

## **MEDIATION INFORMATION AND ASSESSMENT MEETING**

### **1. Why Attend a Mediation Information and Assessment Meeting (MIAM)**

You will attend a **MIAM** for both or one of these reasons:

- 1.1 To explain your situation and to understand how Mediation and other Alternative Dispute Resolution works, whether you consider it is suitable for you and for the Mediator to assess if Mediation is the right process for you. Your former Partner or the person you need to resolve an issue with, will be offered their own **MIAM** to consider the same things.
- 1.2 To consider Mediation and other Alternative Dispute Resolution before making an application to the Court, as in many applications it is necessary to attend a **MIAM** to show you have considered Mediation.

### **2. Mediation Information and Assessment Meeting (MIAM)**

The **Mediation Information and Assessment Meeting** will be for about an hour for a half price fixed fee of **£150 including VAT**. Identification documentation: passport or photo driving licence and 2 bills or bank statements less than 3 months old to verify the address will be copied prior to the **MIAM**.

The **MIAM** will cover:

- Your situation and the things you would like to discuss with your former Partner in Mediation. We will look at your completed **Mediation Preliminary Information Form**.
- Eligibility for Public Funding. Please note Public Funding is not available at Stone Rowe Brewer LLP although this is still available with other Mediation Agencies subject to eligibility.

**Legal Aid Eligibility:** <https://www.gov.uk/check-legal-aid>

**Find a Legal Aid Mediator or Lawyer:** <http://find-legal-advice.justice.gov.uk/>

**Help from the Citizens Advice Bureau:** <http://www.adviceguide.org.uk/>

- Information on Family Mediation and other Alternative Dispute Resolution such as the **Collaborative Process**.
- Suitability for Mediation.
- Willingness to Mediate.

After the **MIAM** Meetings with you and your former Partner, held individually and Mediation is suitable and you wish to go ahead with Mediation, the **Agreement to Mediate** will be sent to you to sign at the beginning of the first Joint Mediation Meeting.

Please see **A Guide to Mediation** for details of Mediation.

### 3. **When Mediation is Not Suitable**

If Mediation cannot take place because one or both former Partners do not wish to Mediate or the Mediator considers Mediation is not suitable, the signed Mediation page of the Court Application will be sent to you or your solicitor to enable you to go ahead with your Application to the Court.

From April 2014 with the introduction of The Children and Families Act 2014 Applicants wishing to make an Application in relevant Family Proceedings must provide confirmation they have attended a **Mediation Information and Assessment Meeting** or are exempt from doing so.

**Please contact a member of the Family Team to arrange your MIAM.**

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