

### Your first appointment

We see people in varying stages, from those who are beginning a new relationship, to those who are considering their options before they make a decision to separate, to those who may already be divorced.

In keeping with our philosophy of giving you options and not taking a "one size fits all" approach, you have choices for your first consultation including a free 20 minute telephone appointment, a short appointment of under an hour or a longer appointment. We can deal with your appointment over the phone or at our offices at a time to suit you. You may wish to bring a friend or relative to the appointment for moral support. If there are matters that need to be addressed urgently, please let us know so that we can prioritise your appointment.

We value our time and expertise, as do our clients, and we focus on providing a premium service. We therefore charge for providing advice at all initial appointments except for your first free 20 minute telephone consultation. Our fees are competitive and transparent. Whilst we have the expertise of the largest law practices, we do not have the overheads and maintain a personal touch.

At your first consultation we will discuss your situation with you and will set out your options. We will also discuss likely costs with you, including costs consequences of different options, so that you are able to make a full informed decision. Unlike most family law solicitors, we offer fixed rate packages to provide you with certainty as to your fees

#### **At your first meeting you will need:**

- two forms of documentary evidence of your identity such as passport, driving licence, utility bill or bank statement showing your current name and address
- a short list of questions and issues you have
- any relevant paperwork including court orders and solicitor correspondence
- means of payment

#### **If you require full advice regarding your financial options at the meeting you will need to bring with you**

- two forms of documentary identification
- details of your income for the last 3 months and regular monthly outgoings
- bank statements for all your accounts for the last 12 months
- details of your liabilities, investments and savings
- details of your pensions including an up to date cert of your pension
- details of business interests and accounts for the last 2 years
- a valuation of your home and other property interests and up to date mortgage statements
- details of planned expenditure or expected inheritances or other capital sums