

Wealth management guru joins RFR

Property consultancy RFR has signed up one of the City's most respected figures as a Senior Advisor.

The Chelsea-based firm, run by ex-City lawyers Richard and Sophie Rogerson, recently consolidated all of its practice areas under the banner of the "Property Private Office", and – in a major coup – has secured the services of Lord North Street co-founder William Drake.

Widely credited with pioneering the private investment office concept in London, Drake will advise RFR's board on management and strategy and "play an active role in further developing the firm's reputation within the wider private wealth management world".

A graduate of Pembroke College, Cambridge, Drake put in stints as a barrister and US attorney before joining the corporate finance department of Kleinwort Benson in 1979. He spent seventeen years at investment bank Granville plc before co-founding award winning private investment office Lord North Street with Adam Wethered in 2000, taking the firm up to and through its merger with Sandaire last year (where he remains as Senior Advisor).

Richard Rogerson, Co-Founder of RFR: "We are incredibly fortunate to have someone of William's seniority and experience join the RFR team. William co- founded Lord North Street with a clear philosophy that they would always sit on the client's side of the table, free from conflicts so that clients could entirely trust the integrity of their advice. RFR was built on this same philosophy and it remains central to the firm's principles. William's very public endorsement of RFR, combined with his wise counsel and day to day involvement in the firm's growth, is an incredibly exciting step for our business."

William Drake: "Since the merger of Lord North Street and Sandaire, I have been considering a number of roles which would complement my ongoing role as a Senior Adviser to Sandaire. I am delighted that the first of these roles will be at RFR. There are so many echoes of Lord North Street in RFR's approach, not least a business model designed to avoid conflicts of interest and a service that sits entirely on the client's side of the table. Our shared legal backgrounds add to the professional foundations which have been central to RFR's growth. A key factor in my decision was a belief in the value of creating a Property Private Office for the benefit of a wide range of private clients. I am hugely looking forward to working with Sophie, Richard and the rest of the RFR team."

