

Putting family at the heart of the matter

Changes were made to Legal Aid in 2012 which made it difficult for people to obtain legal aid to deal with family issues.

This has had a particular effect on parents who are unable to agree arrangements for their children.



When your family needs support ...
...we help you deal with the finances

Help when struggling with fees

What about those people who are not eligible for legal aid, but still struggle to afford legal fees? Often those people are left having to represent themselves in court, complete court forms or try and agree arrangements with an ex-partner at a time when they cannot even live in the same house. This has a negative impact on the children which can last beyond childhood.

At Sydney Mitchell we have put together a package of fees to deal with each stage of the process. In all cases there is a first meeting with a qualified specialist family lawyer at a fixed cost. The client can then choose which package they need for which stage of the process. This could simply be help completing court forms. Alternatively, it might be assistance at court. Clients can choose what package they need to suit their budget. Information as to what is included in the package is clear and so the client stays in control of what advice and assistance is given and what they will pay for that advice and assistance.

The idea came about because our family team became increasingly frustrated at being unable to help parents who clearly needed some level of legal assistance, but were unable to afford legal costs involved in our dealing with the whole case. So they gave up and tried to represent themselves which often left them at a disadvantage or in some cases parents gave up completely and lost all contact with their children.

The service is offered by our team at our Birmingham office – Amanda Holland, Nigel Mears and Miranda Buttler.

The office is easily accessible being in the heart of Birmingham City centre and within walking distance of the Family Court at Birmingham.

For more information please call

0121 698 2245

More about our Family Department overleaf

City Family Team



Amanda Holland

Associate Collaborative Lawyer,
FCILEx, Legal Executive

Amanda is a Resolution accredited specialist, particularly involved in high value financial claims and arrangements, children matters including contact and residence disputes and applications to remove children from England & Wales.



Nigel Mears

Solicitor

Nigel specialises in resolving financial settlements often involving substantial and complex asset structures. He ensures that when difficulties occur that sensitive advice is given.



Miranda Buttler

Legal Assistant

Miranda has experience of all children's issues as well as injunctions, divorce and financial issues arising from a separation.

Family Department

The family department offer a wide range of [family law services](#) across the West Midlands including [separation and divorce](#), and [child law](#). <http://www.sydney Mitchell.co.uk/services-individuals/family-law>



[Karen Moores](#)
Head of Department, Senior Partner

Karen has formidable negotiating skills and achieves high levels of settlement and client satisfaction. She adopts a firm but fair approach to all aspects of her litigation with an eye to the commercial realities.



[Mauro Vinti](#)
Head of Department, Partner, Shirley

Mauro has a single minded approach in dealing with clients' complex family issues. Mauro advises people on all aspects of relationship breakdown. These include business relationships, marriages and civil partnerships.



[Judi Wood](#)
Senior Collaborative Lawyer, Consultant

Judi gives analytical and supportive legal advice in a sensitive and practical way. Judi advises husbands, wives, mothers, fathers, grandparents and partners in civil partnerships, on all aspects of problems within the family.



[Teresa Mannion](#)
Senior Solicitor

Teresa specialises in divorce proceedings and all aspects related to financial matters arising from a relationship breakdown including matters with pension assets in excess of £1.5 million. She is a Collaborative Lawyer and resolution accredited specialist in financial provision on divorce and children's matters.



[Emma Gray](#),
Senior Solicitor

Emma provides clients with clear advice and strives to minimise the trauma and anxiety associated with sensitive family matters. She advises on relationship breakdown, divorce dissolution of civil partnerships, children matters, financial matters and domestic violence.



[Jayne Gregg](#)
Senior FCILEx, Legal Executive

Jayne advises on all areas of family law including divorce, cohabitation, finances, children, pre-nuptials agreements and injunctions.



[Tania Mascord](#)
Legal Assistant

Tania has a background in the IT industry and financial services sector and brings to the Family Department a wealth of knowledge and experience of financial products and financial analysis.

Whether you require our services yourself or you wish to refer a friend, colleague or client, you can feel confident that our family team will provide legal advice to the highest possible standard.

Contact us

Email: a.holland@sydney Mitchell.co.uk m.buttler@sydney Mitchell.co.uk or n.mears@sydney Mitchell.co.uk

Offices in Birmingham, Shirley, Sheldon and facilities in Sutton Coldfield

Apsley House
35 Waterloo Street
Birmingham
B2 5TJ
0121 698 2245

Chattock House
346 Stratford Road
Shirley, Solihull
B90 3DN
0121 746 3300

Shakespeare Building
2233 Coventry Road
Sheldon
Birmingham B26 3NL
0121 700 1400

The Guildhall
32 Lichfield Road
Sutton Coldfield
B74 2NJ
0121 647 4389