

Eric Sherlock
General Counsel, LCI



Eric Sherlock was drawn to aviation field following a meeting Jan Bosak in late 2014 – the then general counsel at turboprop lessor Elix Aviation Capital. Both shared a similar history as capital market lawyers and Eric recognised an opportunity to transfer his skills to the aviation sector. This meeting marked a turning point in Eric's career. "Jan inspired me to step into this world and I've never looked back," Eric says.

Eric began his career as a capital markets and corporate finance associate at Clifford Chance and then at Arthur Cox before he joined the world of aircraft leasing with a move to Elix Aviation Capital as a legal counsel. In 2018, he made another change, this time switching to Dublin-based commercial aircraft and helicopter lessor LCI to take up the role of legal counsel.

In 2024, Eric was promoted to general counsel at LCI, which marked a significant highlight in his career to date: "LCI and its shareholders, the Libra Group and SMFL, have always backed and supported me and I am extremely proud that they appointed me to succeed Terri Foley in this role following her promotion to chief operating officer." In his new role, he employs his exemplary legal skills, while overseeing all operations of the legal team.

Eric is described as a resilient lawyer who has demonstrated his strong will and resolution in his negotiations. A respected figure in his field and one who grasps a firm knowledge of the law, Eric has excelled in his new role. Over the past year, he has supported not only the company's growth but also the advancement of the aviation industry. He

structured and negotiated the industry's first social loans for helicopter leasing. The \$70 million social loans were facilitated through LCI and Sumitomo Mitsui Finance and Leasing Company's (SMFL) new social loan framework, which received the Japan Credit Rating Agency's highest rating of Social 1 (F).

"This vital financial innovation received the prestigious Airline Economics 'Editor's Deal of the Year for Innovation Award' and is bringing the first ever social loans to the helicopter leasing sector through our financing partners, and we are working to expand this network," says Eric. He also negotiated and structured loan documentation worth over \$600 million with several top global banks to provide loan facilities for LCI's joint venture leasing operation with SMFL.

Forging ahead with innovative structures, Eric negotiated and played a key role in the structuring of the first direct to pension fund investment in the helicopter market, as well as playing a critical role in the advanced air mobility (AAM) collaboration agreement between LCI and Airbus announced earlier this year.

Eric hopes that the industry can scale the availability of critical and emergency services in an "efficient and sustainable manner" so that AAM operations, along with fixed wing utility and helicopters, can provide such vital services on a wider scale. He says: "If I could change anything, it would be to accelerate the pace of infrastructure, financing and network adoption to enable a more rapid expansion of the transportation and logistical network for mission critical services across the globe."