

**Chartered accountants  
Business advisers  
Tax experts**

# A brief guide to what we do and how we do it

**Harwood Hutton is an award-winning firm of chartered accountants and business advisers with enormous strength in depth in the area of tax.**

We help business leaders, entrepreneurs and individuals with specialist advice that helps them maximise their potential for success as defined by themselves – that could be growth, consolidation, rescue or simply just making a problem go away.

The advice we offer is intelligent and practical and stems from 400+ years of collective experience at director level. Sometimes the advice is straightforward, often it is innovative, never is it anything other than bespoke.

## OUR CLIENTS

Although we have the skills to assist the biggest of companies, we tend to specialise in small to medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) and owner-managed businesses (OMBs). We also serve overseas companies looking to establish a foothold in the UK. Our Private Client team is particularly adept at advising on the affairs on high net worth individuals with diverse asset portfolios, including property.

## OUR PEOPLE

Within our Beaconsfield and central London offices, Harwood Hutton can call on individuals and teams of exceptional quality and attitude. We look for five characteristics in our people, which we call the RAPID test:

- Responsiveness
- Approachability
- Pragmatism
- Imagination
- Dependability

## TAX SPECIALISM

Each of our tax experts has worked for one of the UK's 'Big 4' accountancy firms so we're used to working for clients who have high expectations. We work for companies of all sizes, trading in the UK and overseas, and for individuals with a one-off need or strategic focus on managing their tax affairs. Our starting position on tax is that no-one should be paying a penny more than their legal obligation. We look to reduce tax bills in a way that is lawful, sustainable and clear.

Services and advice covers:

- Corporate taxes
- VAT and indirect taxes
- Employment taxes
- Taxes for individuals
- Income Tax
  - Capital Gains Tax
  - Inheritance Tax
  - Property taxes
- Reliefs & allowances
- Trusts & estate planning
- HMRC enquiries

**Harwood Hutton was voted Business and Tax Advisory Firm of the Year (UK) in the 2017 M&A Insider Awards.**

## ACCOUNTS, AUDIT & PAYROLL

Some business owners regard the annual audit and preparation of annual accounts as a cost centre, a chore that adds no value whatsoever to the business. We see it differently: To us, it is an opportunity, a launchpad for improvement. Our experts can quickly spot potential problem areas and will recommend ways to boost performance and profitability. Harwood Hutton also operates an outsourced accounting function that includes bookkeeping and payroll services.

## COMMERCIAL EXPERTISE

Harwood Hutton can help businesses at any and all stages of development. Our commercial team knows exactly what it takes to turn a good idea into a great strategy and can help you achieve sustainable growth and build the value in what you do.

Services and advice covers:

- Raising finance – debt & equity
- Business structure & strategy
- Business planning
- Profit improvement
- MBO/MBI
- Acquisitions & disposals
- Business valuations

## FORENSIC ACCOUNTING

Sadly, fraud is a factor of business life and SMEs are especially vulnerable. Research shows that one-third of cases involving fraud at SMEs are committed by staff and a quarter are perpetrated by contractors. Our specialist forensic accountants are skilled at reviewing controls and making recommendations aimed at mitigating the risk of fraud.

Services include:

- Expert witness and litigation support
- Alternative Dispute Resolution
- Contentious valuations

Our outstanding service was recognised in the 2017 Lawyer Monthly Awards where Adam Stronach was voted Expert Witness of the Year

## PRIVATE CLIENT

Whether it's completing a basic employment income-only tax return or managing the affairs of a family with many complex sources of income and gains, Harwood Hutton's Private Client department is geared to delivering a high-quality service. Accuracy, speed and thoroughness are the hallmarks of what we do. We often work in collaboration with authorised and regulated wealth managers to achieve a tax-efficient outcome for our clients.

Services and advice covers:

- Self assessment
- General and LLP partnerships
- Trusts & succession planning
- Estates & wealth planning
- Residence & domicile
- Taxation strategies & services
- Property advice
- Pensions advice
- HMRC enquiries
- Probate & executorship



## INTERNATIONAL

Harwood Hutton offers a foreign direct investment service called London Landing, which is available to overseas companies who want to establish operations in the UK or mainland Europe. It also works the other way round, for ambitious UK firms looking to set up abroad. We speak a variety of languages within Harwood Hutton, including Chinese and Spanish, and have excellent connections around the globe thanks to our membership of the Allinial network.

## SECTORS

Harwood Hutton is sector agnostic. We will quickly get to grips with any segment or any market to advance a client's interests. But if you press us, we would have to say we have built up particularly strong knowledge in the following areas:

- Automotive
- Media
- Health
- Property & construction
- IT
- Travel and tourism
- Education

## WORKING AT HARWOOD HUTTON

Harwood Hutton offers varied career opportunities and encourages individuals to maximise both their own potential and their contribution to the firm. Staff have individual development plans and can develop at their own pace with the support of a director.

We welcome diversity, encourage personal development and reward performance. We are also proud to promote a fair working environment in which everyone is treated equally. We recognise the need for staff to balance their career and domestic responsibilities and support flexible working hours where possible.



[www.harwoodhutton.co.uk](http://www.harwoodhutton.co.uk)  
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