

Experience that Provides a **Sensitive & Flexible Approach** to Family Law

Coupe Bradbury's specialist Family Law department has represented clients in all courts from the Family Proceedings (Magistrates) to the Court of Appeal. Our lawyers aim to resolve the issues as quickly as possible but always bearing our clients' best interests in mind. We recognise that Family Law is complex and ever changing and our specialist lawyers have a wealth of experience in all aspects of Family Law including:

- **Divorce**
- **Financial Provision**
- **Cohabitation**
- **Civil Partnerships**
- **Domestic Violence**
- **Separation (inc. Judicial Separation)**
- **Children in Private or Care Proceedings**

It is common for clients to be unsure of which courses of action are open to them. At Coupe Bradbury we take time to carefully discuss and explain all the options available and the consequences at every stage.

Our lawyers understand the problems that our clients face and the traumas that they are experiencing. We have made it our business to be aware of these for almost 35 years.



Our clients can be confident that our expertise will help them through this difficult time.

Try Our **Free Law Clinic** To See How We Could Help You



Coupe Bradbury provides a free law clinic on Wednesday evenings from 5.00pm until 6.30pm when advice regarding family and matrimonial issues can be given.

During that time we can explain aspects of family law which are relevant to the case in hand and also advise on the steps that will need to be taken next. We will also advise about the costs involved and will assess eligibility for legal aid.

The Break Up of a Family Can Often Be Traumatic. You Need a Lawyer Who is Both Sensitive And Effective. See our:

FAMILY LAW SPECIALISTS



Please contact us to find out how we can help you through this difficult time.

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Clear & Objective Advice to Help You Overcome the Pitfalls of Separation

The breakdown of all relationships, whether you are married or not, involves many issues which need to be rapidly addressed. Our lawyers can give clear and objective advice in order that our clients become aware of their rights and all the possible pitfalls at an early stage. As the law currently stands, the protection given to married couples is not given to couples living together. It is always best to protect against the possibility of the breakdown of a relationship even though it is hoped that our advice will never need to be acted upon.

If a married person is of the opinion that there is no hope of saving the marriage it may be best to follow divorce or judicial separation proceedings to bring an end to the marriage. Divorce proceedings give the parties the ability to apply to the court for property, money or maintenance orders. A divorce means that when a decree absolute is granted, the parties are no longer husband and wife. For religious reasons some people still wish to be married but need to be able to apply to the court for orders in respect of financial issues. A judicial separation petition may then be appropriate.

Arrangements can also be made for you to be put in touch with a **Mediation Service** whose aim is to help divorcing or separating couples to settle their own problems arising from the breakdown of their relationship, especially in respect of children and financial issues.

An Impartial Approach to Resolve Issues with Children in a Separation

Children are very often the casualties of marital breakdown. Who should look after them, where should they live and how much contact should the other party have, are uppermost in the thoughts of the parents. These are the most difficult issues for a parent to resolve as they will both still carry the same responsibilities for their children. These issues are often contested, sometimes for the wrong reasons, and emotions run very high. It is important that our clients reach the right conclusion with the minimum of upset.



Experience is Paramount to Resolving Difficult Financial Issues

Financial decisions made by a court are perhaps the single most important issue in all cases of family breakdown and will invariably affect the future financial well being of our clients. Financial issues that may be considered include:

- The place the parties will live
- How they will meet the day-to-day living expenses for themselves and their children
- How to ensure there is money to call upon from time to time to meet unexpected expenses
- How property will be divided

There are many other examples but everything depends upon the circumstances of the case. Our Family Law Department has a wealth of experience in advising in cases of a complex financial nature and work closely with our Wealth Planning and Trust experts to ensure that any financial outcome of the divorce is structured in a tax efficient way.

Helping Provide Immediate Protection in Domestic Violence Cases

Outside of financial pressures, violence within relationships is the single most common cause of marital breakdown. Very often violence is ongoing and it is important that decisions are taken and acted upon quickly. **We offer a rapid, no nonsense approach.** An order can often be obtained on the day of taking instructions or within 24 hours, providing immediate protection for the client and in some circumstances the protection of the police. You do not have to put up with physical and mental abuse for any longer than you have to. If you are worried about making an application our experienced and sensitive lawyers will be able to guide you through what course of action to take and of the consequences involved.



Put Your Mind At Ease About Costs

An initial meeting may be undertaken on a no-obligation basis and means if a client does not want to proceed further it will not cost them anything. However, if they want to instruct us beyond that meeting the bill will include the time taken at the initial meeting. Costs are calculated on a time basis and depending on financial circumstances, we will determine whether or not a client is entitled to **Legal Aid**. If they are not entitled, funding of the action will have to be met personally.

