

Living together agreements

Why have a Living together agreement?

As more couples choose not to marry, the legal and financial issues they face with children, mortgages, pensions, separation and death become ever more important to understand and address. Even though a relationship may be long term and similar in many respects to marriage, unmarried couples, should be aware that the law treats them differently from those who are married or in civil partnerships.

Whilst no-one wants to contemplate relationship breakdown, if appropriate arrangements have been made at an early stage, the emotional upset and distress is substantially diminished because each partner knows exactly where he or she stands financially.



When family matters ...

...we take pride in protecting yours

A living together agreement

We offer an affordable service where we put together a document that meets your specific and individual requirements. This will deal with all of the relevant issues in the event of a relationship breakdown, avoiding the need to resort to costly court action. This is a Living Together Agreement.

What does the Agreement cover?

A Living Together Agreement can record your wishes on a wide variety of matters in the event of a relationship breakdown, including for example:

Your Home

Where one of you already owns the home and it is intended that your partner should have no interest in it.

Where partners are making significantly different contributions to the purchase of the house or the mortgage and wish to reflect that difference in their share of ownership.

The effect of improvements or paying for major repairs on the family home.

Your Children

How any children are to be supported and details of care arrangements.

Your Assets

How other assets such as accounts or valuables are to be dealt with.

Ownership

Of furniture and other household items either brought into the relationship or purchased during the relationship.

Your Debts

How credit card balances, bank loans and overdrafts are to be discharged.

What does our service provide?

Step 1

Prior to drawing up the document, we ask you to complete a Living Together Agreement Checklist. This is designed to assist you and your partner in considering all the issues you may wish to include in your agreement.

Step 2

Using the completed checklist, and in consultation with you, we will prepare a draft for your approval. During this consultation, we can deal with any queries you may have and advise you how to achieve your particular aims.

As agreements are legal documents, we would recommend the other party seek the advice of a solicitor independently.

Step 3

We will produce and forward to you the final agreement for you and your partner to sign.

We offer this service on a competitive fixed fee* basis. This includes your Living together Agreement Checklist, the consultation and the preparation of your Living together agreement by a member of our experienced and friendly legal team and storage of the agreement if you wish.

We have offices situated in Birmingham, Sheldon, Shirley and facilities in Sutton Coldfield, acting for clients not only from the West Midlands but also nationally and internationally. The family law department works as a team across the Midlands and is led by partners Karen Moores and Mauro Vinti.

**If there is substantial work beyond the procedure described above which is to be carried out, then such work will be charged on a timecost basis (full particulars available on request).*

Family Department

The family department offer a wide range of [family law services](#) across the West Midlands including [living together agreements](#), [separation and divorce](#), and [child law](#).
<http://www.sydneyemitchell.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](#)

Partner

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.

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 on: 0121 746 3300 Email: k.moores@sydneyemitchell.co.uk or m.vinti@sydneyemitchell.co.uk

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