

COLLABORATIVE LAW INFORMATION SHEET

WHAT IS THE COLLABORATIVE PROCESS?

Collaborative process is an increasingly popular way of resolving relationship disputes and for negotiating agreements in advance of marriage or civil partnership.

It is a process which helps couples to resolve their differences respectfully and privately without going to Court.

HOW DOES IT WORK?

- You both have your own legal advisor at your side who also works with the other legal advisor to assist you both to reach an agreement.
- We use 4Way meetings to discuss everything and come to a legally enforceable agreement.
- Within this process you can both acknowledge the past and yet work towards the future without blame.
- You set the tone and direction and lay the foundations for a healthier relationship during and after separation.
- You can enlist other experts as part of “the team”.
- You agree to share honestly and openly information to help you effectively reach an agreement.

BENEFITS?

- You can focus on what’s important to you and resolve things quickly.
- Your children benefit as the process allows you to focus on the children first.
- You can achieve a more flexible and creative solution adapted to your needs.
- The process is both simple and eliminates the opportunity for misunderstandings.
- The goal is to enhance communication through the process and to lay the foundations for a healthy relationship afterwards.
- There are no imposed orders by people you have never met.

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- You enjoy confidentiality as problems and financial information are kept private.

WHAT DISTINGUISHES THE PROCESS FROM THE TRADITIONAL ROUTE?

- Collaborative law is active, you will really have a voice and be in control of the process, whereas in the Court process this is dictated by a Judge.
- There will be no evidence given in Court.
- You benefit from the strength of two lawyers working together.
- The process is confidential unlike the Court process which has recently been opened up to the media.
- It is future focused and you will work with and not against your partner. The Court process can become a battleground.
- It offers good value for money.