



OPTIONS INFORMATION MEETING

1. What is the Options Information Meeting?

A fixed-fee meeting of around one hour with **Tatjana Williamson**, Solicitor and Family Lawyer or with **Lisa Broddle**, Solicitor, Family and Collaborative Lawyer, Accredited Family Mediator. This can be an individual meeting or a meeting with your former partner.

2 What does an Options Information Meeting cover?

2.1 Divorce/ Separation/ Civil Partnership Dissolution

The meeting will explain the procedure for obtaining a divorce or dissolution of a civil partnership or separation, the facts that can be used, the forms, court fees, timescales and the decrees or orders that will be obtained.

2.2 Financial Remedy

The process options available to resolve the finances on separation or divorce; mediation, collaborative law, solicitor negotiation, personal discussion between the parties with issue specific legal advice, arbitration or the court process. Explaining the processes, the need for disclosure, how remarriage or cohabitation affects financial claims and what could happen in the future if finances are not resolved within the divorce / dissolution / separation process.

We explain the remedies available, such as spousal maintenance and pension sharing and the statutory factors which are weighed when considering a financial settlement.

Child maintenance options are explained; voluntary arrangements, statutory arrangements through the Child Support Agency or by a Consent Order via the court. The formulas used to calculate child maintenance are explained.

2.3 Your Children

We will look at the process options available to parents including mediation, collaborative law, and discussion between the parents, solicitor negotiation, arbitration or the court process. Parenting Plans and the various court orders that can be obtained are explained and the court process for making an application to the court.

2.4 Wills

We will discuss the need for you to have a Will or amend an existing Will, as until your marriage is formally ended, your spouse is entitled to inherit from you either under the Intestacy Rules, if you have not already made a Will or under the terms of your Will if you have made provision is made for them in that Will.

2.5 Further information

At the end of the meeting you will be provided with a folder of information and details of useful websites.

3. How much does an Options Information Meeting cost?

The fixed fee is £200 plus VAT for an individual meeting or £120 plus VAT per person for a joint meeting. We request payment at the meeting which can be by cheque, debit card or credit card (fee 1.75%).

4. Administration

You will also need to bring in your passport or photo driving licence plus two other forms of ID which can be utility bills, bank/credit card statements but not a mobile phone statement and no more than 3 months old to verify your address. Copies of these are taken and retained. (If your bill will be paid by a friend or relative we will need to have the same identification/anti-money laundering documents from them please.)

5. What happens after the Options meeting?

Once you have reviewed the information and feel ready to progress matters or wish to take legal advice specific to your circumstances, you can make an appointment to see Lisa Broddle, our Head of Family Law, who is an Accredited Mediator and Collaborative Lawyer and Solicitor for Legal Advice or as a Mediator or with Tatjana Williamson for Legal Advice.

6. What Other Meetings are Available?

If you wish to explain your situation to us, for us to apply the law to your circumstances, receive advice in the meeting, become a client of Stone Rowe Brewer LLP and receive a report letter you need to book **An Initial Advice Meeting**. If you are considering Mediation or another Dispute Resolution process, wish to explain about your situation and concerns and prepare for mediation or if mediation is not for you obtain a signed **MIAMS** form the **Mediation Information and Assessment Meeting** is for you.

7. How do I make an appointment?

Please contact a member of the **Family Team** to make an appointment:

Lisa Broddle, Partner, Head of Family Team, Solicitor and Collaborative Lawyer.
Accredited Family Mediator: l.broddle@srb.co.uk

Tanja Williamson, Solicitor and Family Lawyer: t.williamson@srb.co.uk

Michelle Robinson, PA to Family Team: m.robinson@srb.co.uk and familyteam@srb.co.uk

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