

Case study: DOL Limited

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The deal

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This involved delicate and complex negotiations with the company's bank and eventually its liquidators in order to arrive at a creative and unusual financial arrangement for the acquisition by a new company, Drayton Old Lodge Limited, to acquire the whole business and freehold property of DOL Limited (in liquidation).

Our role

Larking Gowen Corporate Transactions was asked to undertake the following:

- Feasibility study and strategy formulation
- Price guide calculation
- Negotiations with vendors and funders to agree price, terms and heads of terms
- Advise on the commercial and tax structure for the acquisition
- Deal management

Client:

DOL Limited

Industry sector:

Hoteliers

Transaction:

Business acquisition

Key highlight:

Larking Gowen worked closely with all stakeholders to unwind a complex structure that was hampering business operations and growth to leave a business that was capable of being financially stable, providing continued local employment.



Comments

John Barnard, shareholder of Drayton Old Lodge Limited, said:

"From the moment I started the process of unwinding the structure of the original business to completion some nine months later, Larking Gowen, and in particular, Ian Nelson, was there to help negotiate and guide me through the many pitfalls I experienced. Personally I don't think I would have made it without them."

Ian Nelson, Larking Gowen Senior Manager, said:

"It was very satisfying to help an owner unshackle a good business from historic constraints and to see it flourishing as a result, providing the owner with a range of options for the future."

"This clearly demonstrates that with the right plan and professional support, it's possible to deal with otherwise daunting situations."