

James Shaw

PARTNER | LONDON, CAMBRIDGE

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James is a partner in the corporate team and a leading transactional venture capital lawyer, advising entrepreneurs, companies and investors through the funding life-cycle.

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He was the co-founder of tech law firm JAG Shaw Baker which merged with Withers to create a new legal offering, [Withers tech](#), in 2018.

James has two decades of experience helping entrepreneurs, high-growth technology based companies and investors navigate their way through multiple rounds of financing, growth, scale-up and exit/liquidity events. He's ranked as a recommended lawyer for Venture Capital in the 2017 edition of the Legal 500.

James is considered to be one of the leading University spin-out lawyers for life sciences companies and he actively advises on spin-out activity from several of the leading Universities in the UK and Scotland including Oxford and Cambridge University. James works as a mentor and speaker with the Oxford Foundry, part of Oxford University's incubator initiative for past and present students.

As a close adviser to many companies and investors, James also acts as Outside General Counsel to a number of innovative science-based companies and is an adviser to Parkinson's UK Biotech Business Group.

And through the combination of innovation and other practice areas, James is helping to drive firm-wide Global initiatives to address the rapidly changing landscape of more traditional sectors such Real Estate, Hospitality, Sports and Fashion and Luxury Brands.

James is a graduate of both St Andrews University (BSc Hons) and Edinburgh University (LLB), and is passionate about innovation and the environment. As a Scottish qualified lawyer, James also holds a committee position on the Society of Scottish Lawyers in London and is a Writer to Her Majesty's Signet.

SECRETARY **EMMA PENHALIGON**

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TRACK RECORD

Representing Stride.VC and a series of other investors on the multiple rounds of financing of Cazoo Ltd, the disruptive start-up to the second hand car market in the UK

Representing Sweet Capital (the private investment fund of the Founders of King.com) – across multiple consumer mobile disruptive investments on a global basis

Representing a Fintech disrupter on its major European Growth Strategy

Outside General Counsel to Mologic Ltd - a point-of-care diagnostics spin-out from Alere

Outside General Counsel to Global Health Diagnostics Ltd

Outside General Counsel to In3Bio - an immuno-oncology business with a pipeline of early stage clinical assets

Outside General Counsel to Grampian BioPartners – a specialist life science business angel syndicate, able to act as a micro-lead on specialist life-science deals

ADMISSIONS

- The Law Society of Scotland

PUBLICATIONS

Withers talks tech - podcasts

Writer to Her Majesty's Signet and Council Member of the WS Society

A Q & A with James Shaw, Biotech and Money, Drugs & Dealers, May 2016

What You Need To Know About Intellectual Property And Brexit, Financier Worldwide, January 2017

A New Cambrian Era For Biotech Startups, Drugs & Dealers, January 2018

JAG Shaw Baker Thought leadership content

Innovative Financing Instruments, A Better Alternative? 1/23/17

The New World Order Of Innovative Financings, 11/9/16

The Top Four Tips You Need To Prep For A Biotech IPO, 9/12/16

The Effect Of Brexit On Venture Funding, 7/11/2016

In The News: James Shaw Talks To Drugs & Dealers Magazine, 5/13/16

Crossing The Valley Of Death: Funding, Financing And Strategy At Biotech & Money London, 2/3/2016

Mention, A Rare Launch in Europe: A Big New Law Firm Dedicated To Tech Startups, Techcrunch, 9/24/2013

MEMBERSHIPS

- Society of Scottish Lawyers in London, committee member (President 2017-2020)

TALKS

Early Stage Funding, Startup and SME club, 3/8/2018

Funding AI, VR And AR Startups In MedTech For Growth, February 2018 (panel member)

What Does The Future Hold For Digital Health? Biotech and the City, September 2017 (panel member)

Fintech Phenomena; Cross Border Growth & Success, Digital Freedom Festival, Riga, 2017

Crossing The Valley Of Death: Funding, Financing & Strategy, Biotech & Money 2016 (panel member)

EDUCATION

St Andrews University, BSc Hons
Edinburgh University, LL.B Law

LANGUAGES

ENGLISH

FRENCH

DATES

JOINED: 2018

RECOGNITION

2021 Spears Corporate Lawyers James
Shaw

2021 Legal 500 UK Leading
individual

2020 Legal 500 UK recommended
lawyer

London

20 OLD BAILEY, LONDON, EC4M 7AN

Cambridge

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