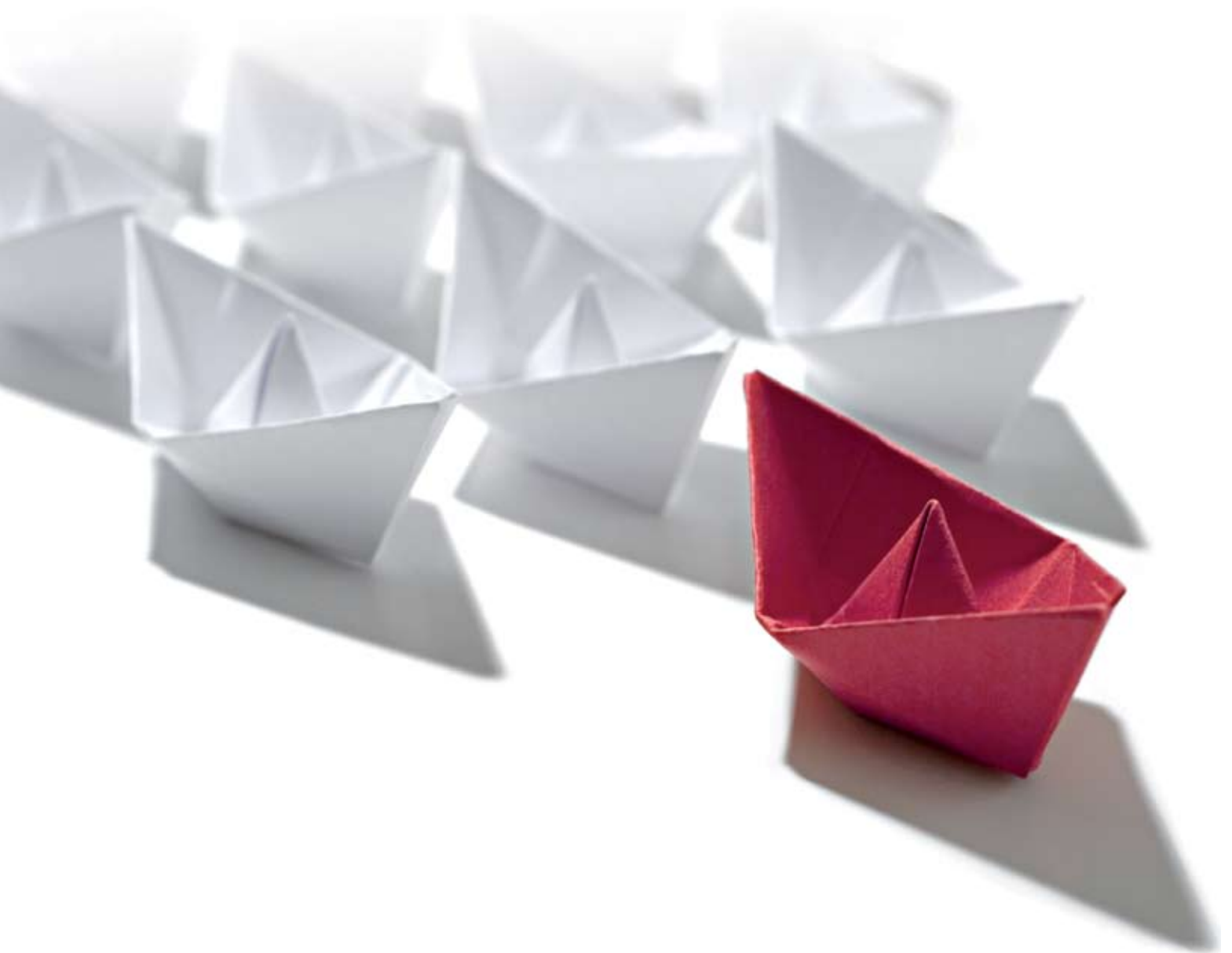




naphthens
solicitors

Legal services for your business



Wherever your business is heading
Rely on us

www.naphthens.co.uk

Welcome to Napthens.

Where you'll find high quality legal services tailored for your business. It's also where you'll find true strength in depth across services, with specialist departments providing advice that adds real value to your business.

By getting to know you and your business better, we're able to offer you the precise advice you need, when you need it. You'll find we give practical and relevant advice that will help you achieve your business goals and realise your ambitions.

Based in Lancashire, with around 200 staff, we deal with clients locally, regionally and nationally. We understand how critical relationships are to business. Not least, ours with you. You'll find us commercially focused but approachable. With a responsive, partner-led service, we offer the expertise of a big city firm, at local firm prices – so you receive a quality service that gives real value for money.

You may be a firm with aspirations to grow, or need legal advice on operational or employment issues, perhaps experiencing problems or even planning for exit.

Wherever your business is heading, rely on us.

“...We have a strong relationship with Napthens, built over many years. We always find their approach responsive and reliable and their advice commercially-focused.”

Graham Booth, EH Booth & Co. Ltd

Helping you with:

- Acquisitions and disposals
- Leasing
- Landlord and tenant issues
- Property finance and investment
- Property development
- Planning
- Construction
- Contract drafting and negotiation

Contact Head of Department
Martin.Beardsworth@napthens.co.uk
or call 01253 754872

For best advice on Commercial Property Rely on us

We get on with it, so you can too

Dealing in commercial property is a complex business and a serious financial commitment. Whether you own the local corner shop or the entire street, chances are you will need a legal partner that can provide you with the specialist expertise and assurance you need, so you can get on with running your business. We understand that time is money, and that deadlines are critical, so we work hard to deal with matters quickly and efficiently - but without compromising our standards.

We deliver strength in depth

Our Commercial Property department is one of the largest in the region outside Manchester, with clients including quoted companies, national organisations including breweries and a cinema chain, property developers and builders as well as investors in individual properties. Whether you're an SME or a PLC, we have the commercial acumen to provide you with a safe pair of hands every time. Should you need advice on buying, selling, leasing, mortgaging, financing, planning, contract drafting and negotiation, development or investment – choose us and you'll have over 150 years of combined experience behind you.

We put you first

Every company's needs are different, so at Napthens we don't offer a one-size-fits-all solution. The fact that we deal with everyone from shop owners to pub owners, hotel owners to land owners speaks volumes. We look at exactly what you need to achieve and assign the lawyer with the best experience to help you. It's not how every legal practice works – but it's how we do.



For keeping up to speed with Employment Law Rely on us

We help you to keep ahead

In the world of employment law things never stand still. Nor do we. Constantly changing legislation requires a dynamic, informed approach to ensure best practice is adopted - so it doesn't cost your company dear. The legislation that regulates the relationship between employer and employee is a minefield of complexity, so our team of employment law specialists help you negotiate the potential pitfalls, ensuring you avoid issues that can cause real disruption for your business.

We offer practical advice without the jargon

It's essential to receive legal advice you not only trust, but understand. You can be confident that our pragmatic approach offers you legal expertise combined with a commercial awareness. In matters ranging from contracts to redundancy, staff handbooks to disciplinary procedures, we can give you best advice in language you will understand and can implement.

We get to know you better so we can advise you better

Every company is unique, so we get under the skin of yours to ensure we are giving you advice that best suits your business. We understand how important that is when the information you receive can affect your bottom line. Conversant with the latest legal trends, our proactive approach ensures you stay ahead - and minimise any employment problems. And, with the Department Head one of Lancashire Business View magazine's '*legal professionals to watch*', it's comforting to know that when you really need best advice you will actually receive it.

Helping you with:

- Redundancy
- Terms and contracts of employment
- Dispute resolution
- Discrimination and harassment
- Employment Insurance Scheme
- Staff handbooks
- Disciplinary and grievances
- Dismissal and tribunals
- Compromise agreements
- Restrictive covenants
- TUPE matters

Contact Head of Department
Chris.Boyle@napthens.co.uk
or call 01772 904279



"...Napthens provided fast, first class support. They clearly described the steps required...to ensure a successful outcome."

John Boyle, Chartwell Finance Management Ltd

"...expert advice in a really down to earth way on all corporate and commercial issues. I was looked after all the way on our recent AIM listing... I would unreservedly recommend Napthens' services."

Ken Turner, Sceptre Leisure Plc

Helping you with:

- Company formations
- Company restructures
- Mergers and acquisitions
- Management buy-outs
- Disposals
- Joint ventures
- Investment / shareholder agreements
- General commercial contracts
- Intellectual property
- Franchising

Contact Head of Department
Keith.Melling@napthens.co.uk
or call 01772 904318

For Corporate and Commercial advice Rely on us

We understand what it takes to run a business

Financial objectives, meeting targets, and of course, the day-to-day pressures of managing a business - we understand them well. Our vast experience of working with individual entrepreneurs, with owner-managers and with PLCs who conduct business across the UK and overseas, enables us to support you in achieving your goals. But, whatever your size, we respect that your company will have its own idiosyncrasies and that's why we get to know you better so we can help you better.

We offer advice that adds real value

From day one, you'll be assigned a point of contact who will ensure you get the benefit of all our specialist departments. Whether you're aiming to start a company, deal in a multi-million pound merger or acquisition or get involved in a joint venture, we can help. From contracts and agreements to private equity deals or intellectual property work, you'll find us professional, knowledgeable and reliable. Put simply, we keep informed to keep you informed.

We believe that good business starts with good service

While our business dealings take us far and wide, we never forget we're a local firm. And as a regional business we understand the area and its people well. So we're better positioned to help you with the immediate response you need when you need it. You'll find our approach progressive too, given that we're always looking after your best interests. We offer a partner-led service at a competitive price so you can expect best value, and with Lancashire Dealmaker's 2009 'Corporate Lawyer of the Year' on our team, we're confident you'll get it.



For efficient Debt Recovery Rely on us

We take away the headache of debt recovery

Bad debt is bad business. And while late payments may be manageable in isolation, just a handful of debts can affect your cash flow and create serious problems for your business. Pursuing debtors is often an unpleasant and time consuming process – time you could spend on building your business. At Napthens, we offer 'Debt Action Direct'. It's a specialist debt recovery service that removes the headache of chasing bad debts - allowing you time to focus on your job.

We ensure speed is of the essence

'Debt Action Direct' is a computerised, invoice-based system that produces letters, reminders and Court documents on time – no delays or missed dates. Undisputed debts can be pursued quickly, with management information and statistics available to you on demand. While it's fully automated to operate efficiently, 'Debt Action Direct' is managed by a specialist team with vast experience in the debt recovery field, so you can be confident of excellent service delivery.

We pass cost-efficiencies on to you

Pursuing debts quickly and efficiently through our automated process reduces administration time and enables us to offer you great value for money with our fixed-fee service. At the same time, by shortening the time you carry outstanding bills, your cash flow is improved. You can also feel reassured that beyond our 'Debt Action Direct' service, should a debt be disputed for any reason or should legal advice be required, you will have access to Napthens' specialist litigation department.

Helping you with:

- Fixed fees
- Automated, efficient process
- No delays, no dates missed
- Pursue debts quickly
- Cost effective
- Management information on demand

Contact Debt Action Direct on
01772 904394



“...Napthens have made sure that they know our business intimately and are always in a good position to provide proactive and helpful advice.”

David Lowe, Daniel Thwaites plc

Helping you with:

- Contracts, terms and conditions
- Property disputes
- Landlord and tenant
- Intellectual property
- Shareholder/partnership disputes
- Trade names
- Supply of goods and services
- Regulatory issues
- Insolvency
- Construction
- Debt recovery

Contact Head of Department
John.Woosnam@napthens.co.uk
or call 01772 904209

When it comes to **Litigation** Rely on us

We weigh up the risks to give you the best advice

Prevention is better than cure, but unfortunately most businesses will at some point need to consider what to do when things go wrong – whether a day-to-day contractual matter or a major issue that may threaten their future. Litigation might be the only alternative but it does carry risks. It may be that court action is not the right action and that mediation and alternative dispute resolution is the best option for you. Our many years of experience will provide you with pragmatic alternatives from which you can decide the best way forward.

We provide strength when you need it most

For any business, disputes are a distraction, so we know it is important to resolve matters speedily and thoroughly. Our experience and commercial acumen enables our team to tailor their approach to your business needs, providing the strong arm you need to reassure and give you the confidence to move forward. From disputes over the supply of goods to intellectual property rights, we have the expertise to give you the valuable advice you need to make the right decision.

We offer you a service of support and guidance

Litigation is often a last resort, when all other options are exhausted. Therefore if things have got to this stage, the chances are it's affecting you and your business. At Napthens, we use our expertise to help shoulder the weight. Our experts are always available to offer an objective, practical opinion to help you see things more clearly. And you can act safely in the knowledge that you have the right team on your side.



For expertise in your industry Rely on us

We appreciate that different industries have their own issues and peculiarities. And because we understand those issues and their impact on your business, you benefit.

Put simply - we speak your language.

When the Head of our Rural team is from a farming family himself, with over 30 years experience in rural law, it only underlines how seriously we take the farming and agricultural sector. Over a number of years, we've established recognised expertise in this area and in the range of legal issues affecting farmers, their families and employees, landowners and rural businesses of all kinds.

Likewise, for any business operating in the leisure industry, whether a pub chain, brewery, member's club or hotel, our understanding of this sector allows us to provide practical, commercial-led advice. A property matter, employment issue or a corporate deal - we provide an all-round legal service. And as we're one of the country's few law firms to have our own dedicated licensing department, we're well positioned to ensure you are well informed and complying with this extremely specialised area of law.

You'll find we have experience and specialist knowledge of a number of industry sectors including charities, holiday home parks and franchises. We're able to offer the specific expertise needed to make sure you get the best possible, tailored advice for your business.





Wherever your life is heading Rely on us

At Napthens, as well as looking after your business interests, we have a wide range of legal services that look after you personally. You'll find the same professionalism and dedication to your needs that you'll find in our specialist business departments and a service that we like to think is second to none.

Wills and Estate Planning

It's never too early to organise your affairs to protect family and business interests in the event of death or incapacity. We can advise you on matters such as preparation and review of Wills, Lasting Powers of Attorney, Trusts and Inheritance Tax planning.

Family and Divorce

Professional, supportive advice in dealing with relationship breakdowns including divorce, separation and arrangements for children. Our team specialises in dealing with the financial implications of divorce when it impacts on business assets.

Residential Property

The advice you need when moving home, re-mortgaging, transferring deeds or preparing your Home Information Pack (HIP). A highly personalised service supported by cutting edge technology and an online conveyancing system.

Personal Injury

Our team of experienced, specialist Personal Injury solicitors advise on all types of accident claims, in a professional and ethical manner.

Litigation

Objective legal advice and practical guidance to resolve disputes when things go wrong.

Napthens, with you for life.

Get in touch

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PR1 3JD DX 714572 Preston 14
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Email: Preston@napthens.co.uk

Blackburn:

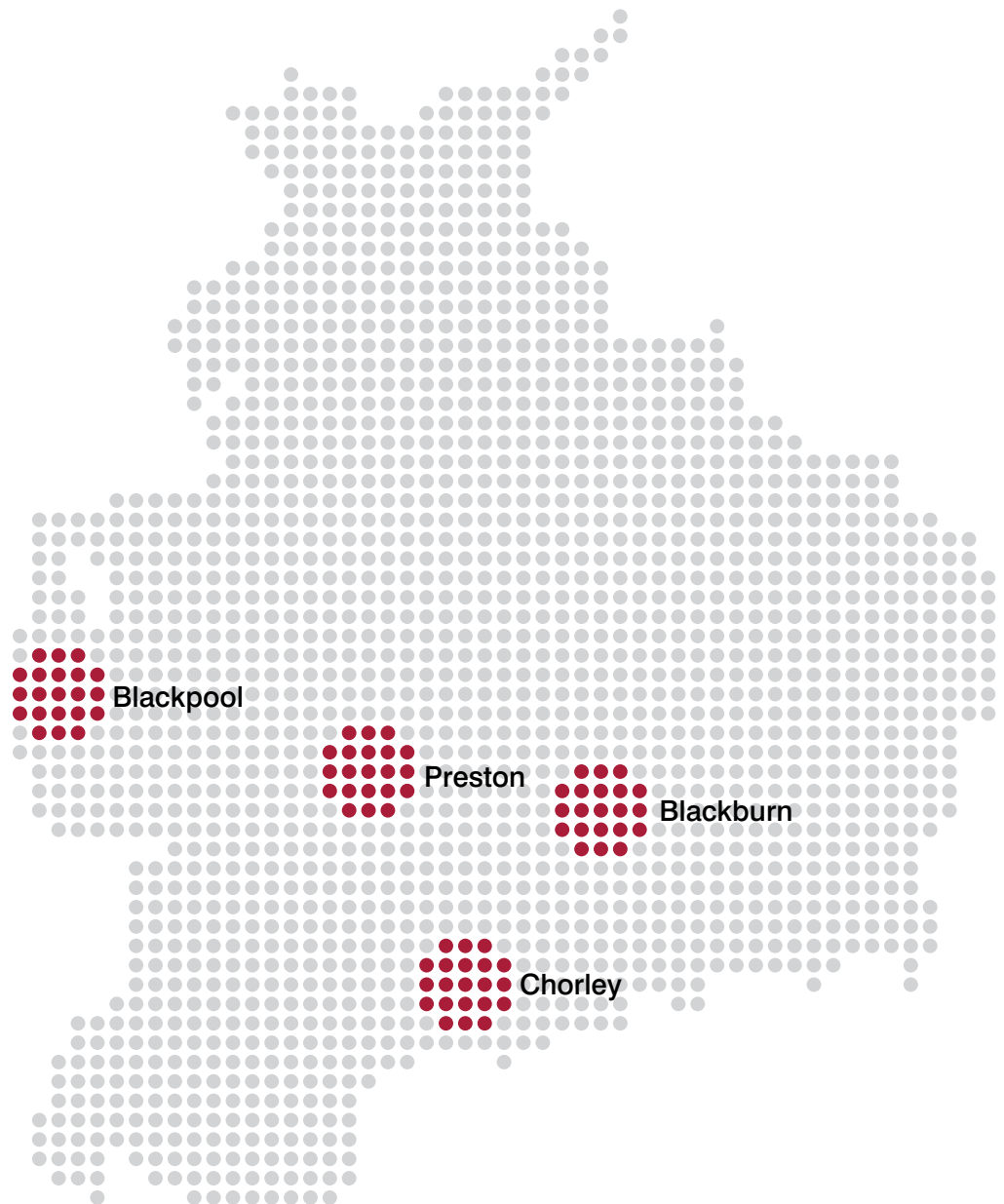
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Napthens LLP is a limited liability partnership registered in England and Wales: OC325775.

The term "Partner" indicates a member of Napthens LLP who is not in partnership for the purpose of the Partnership Act 1890. A list of members is available from our registered office.