



# Cryptocurrency

We are market leaders in the developing field of Decentralised Finance and Cryptocurrency.

## ABOUT ASTRAEA GROUP

Led by co-founders James Ramsden KC and Nina Stewart FCA, Astraera Group's multidisciplinary team is leading a transformation in the delivery of professional services.

We specialise in complex and high value dispute resolution and international arbitration, reputation and crisis management, investigations, and regulatory and sanctions law.

Through our private wealth offering, we provide advice to high-net-worth and ultra-high-net-worth clients on their personal planning and structuring.

Our experienced team operates in close collaboration with a highly developed network of international lawyers and leading specialists in the UK and abroad in fields including intelligence, cyber-security, and public and government relations. We task the right skills in a coordinated, efficient and cost-effective manner.

At the heart of Astraera Group is a commitment to excellence in the provision of our services by a committed team who take a personal stake in their clients' outcomes.

Astraera Group has significant knowledge of the legal issues surrounding this area including the rapidly evolving regulatory environment and asset recovery. The sector is especially vulnerable to fraud and money laundering and we are experts in identifying and tracing the origins and flows of cryptocurrency.

James Ramsden KC has worked at the cutting edge of crypto law since 2017 when he advised on the first sale of a property in the UK for £17 million paid in Bitcoin. In 2018 he obtained the first UK freezing and disclosure orders over cryptocurrency. These novel orders were the first occasion on which the UK courts addressed this technology and introduced the now well-established concept of crypto as a proprietary asset. Over several subsequent actions before UK and overseas courts, James has forged an unrivalled expertise in tracing and recovering cryptocurrency, including obtaining ground-breaking orders for disclosure against European and US based ISPs and trading platforms.

Astraera Group continue to be instructed in the most significant cases in this area including the successful representation of the defendants in Tulip Trading Limited v Bitcoin Association & Ors; a \$3.5 billion case brought by an individual claiming to be 'Satoshi Nakamoto', the creator of Bitcoin, against several developers. The judgment, in which the English courts rejected claims that crypto developers owe fiduciary duties to asset holders, is significant for the cryptocurrency and blockchain space, providing fundamental guidance as to how the underlying technology works within the law.

James has shared his insight in this area via numerous speaking events and publications, including headlining the 2020 Sri Lankan Crypto Fraud Seminar.

## GET IN TOUCH

To find out more about how we can support you, please get in touch.

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