

Social Finance Hot Desk - Impact Fellow

The Social Finance Hot Desk (SFHD) is the multi-award winning initiative of not-for-profit Prime Advocates Limited (PA), in partnership with its collaborative strategic committee of nine leading international law firms (Allen & Overy LLP; Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer LLP; Morrison & Foerster; Orrick, Herrington & Sutcliffe LLP; Reed Smith LLP; Shearman & Sterling; Sidley Austin LLP; Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom (UK) LLP and White & Case LLP). The SFHD facilitates the provision of pro bono legal support and advice from PA and its law firm partners to qualifying social enterprises and to support social finance instruments and transactions across important ESG and impact thematic fields. Find out more here: www.socialfinancehotdesk.com.

The SFHD Impact Fellowship (the Fellowship) is a new, unique 12-month opportunity for a talented law postgraduate, paralegal, or a junior to mid-level lawyer interested in pursuing a legal career focused on social finance, social entrepreneurship, impact finance or ESG innovation. The Fellowship offers the chance to lead a successful collaborative programme while benefiting from training and mentorship from leaders in the field.

Job description

The Fellow will work closely with all law firm partners and PA leadership to provide strategic management of the SFHD. They will have responsibility for all day-to-day operational management of the project, to include scoping the complex legal needs of beneficiaries, assessing for suitability, and working with law firm partners to efficiently allocate pro bono resource.

They will also lead on the expansion of the SFHD offering, which will involve targeting and liaising with social enterprises, impact organisations, key stakeholders and the industry, and include developing key communication pieces and managing a digital presence for the project. There is potential to co-author thought leadership literature on social enterprises, social impact and law firm pro bono work, in collaboration with experts in the field.

Candidate background

The successful candidate will be a dynamic, self-motivated, experienced law postgraduate, paralegal or a junior to mid-level lawyer with a commercial background, and excellent communication and planning skills. They will be able to engage and work with a wide range of stakeholders and will be comfortable managing key C-suite level corporate relationships and working with senior lawyers and managers. They will have a demonstrated passion for impact and leveraging professional services for good, as well as strong experience in project management, corporate relationship building and business development.

Essential Experience and Skills

- A law degree or conversion course (from any jurisdiction)
- Passion and enthusiasm for pro bono, ESG and social enterprises, and their potential to bring about positive economic and social benefits
- An understanding of the key legal issues relevant to the social finance/venture capital sector
- Good commercial acumen

- A track record of account/relationship management and the ability to build successful corporate partnerships
- Strong verbal and written communication skills
- Proactive and highly organised, with strong project management skills and a proven ability to multi-task
- Able to work both autonomously and within a team

Desirable

- A paralegal with 3+ years of experience in a commercial or corporate legal department, or a junior to mid-level UK qualified lawyer with commercial experience
- Experience working in a start-up or entrepreneurial environment
- Experience of participating in legal pro bono work

Salary: £35,000-40,000 pa full-time

Contract Length: 12 months [with potential to be extended]

Location: This role is based in our offices in central London, with flexible working arrangements provided in accordance with PA's Flexible Working Policy.

Key dates

Applications for the first cycle of the SFHD Impact Fellowship **will be accepted on a rolling basis up to close of business on Friday 25 August 2023.**

To apply please send your cover letter and CV to Anthony Murphy, Founder and Managing Director at Anthony@primeadvocates.com

Prime Advocates

PA is a unique not-for profit law firm, business and ESG consultancy that is paving the way for positive social change. We provide general and transactional legal services, business consultancy, ESG advisory services and develop impact strategies/ programmes. We work with a variety of clients but primarily focus on those who are passionate about making an impact or supporting the UN Sustainable Development Goals. We are uniquely structured as a not-for-profit law-firm and consultancy, which means all our profits are applied to support our impact programmes which address systemic issues inhibiting the growth of social enterprise.