



UKELA Corporate Due Diligence Working Party

Preamble

The Corporate Due Diligence services sector is vast, incorporating legal, financial, environmental, IT, technical, business and other specialist sectors. Together with increasing amounts of legislation and with businesses under more pressure, finding teams of advisors that have a harmonised approach to the reporting of legal and other business related issues is becoming increasingly difficult.

This newly created working party has the potential to bring together key players in the corporate due diligence arena, in order to enable and effect change within the market sector. It is the intention that discussion, and the seeking of solutions aimed at improving efficiency in the delivery of service offerings to business, will in time help UKELA to become the 'voice' within business for best practice issues surrounding corporate transactions. This, it is hoped, will become a two-way exchange of ideas, enabling business to voice their views on current issues, while increasing the wider membership into the business community.

THE UKELA CORPORATE DUE DILIGENCE WORKING PARTY'S KEY OBJECTIVES ARE:

- **to enable active and focused collaboration between the various legal, financial, business and consulting advisory groups in developing a commonality of approach and sharing of best practice ideas between members;**
- **to foster best practice through discussion, sharing of knowledge and experience, the creation of tools and briefing notes, and review of up and coming issues, for example:**
 - emerging market issues (e.g. anti-trust, social-ethical, carbon, tax, mergers, financial services regulation, global markets and key business drivers);
 - rules of engagement, agreements, legal contracts and materiality;
 - financial modelling, reporting for environmental liability provisions and other transactional financial issues;
 - environmental and social issues; and
 - integration of financial, legal and technical streams of investigation / reporting.

In particular the Working Party will:

- consider the global corporate due diligence market, its direction, market strengths, weaknesses and opportunities;
- review existing procedures, reporting standards and approaches between the various interdisciplinary groups to seek common approaches and standardisation, where possible;
- seek to improve industry service offerings through engaging with the wider business community and to act as a forum for tackling standard industry issues associated with the due diligence process;
- integrate with other UKELA working groups to share thoughts on issues of commonality;
- consider the interaction between laws (in particular financial services regulation, corporate/business, mergers, anti-trust, tax and environmental) and how the due diligence advisory groups could integrate their reporting approach; and
- engage in dialogue with policy makers, regulators and leading businesses that are engaged in developing relevant legal instruments that affect corporate transactions, including responding to consultations on related issues and assisting other UKELA groups, where possible.