

Partner, London

Financial Institutions Regulatory



T: 44.20.7519.7195
sebastian.barling@skadden.com

Education

Legal Practice Course, Cardiff Law School, 2005

LL.B., University of Exeter, 2004

Bar Admissions

Solicitor, England & Wales

Sebastian Barling leads Skadden's U.K. and EU financial institutions regulatory practice. He provides U.K. and EU financial regulatory advice to a wide range of businesses in the financial services sector, including banks, insurers, insurance intermediaries and asset managers.

Mr. Barling has particular experience advising banks, insurers, insurance intermediaries and asset managers on regulatory matters, including in respect of consumer duty, ESG, Brexit-related issues and fintech matters. This includes assisting clients with regulatory engagement with the FCA and PRA in respect of conduct and compliance matters.

He has significant experience in making financial regulatory filings and applications, including in respect of the authorisation of new businesses, obtaining approval for new controllers and changes to firm governance arrangements. He also provides clients with advice on market abuse and AML/KYC requirements.

Mr. Barling also offers clients day-to-day support on financial regulatory issues and advice on the regulatory aspects of M&A transactions in the financial services sector. He has extensive experience in the development, implementation and application of the Markets in Financial Instruments Directive (MiFID II) and the Alternative Investment Fund Managers Directive (AIFMD). As part of this, he has helped establish new pieces of market infrastructure, including the first European Market Infrastructure Regulation (EMIR)-authorised clearing house and new multilateral trading facilities (MTFs).

Since joining Skadden, his representations have included providing regulatory advice to:

- JAB Insurance in the acquisition of Utmost Life and Pensions (ULP) from Utmost Group plc. ULP is a U.K. life and pensions platform that serves approximately 290,000 pensioners and has more than £5 billion of assets under management
- Corient in the acquisitions of Stonehage Fleming and Stanhope Capital Group to create a \$430 billion independent ultra-high-net-worth wealth manager
- Optio Group Limited (United Kingdom), a portfolio company of Preservation Capital Partners Limited, in its acquisition of Circles Group. S.A. (Luxembourg)
- The shareholders of BPL (Holdings) Limited, a leading global broker specialising exclusively in credit and political risk insurance, in connection with the sale of a minority stake in BPL (Holdings) Limited to Preservation Capital Partners
- eToro in its upsized \$713 million initial public offering
- BlackRock in its acquisition of Preqin at an enterprise value of £2.55 billion
- BMS Group in its acquisition of David Roberts & Partners
- B-FLEXION in the merger of its portfolio company Securis Investment Partners LLP with Twelve Capital AG

Before joining Skadden, Mr. Barling was a financial regulatory partner at another global law firm.