

# Jessica Walker

Jessica Walker advises clients on all aspects of complex, cross-border restructurings, insolvencies, and special situations.

## Profile

Ms. Walker combines over 15 years' experience with creativity and compassion to optimize outcomes and help debtors, creditors, directors, insolvency practitioners, and other stakeholders navigate:

- Distressed transactions
- Operational and financial restructuring
- Cross-border insolvency
- Restructuring plans, schemes and Company voluntary arrangements (CVAs)
- Pensions restructuring
- Contingency planning

Ms. Walker's experience spans a broad range of industries, particularly fintech, energy and infrastructure, retail, and financial institutions.

A recognized leader both within and outside the firm, Ms. Walker serves on Latham's Ethics Committee and the London Women Enriching Business (WEB) Committee. She is also a member of INSOL International, IWIRC (the International Women's Insolvency & Restructuring Confederation), and the Insolvency Lawyers Association.

Ms. Walker maintains an active pro bono practice, including representing survivors of domestic abuse in the UK through the Domestic Abuse Response Alliance (DARA).

## Experience

Ms. Walker's experience includes advising:

### Companies and Boards of Directors

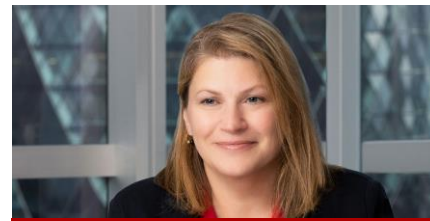
- Farfetch, on the restructuring of the luxury e-commerce retailer involving a UK pre-pack administration process
- Babylon Health on the sale of its business through a UK pre-pack administration process
- North Sea oil and gas company, ATP, on its successful US\$1.2 billion restructuring by way of a CVA, and its sale to Alpha Petroleum, including on cross-border aspects\*
- The Vietnam Shipbuilding Industry Group on its restructuring through an English scheme of arrangement, the first Asian company to use this approach, which established new law relating to the court's ability to impose a stay on litigation where a scheme of arrangement is proposed\*

### Private Equity

- A private equity fund client on restructuring debt into an opco/propco structure, including strategy as to enforcement action, new financing, and a debt-for-equity swap\*
- LBO France, as sponsor in French retailer IKKS Group's US\$340 million multijurisdictional restructuring\*

### Creditors

- A group of senior secured lenders on the restructuring of the Lifeways Group, a UK care home group



### Partner

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### Education

Northumbria University at Newcastle (LPC (Distinction))

Bournemouth University (LLB)

### Bar Qualifications

England and Wales (Solicitor), 2008

### Languages

English, French, German, Spanish

### Recognition Highlights

"Commercial and responsive."  
*The Legal 500 UK*

- The majority lender to the Volta Trucks group, an electric lorry startup, on administering the group's main trading entity, Volta Trucks Limited, and the subsequent sale of its assets to the purchaser
- The lenders on the debt restructuring, including a full refinancing of the existing capital structure, of Petrofac, a leading international service provider to the energy industry
- A leading Indian bank on enforcing various guarantees provided by Essar, in respect of lending for a power project in India, including on its complex cross-border enforcement strategy and successfully achieving the dismissal of an application by the lender's guarantor to restrain the presentation by the firm's client of a winding-up petition based on the bank's statutory demand for more than US\$500 million\*
- Wilmington Trust, as security trustee, on Anchorage and CVC' acquisition of the Ideal Standard group, a multinational bathroom furniture and accessories manufacturer; the deal involved 23 jurisdictions and a novel acquisition process under Luxembourg restructuring laws to effect the disposal, where the group had been structured using a double Luxco structure\*
- US Bank Trustees Limited, as security trustee, on the sale of the German tire retail and fast fit chain, ATU group, to Mobivia Groupe, which was preceded by a restructuring of ATU's US\$300 million plus debt, with security granted across nine jurisdictions, and involved appointing

provisional liquidators in the Cayman Islands\*

- Security trustees on the multimillion-pound enforcement of security over a prime London real estate development and its subsequent sale, including court proceedings in Guernsey\*
- A number of creditors and stakeholders on MF Global Limited's special administration\*
- Berlin-Hannoversche Hypothekbank AG, as senior secured lender, on the appointment of receivers over the Goldman Sachs UK headquarters on Fleet Street and the implementation of parallel schemes of arrangement in England and the BVI\*

#### Insolvency Practitioners

- The administrators of Babylon Healthcare, a digital health service provider, on the sale of its business
- The administrators of Farfetch Holdings Plc, a global luxury fashion retail platform, on its sale of the group
- The administrators and liquidators of Comet on the company's day-to-day trading and issues arising throughout the administration and liquidation, including retention of title, disclaimer, and creditor communication issues\*
- The administrators of a number of companies, including dealing with day one issues, employee implications, licensing issues, and managing the sale of all or part of the relevant business and assets by way of pre-pack or sale in administration\*
- The nominees and subsequent supervisors of an interlocking partnership voluntary

arrangement and CVA arrangement to restructure a 1907 Act limited partnership\*

#### Other Stakeholders

- The Mothercare Pension Trustees on the company's CVA and subsequent administration, including the transfer of the pension scheme, together with its £160 million deficit, across to the buyer of the international business from the administrators\*
- A major stakeholder providing credit default swap cover on the General Healthcare Group's restructuring\*
- The Pension Protection Fund, as creditor, on a number of high-profile insolvencies\*

*\*Matter handled prior to joining Latham*