

# DIGITAL ASSETS

The Maples Group's Digital Assets practice is dedicated to helping clients navigate the complex legal issues surrounding digital assets. Our experienced lawyers and professionals offer integrated support for digital assets businesses across all of our practice areas, driving innovative solutions to help clients in this space achieve their goals.

## Industry Expertise

Our Digital Assets practice has experience working with a variety of industries, including:

Blockchain, Crypto, and Web3 Businesses	Private Equity, Venture Capital, and Family Office Investors	Financial Institutions
We advise blockchain, crypto, and Web3 businesses at all stages, from startup to exit, on matters such as regulatory compliance, token issuances, corporate structuring, and governance.	Our team also advises private equity, venture capital, and family office investors in blockchain, crypto, and Web3 businesses on due diligence, deal structures, and portfolio company management.	We advise our institutional clients on regulatory compliance, risk management, and product development (for example, tokenised funds and exposure to underlying virtual assets) at the intersection of digital assets and traditional finance. We also advise firms on applicable regulatory regime and local regulator expectations for new entrant crypto asset service providers and existing providers.

## Key Areas of Focus

Our Digital Assets practice focuses on several key areas, including:



### LICENSING AND REGISTRATION

We assist in licensing and registration applications to local regulators for regulated digital assets businesses, such as cryptocurrency exchanges, trading platforms, and custody providers.



### REGULATORY AND COMPLIANCE

We advise clients on regulatory matters surrounding digital assets, including anti-money laundering and countering the financing of terrorism (AML) and know-your-customer (KYC) requirements, as well as compliance with virtual assets and securities regulations and the requirements and guidance issued by regulatory authorities in the jurisdictions in which we operate.



### TOKEN ISSUANCES

Our team helps clients navigate the process of issuing tokens, including security tokens, utility tokens, and other forms of digital assets. We advise both issuers and investors on Simple Agreements for Future Tokens (SAFTs), token purchase agreements and other related investments from startup to exit. We also consider licensing requirements which may be applicable to issuers in different jurisdictions.



### TRANSACTION SUPPORT AND STRUCTURING

We provide support and structuring expertise for a wide range of transactions related to digital assets, including token sales, venture capital investments, mergers and acquisitions and other strategic partnerships, and related financing arrangements.



### CORPORATE STRUCTURE AND GOVERNANCE

We advise clients on the corporate structure and governance requirements necessary to successfully operate in the digital assets space, including entity formation, board management and compliance with best practices and regulatory guidance. We also advise on the various requirements under the EU's MiCA regime relating to capital requirements, conduct of business rules and corporate governance.



### CONTENTIOUS CIRCUMSTANCES AND DISPUTE RESOLUTION

We help clients successfully navigate contentious circumstances by handling their disputes at every stage: from pre-action advice and steps, to appearing in Court or arbitral proceedings, through to facilitating judgment and award enforcement. Maples has assisted clients with DAO disputes, smart-contract complaints, crypto / NFT trading-loss claims, investment mandate claims, contentious creditor claims, winding-up proceedings, misappropriation disputes, tracing claims, digital forensics and evidence gathering, ownership disputes, and acting both for and against liquidators with significant digital-asset liquidations. We are also able to give tailored advice on minimising dispute and liability risk.