



The breakdown of a relationship is a difficult and emotional time for all concerned. You need sensitive and professional advice to make matters as straightforward as possible.

#### How we can help you

Our team of specialist and experienced family lawyers will advise you on your options at what is a difficult and often confusing time.

We realise that every case is different and treat you as an individual and consider all the aspects of your case in helping you reach a suitable solution. It may be that your case will require input from other specialist departments within the firm, for example making wills or property transactions, and we can offer a smooth transition within the firm to keep delay to a minimum.

We also appreciate that the costs of seeking advice can be daunting and so we aim to make this aspect as straightforward as possible. To discover what your options are we offer fixed-cost initial appointments. We will explain the rate of costs at the start and will keep you updated if things change. Our team will be happy to answer any preliminary questions and arrange an appointment, because to us 'Family Matters'. We are proud to be members of Resolution (formerly the Solicitors Family Law Association) and the Law Society Family Law Panel members assuring you of the best advice, no matter what your circumstances.

"We offer a fixed cost Petitioner's divorce package"

## Divorce

No one wants to think that they will ever become involved in divorce proceedings, however statistics show that one in three marriages unfortunately do break down. We recognise the fact that whilst parting couples need straightforward and expert advice, the last thing they need is mounting legal fees.

For that reason, we are pleased to offer a fixed cost Petitioner's divorce package for straightforward proceedings. The package includes initial interview, preparation of paperwork including petition and all steps up to and including the decree absolute to dissolve your marriage.

For exact costs please visit our website or call your nearest branch.

## Children

Whenever children are involved in a relationship breakdown, their needs are a priority for all concerned. We believe that the children's best interests can be served with timely advice and guidance to parents on the legal obligations and options. We can assist in resolving disputes such as the key concern of how the children's time can be shared with all family members, as well as other issues relating to the children's upbringing.

## Financial issues

The financial implications of marriage or other relationship breakdown can be complicated. We offer guidance on the way forward including assistance through negotiations or proceedings as necessary to secure the best possible financial deal for you. We also provide advice in support of

mediation services. This type of advice is essential for all separating couples, whether married or not.

## Cohabitation and Pre-nuptial agreements

For many couples who are contemplating cohabitation or marriage, a document to regularise the position on any later separation or divorce is ideal. We offer advice on the relevance of these documents, as well as drafting and advising on them.

## Civil Partnerships

Same-sex couples and same sex marriage can now register their relationship formally and we can assist and advise on pre-registration agreements, as well as dissolution of the partnership and financial matters arising from that.

## Change of Name

We are pleased to offer a fixed price for the preparation of a change of name deed for an adult. The costs associated with changing a child's name can be variable. We will be pleased to discuss the likely costs of your case directly.

Changing the name of a child is a more complicated area, requiring the permission or agreement of anyone with parental responsibility, or a Court Order in the event of a dispute.

## Mediation

We can now offer mediation services for parties with family disputes with a view to resolving issues in a civilised and non confrontational way. Our specialist mediator/lawyers have experience of 'traditional' work as well as mediation, enhancing their approach.



## Family Law Team

Richard Perrins	Partner , Mediator and Head of Family Law
Nicola Wootten	Associate, Solicitor
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