

MEDIATION INFORMATION AND ASSESSMENT MEETING

1. Mediation Information and Assessment Meeting (MIAM)

The **Mediation Information and Assessment Meeting** will be for about an hour for a fixed fee. We request payment prior to the **MIAM**. Please contact us about the current charges. The **MIAM** will cover the following areas:

1.1 Confidentiality: all discussions in Mediation are confidential and without prejudice. The financial information is not confidential as these are a matter of fact. If there are safeguarding issues arising from information provided in Mediation, the Mediator has a duty to report these.

1.2 Willingness to Mediate. Both former partners must be willing to Mediate and Mediation must be suitable, for Mediation to go ahead. Both former partner's will be offered a **MIAM** and the suitability for Mediation will not be assessed until after both **MIAMs**.

1.4 Independent Legal Advice is recommended for all Participants throughout Mediation.

1.4 The Principles of Mediation are set out in the Family Mediation Council Code of Practice: <https://www.familymediationcouncil.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2025/07/FMC-Code-of-Practice-v1.5-August-2025.pdf>

1.5 Legal Aid Assessment

Stone Rowe Brewer LLP do not offer Legal Aid, 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/>

1.6 Mediation Voucher Scheme

A Voucher may be available for up to £500 including VAT for Mediation on children's issues or children and finances.

1.7 Exchange of Information from Mediation@SRB

Information on Family Mediation and other **Non-Court Dispute Resolution (NCDR)** so that you can make informed choices.

1.8 From You

Information about you and your circumstances, issues arising from your separation and the things you would like to discuss with your former partner in Mediation. We will look at your completed **Mediation Preliminary Information Form**.

1.9 Screening for Domestic or Child Abuse

We will assess the safety and suitability of Mediation, including domestic abuse of all kinds; physical, emotional, financial, sexual, and coercive and controlling behaviour and impact on you both looking at mental and physical health and other relevant factors.

1.10 Questions in other areas that affect safety and suitability for Mediation

We will consider drug and alcohol addiction. Child safeguarding concerns. Emotional readiness, other vulnerabilities and capacity to engage in Mediation safely.

1.11 Suitability for Mediation and Non-Court Dispute Resolution (NCDR)

We will consider with you the most appropriate NCDR Process for you and your former Partner in separate meetings. Please be aware that Screening is by constant assessment in the **MIAM** and throughout Mediation. [Non-Court Dispute Resolution - Family Mediation Council](#)

2. Next Steps

If after the separate **MIAM** Meetings with you and your former Partner Mediation is suitable and you both wish to go ahead with Mediation, the **Agreement to Mediate** will be sent to you to review, and sign at the beginning of the first Joint Mediation Meeting. Preparation of finances will be explained. The Mediation Meeting will be arranged and a payment on account of costs will be made by you in advance.

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.

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

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