

## Chris Finney

Partner

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*I am a partner in Fox Williams' financial services team, and lead our non-contentious financial services regulatory practice.*

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Chris is a partner in our financial services practice. He advises banks, (re)insurers, insurance distributors, asset managers, lenders, and fintech businesses of all kinds on the most complex, challenging and commercially sensitive regulatory issues they face.

Chris qualified in private practice in 1996. He was a senior manager in General Counsel's Division at the Financial Services Authority between 2001 and 2011; and joined Fox Williams as a partner in April 2017.

## Legal Expertise

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- Consumer credit for fintechs
- Cryptocurrency, cryptocurrency exchanges and wallet providers
- Payment services and electronic money
- Peer-to-peer lending, and crowdfunding
- Regulatory capital for (re)insurers, and Solvency II
- Securities laws and MiFID II
- The distribution of (re)insurance contracts, and the Insurance Distribution Directive
- The Senior Managers & Certification Regime, for banks, (re)insurers, and solo regulated firms

## Experience

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- Advised an international payment, identity, e-money and banking solutions service provider on various UK and EEA regulatory issues, as well as VISA, MasterCard and other card scheme rules.
- Drafted complex B2C and B2B payment services agreements for various clients, including for entities providing white label payment services and for deposit aggregation platforms.

- Provided UK and EEA regulatory advice on a high profile acquisition (EUR 35,000,000) of an EEA credit institution by a large South American payment service provider in order that it may provide various services (including merchant acquiring, issuer processing, card processing, instant and delayed settlement and consumer and SME credit services) in the EEA market.
- Prepared and / or advised on various FCA applications for authorisation of electronic money issuers or payment institutions and provided ongoing payments regulatory advice to the same (including advising on the basis for authorisation, safeguarding, required and breach of regulatory capital, reports and notifications to the FCA, and on T&Cs and other agreements).
- Advised a cryptocurrency exchange on a corporate restructure to de-risk the businesses, the issuance of electronic money, the preparation and submission of two FCA applications and subsequent communications with the FCA; and anti-money laundering issues.
- Advised a multinational ecommerce corporation and online marketplace on the commercial and regulatory consequences of a group restructure, and providing ongoing payments regulatory and other advice.
- Advised award-winning, 'API Only' technology provider Yapily Ltd on its latest funding round, co-led by LocalGlobe and HV Holtzbrinck Ventures, following which the London based fintech start-up has raised a total of \$5.4 million in seed funding.
- Advised Prodigy Finance on regulatory and consumer credit matters.