

HIGGINS MILLER SOLICITORS

FIXED FEE DIVORCE/DISSOLUTION (PETITIONER)

We offer a fixed fee scheme for anyone wanting to start divorce or dissolution of civil partnership proceedings. The fee is £250 plus VAT. The scheme covers undefended divorces or undefended dissolution of civil partnership proceeding by consent.

Under the scheme we will:

- Attend you in the office for up to 45 minutes to take initial instructions.
- Prepare the divorce/dissolution petition, and supporting documents.
- Forward them to you for approval and there after amend once as required.
- Write to your spouse/partner with drafts, forward any response to you and amend the papers (once) as may be necessary.
- Lodge the petition at court and advise you when this has been done.
- Receive your spouse/partner's acknowledgement to the petition, prepare your application for Decree Nisi, send that to you and once it is returned to us lodge it with the court.
- Advise you of the date for pronouncement of Decree Nisi, upon your written authority, lodge the application for Decree Absolute and forward that to you.

The scheme does not cover:

- Defended divorces/dissolutions or divorces/dissolutions that do not proceed by consent. If we start proceedings under the fixed fee scheme and one of these situations arise we shall take your further instructions. If you decide to proceed with the action our fixed fee for the works to date will be £150 plus VAT, subsequent work will be charged at our prevailing hourly rate. If you decide not to proceed with the action our fixed fee for the works to date will be £150 plus VAT and any balance will be returned to you.
- Us obtaining your marriage certificate. If you do not have this a certified copy can be obtained for a small fee either from the place where you married or the Registry Office.
- Repeated amendments to the court documents or amendment after the action has been started (which attract a court fee). For this reason it is essential that everything (especially names and dates) are completely accurate before the action is started.
- Advice or action in relation to financial, children or other issues. We can of course deal with these if you wish; the work will be charged at our prevailing hourly rate.
- Any additional application to court within the proceedings.
- Attendance at any court hearing.
- Court fees, these are payable to start the action and conclude it, other court fees are payable if additional applications are made. They must be paid to us in advance. If appropriate we will provide you with the forms to apply to the court for "Fee

Remission". The fixed fee scheme does not cover protracted correspondence arising out of any application for fee remission, which will be charged at our prevailing hourly rate.

- Recovering costs from your spouse/partner pursuant to any order of the court.
- In the event of reconciliation we will make any appropriate application to withdraw the action. Our fee will be calculated by reference to the work that we have done and an appropriate amount refunded.

If you want to instruct us to represent you under this scheme please contact us to arrange meeting with one of our solicitors. This can be arranged either by telephone (0161 429 7251) or email (hello@higginsmiller.co.uk). Please bring with you to that meeting:

- Your marriage certificate/certificate of civil partnership.
- The full names, addresses and dates of birth of you, your spouse/partner and any children.
- Our fee, £250 plus VAT (£300).