



Person Profile: Shamila Atta, Solicitor

I'm [Shamila Atta](#), a Solicitor in the commercial contracts, technology and procurement team. I am pleased to be featuring on the first edition of the Devonshires CCTP update!

I joined Devonshires in February 2022 and it has been a very busy few months! There is a lot going on at the moment and market uncertainty is dictating a lot of the new contracts I have been working on such as:

- building materials and internal doors
- SAAS and cloud hosting
- cross border data transfer agreements
- event sponsorship agreements
- scholarship and membership agreements
- NDA /confidentiality agreements

Please do get in touch if there is anything I can help with or if you would like to join the round table.

shamila.atta@devonshires.co.uk

Direct Dial: 020 7880 4453

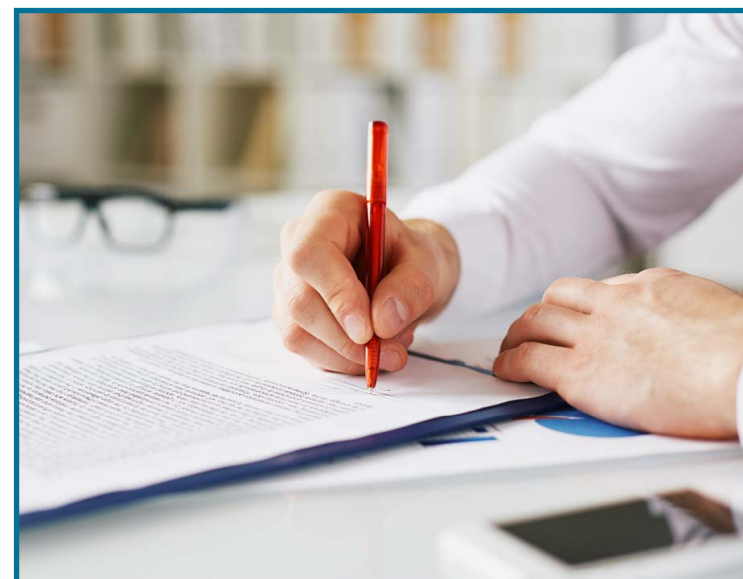
Mobile: 07551 424694

Devonshires has taken all reasonable precautions to ensure that information contained in this document is materially accurate however this document is not intended to be legally comprehensive and therefore no action should be taken on matters covered in this document without taking full legal advice.

Trending topics this quarter

The last couple of years have been a turbulent and uncertain time for many businesses as a result, not least, of the uncertainty created by Brexit, coronavirus pandemic and the recent conflict in Ukraine. Many businesses have had to adapt very quickly to make changes to contractual arrangements as well as the way in which they work. It is no surprise that the way we contract has changed.

Here we consider our top issues affecting business right now.



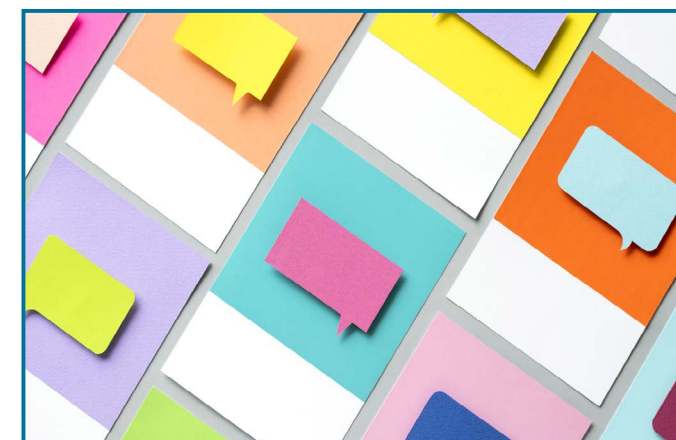
- 1. Lead times on delivery of goods and services.** Supply-chain problems post COVID-19 and the war in Ukraine are key factors for the delays affecting a lot of industries. Check what your contract says about delays. Is this force majeure? Is there an escalation procedure that will help smooth communication? For new contracts, set realistic timescales and make sure timescales can be met, revised and/or enforced.
- 2. Price increases / indexation.** Price inflation is affecting us all. How is this dealt with in your existing contracts? For new contracts: cover all bases! Agree all charges up front and/or introduce a cap. Should certain charges sit outside any inflationary rise/fall? How regularly is this reviewed? We are seeing contracts in the house building trade with price reviews every 6 months.
- 3. Change control / variation.** Throughout the pandemic many contracts were varied and/or amended informally and may not have followed the formal process which is outlined in the contract. Ensure all changes have been documented so the parties are on an equal footing going forward.
- 4. Term.** Do you go long or short? It's a balance of commitment versus flexibility and a combination of getting the above right. Consider whether the ability to terminate for convenience and/or a break clause are helpful if entering into long term contracts. Set clear termination triggers for breach.

Event

It is a perfect storm of rising costs, increasing interest rates and supply shortages, please join us for a round table discussion on what this means for your supply chain contracts.

Participants will be drawn from a variety of sectors and the discussion will cover:

- The breadth and scope of the current pressures and what might be coming down the line.
- Sharing your cross sector experience to date.
- Are your existing contracts flexible enough to cater for these pressures?
- Renegotiating existing contracts - to what extent is this deliverable?
- Termination of existing contracts? A possibility, but with what consequences?
- Approach to new contracts – how might risk sharing be dealt with and how might this evolve? Better the devil you know?
- Might opportunities arise from these pressures?



This event is due to take place in September. We will announce further details in due course, make sure to [join our mailing list](#) and select 'Commercial Contracts & Procurement' to be sure not to miss out.

For more information, contact a member of our CCTP team.



Paul Buckland
Partner
020 7880 4346
paul.buckland@devonshires.co.uk



Kris Kelliher
Partner
020 7880 4372
kris.kelliher@devonshires.co.uk



Jonathan Jarvis
Partner
020 7065 1810
jonathan.jarvis@devonshires.co.uk



Robert Turner
Partner
020 7880 4238
robert.turner@devonshires.co.uk



Ben Townsend
Trainee Solicitor
020 7880 4243
ben.townsend@devonshires.co.uk



Jamie Leonard
Solicitor
020 7880 4246
jamie.leonard@devonshires.co.uk



Joanna Bouloux
Solicitor
020 7880 4414
joanna.bouloux@devonshires.co.uk



Shamila Atta
Solicitor
020 7880 4453
shamila.atta@devonshires.co.uk