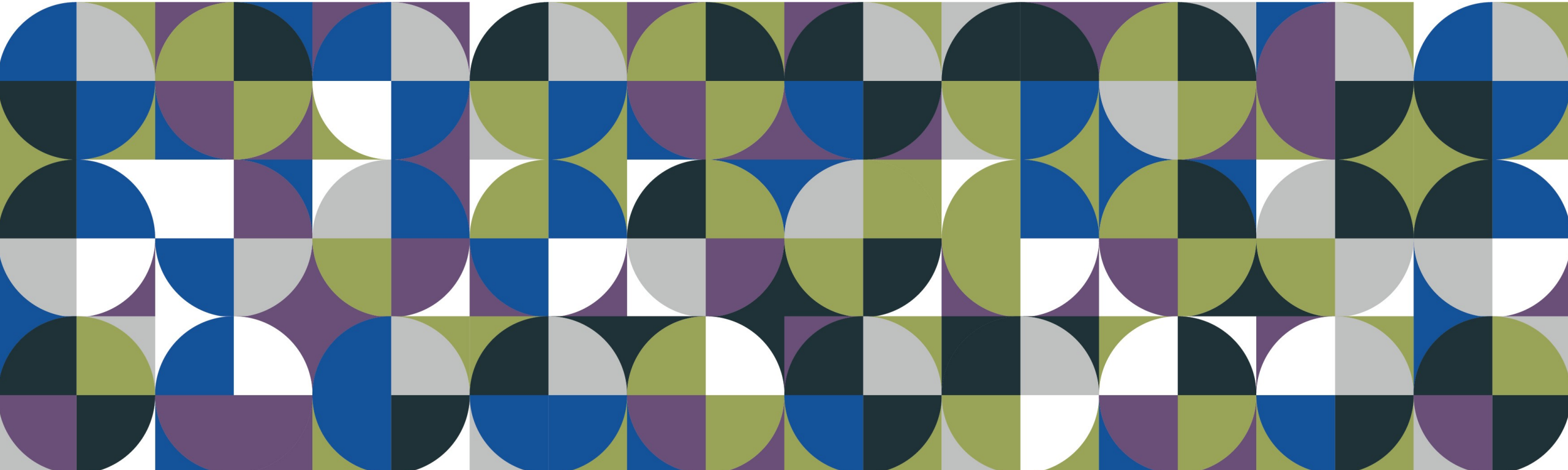




# Forensic accounting services



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## ABOUT US

We are an independent UK-based firm on a mission to be the 'go to' providers of forensic accounting, investigation, valuation and tax dispute resolution services. We work closely with lawyers, public sector bodies and other professionals, acting in expert or advisory capacity.



## WHAT SETS US APART?



### EXPERT LED

We invest time in understanding the case and allocate experts in accordance with the case requirements and challenges, who are fully committed and are at the forefront of service delivery.



### QUICK TURNAROUND

We use innovative data analytics, investigation and research techniques to create efficiencies in order to meet tight court deadlines whilst also improving outcome.



### EXPERIENCE

With over 60 years of combined experience (including 'Big 4' experience), our experts are well-rounded and have worked on a range of matters from a small investigation or confiscation matter to one of the world's largest cross border bribery and corruption investigations.



### MULTI-LINGUAL

Our experts are fluent in English, Urdu, Punjabi and Hindi and understand different cultures that make up the modern world.



### BEST VALUE

Our experience and market knowledge combined with our lean structure enables us to provide best value service.

## OUR APPROACH



### UNDERSTAND

Prior to providing any service we ensure relevant skills and experience is mapped to the client's needs.



### PLAN

We understand that every case is unique and needs to be approached with a well devised strategy that is fit for purpose.



### ANALYSE

We use modern analytic tools to perform analysis with professionally considered methodology that is heavily researched.



### REPORT

We believe in providing reports that are credible, easy to understand and summarised yet backed-up with thorough analysis and research work.



### FOLLOW-UP

It is important for us to ensure that our clients are satisfied with the final product and, therefore, we follow up!

## OUR FORENSIC ACCOUNTING SERVICES

At LitAcc, we are regularly instructed by leading criminal defence practices, law enforcement agencies and other professionals to assist in fraud and criminal investigations, confiscation proceedings, freezing/unexplained wealth orders or asset/cash forfeiture applications related matters, and tax dispute resolution.



### FRAUD AND CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS

Conduct pre-conviction investigations to uncover key facts and determine the value of alleged crime in a range of criminal matters, such as, but not limited to:

- Fraud (e.g. mortgage, procurement, employee and director fraud, misappropriation of company assets or monies in client account)
- Money laundering (including cryptocurrency and foreign bank accounts)
- Tax fraud (e.g. VAT, excise duty, income and corporation tax and PAYE)

Our findings will help you provide an informed advice to your client and assist the Court in making an appropriate determination as well as in passing an appropriate sentence in the event of a guilty plea or verdict.



### CONFISCATION PROCEEDINGS

Conduct financial investigation post-conviction to assess the Benefit Amount and the Available Amount under the Proceeds of Crime Act ("POCA"). Alternatively, review S16 Statement to ensure accuracy and to identify double counting, and conduct relevant investigation to explain unidentified transactions and rebut assumptions for tainted gifts or hidden assets in complex confiscation matters, such as, but not limited to:

- Trading Standards breaches (e.g. counterfeit goods and copyright infringement)
- Conspiracy to supply drugs
- Fraud and money laundering
- Planning enforcement breaches

Our assessment of the Benefit Amount and the Available Amount will help you or your client reach an agreement without the need of a contested hearing or simplify issues for the Court in a contested hearing.



### FREEZING/UNEXPLAINED WEALTH ORDER AND ASSET/CASH FORFEITURE APPLICATIONS

Conduct investigation of financial and non-financial records to determine and/or demonstrate the legitimacy of source of cash or funds used to procure assets that are subject to freezing/unexplained wealth order or forfeiture applications obtained/made by the Serious Fraud Office ("SFO"), National Crime Agency ("NCA"), HM Revenue and Customs ("HMRC"), Home Office ("HO") or Crown Prosecution Services ("CPS").

Irrespective of the size and complexity of the matter, we help establish a clear money trail, which can be the basis of success for your client's case.



### TAX DISPUTE RESOLUTION

Advise on and manage all types (e.g. VAT, excise duty, income and corporation tax and PAYE) and levels of HMRC led enquiries and investigations, such as:

- Serious tax fraud and VAT fraud, including criminal tax investigations
- Serious tax investigations under Codes of Practice 8 and 9
- Alternative dispute resolution

Unique blend of our tax experts and forensic accountants will help you move from a dispute to a settlement swiftly while managing other potential risks or enhance the chances of your case's success in a tax tribunal.

## RECENT CASE EXAMPLES

### A guilty plea to fraud related offences



Instructed by Greater Manchester Police to investigate fraud involving the operator of a local funeral care business.

LitAcc's involvement resulted in the defendant being charged with fraud related offences and the defendant ultimately pleading guilty.

### CONFISCATION ORDER ONLY

# 10%

OF THE ORIGINAL FIGURE SOUGHT



Instructed on behalf of defendants (including a limited company) facing a confiscation order of approximately £7m after they pleaded guilty to selling counterfeit clothing items.

LitAcc's involvement resulted in a confiscation order of approximately 10% of the original figure being sought.

### SETTLEMENT FIGURE OF UP TO

# 25%

OF THE PROPERTY PORTFOLIO VALUE



Instructed on behalf of the respondents facing a property freezing order following NCA's investigation into their property portfolio worth approximately £25m.

LitAcc's involvement resulted in a settlement between the parties, involving a figure of up to 25% of the property portfolio value.

### criminal proceedings dropped and cash returned



Instructed on behalf of the owner of a car MOT and repair centre facing criminal proceedings and cash forfeiture application relating to circa £31,000 of cash seized from his home address.

LitAcc's involvement resulted in the criminal proceedings being dropped and cash being returned.

### UNDERPAID TAX DETERMINED AT JUST

# 30%

OF HMRC'S ESTIMATION



Instructed on behalf of the operator of a number of car parks facing charges relating to income tax and VAT fraud with total underpaid tax estimated at £305k by HMRC.

LitAcc's involvement resulted in the defendant pleading guilty to the charges, but the underpaid tax being determined at no more than 30% of the original figure estimated by HMRC.

## TESTIMONIALS

The reports they produced and the work which went into their reports was, in our view, extremely thorough.

# 98%

of the Prosecution's assertions and reduced the benefit figure originally asked by 98%.”

“

You have been really helpful in dealing with the case given the strict deadline. Excellent job.”

**Harris Solicitors**

“

The LitAcc team have been very proactive and helped us to investigate a matter. We thank you for your great work and appreciate the amount of time the expert spent on the engagement.”

**Greater Manchester Police**

“

We have used a number of forensic accountants during the past 25 years. LitAcc were recommended to us by a fellow solicitor and we tried them on a complex confiscation matter. We found LitAcc to be accommodating, approachable, hard working and diligent, but most of all, the reports they produced and the work which went into their reports was, in our view, extremely thorough. There is absolutely no doubt that, without the expert forensic accounting reports from LitAcc, our client would have had an astronomical confiscation order made. As it transpired, with the assistance of the reports from LitAcc, we were able to negate over 98% of the Prosecution's assertions and reduced the benefit figure originally asked by 98%.”

**Osborn Knight Solicitors**

“

As a result of what was discussed between you and *[the Financial Investigator]* the Crown made an offer of the BF you drove down to yesterday which I calculate as £562,336.91 (reducing 2% of the Third Party income and deducting the value of the records seized) and, crucially, an Available Amount NOT INCLUDING ANY HIDDEN ASSET as an incentive to withdraw our opposition to the POCA. Given that there remained a considerable amount of work to be done by *[the Defendant]* in explaining the destination of his £321k cash withdrawals *[the Defendant]* decided to take the offer being made and settled at a Recoverable Amount of just £3,662.18. We could not have achieved this without you.”

**Andy Evans, 18 St John Street Chambers**

“

“Asim was instructed to provide a forensic report in a POCA case that I was involved in. The report was expertly and thoroughly prepared. I will use Asim's services again and recommend him.”

**Mumin Hashim, Director/Barrister Hayfield Law**

“

Fortunate enough to instruct LitAcc to prepare a detailed accountancy report in relation to a significant Money Laundering prosecution. The depth, detail and thoroughness of the report lead to the case against our client being discontinued. Would highly recommend.”

**Pure Law Criminal Defence Solicitors**

## OUR EXPERTS

All of our experts are supported by a professional team of analysts and qualified staff.

### Asim Sheikh

#### Director / Forensic Accounting Expert

Asim is a Fellow member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales and a full member of the Academy of Experts. He has worked in the areas of forensic accounting, investigations and business valuations since 2006, beginning his career at BDO LLP within the North West's renowned forensic accounting team before moving to PwC LLP in 2015. He set up LitAcc in 2016. Throughout his career Asim has been involved in a range of small to large scale matters, including the multinational investigation into bribery and corruption allegations against Airbus SE. Asim is regularly instructed as an expert by law enforcement agencies and law firms nationally in criminal investigations, confiscation proceedings, tax investigations and cash/ asset forfeiture cases.

### Barry Draper

#### Consultant / Forensic Accounting Expert

Barry is a Fellow member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales and a full member of the Academy of Experts. With nearly four decades of comprehensive forensic accounting experience across a diverse range of sectors, Barry is an expert in the field of forensic accounting and investigations. Barry is regularly instructed as an expert by law enforcement agencies and law firms nationally in criminal investigations and confiscation proceedings.

### Shabeer Yousuf

#### Director / Tax Expert

As an experienced Chartered Tax Adviser, Shabeer is passionate about providing down-to-earth practical solutions in answer to even the most complex of tax investigations. Shabeer qualified as a Chartered Tax Adviser with KMPG and became a Senior Tax Planning manager at the firm. With over 19 years of experience in tax planning for high net worth individuals and trusts, he always ensures that client receives true value for money in the advice he provides on related investigation matters.

### Ian Spencer

#### Consultant / VAT Investigations Expert

Ian is a specialist in the field of VAT investigations with over 20 years of experience within the VAT world. Ian's first eight years of experience were gained with Customs & Excise, working as a VAT inspector throughout the Yorkshire and Humberside region and acting as a trainer throughout the North. Ian's past 12 years have been spent working for a variety of VAT service providers, including two 'Big 4' and one 'Top 10' accountancy practices, a large regional accountancy practice and a VAT service boutique. From entering private practice as an Assistant Manager, Ian achieved promotion to Director leading a team of consultants. Ian is regularly instructed to manage and deal with complex VAT investigations led by HMRC.

### Sean Palmer

#### Consultant / Tax Investigations Expert

With over two decades working on both sides of the fence (i.e. leading HMRC investigations and defending clients), Sean is an expert in the field of tax investigations. Sean is a highly-regarded tax consultant and tax accountant who specialises in tax investigations and tax risk management. Given his time at HMRC, Sean has first-hand knowledge of HMRC operating procedures, giving him an invaluable insight in how best to advise clients on the complex tactics and strategies that HMRC employs. During his career he has helped minimise the tax liabilities of private individuals and small and medium-sized (SME) business through to FTSE 100 and blue-chip companies. This experience has resulted in him being uniquely qualified in being able to provide tax advice and resolve tax problems in a way which can withstand the intense scrutiny of HMRC. Sean is regularly instructed to manage and deal with all types and levels of tax investigations led by HMRC.



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