



LEGAL AID
AVAILABLE

**LARGEST FAMILY
TEAM IN LEEDS**

ACCREDITED
SPECIALISTS

Family & Childcare

We have one of the largest and most experienced family law teams in West Yorkshire, that is renowned for its passion and dedication to every case.

We are proud to say that we are one of the region's leading family law teams, covering all areas of family law, including children, domestic violence, divorce and financial arrangements following relationship breakdown.

Our highly experienced team of lawyers, many of who are accredited by the Law Society in their specialist areas, recognises that communication and client care are crucial at a time when people are experiencing family problems.

Our team prides itself on being able to provide sound legal advice in a straightforward manner, whilst sympathising with the emotional difficulties and situations in which our clients find themselves.

For any enquiries, please give our team a call or contact us via email at **family@ih.co.uk**

Experience matters..

Care Proceedings

All of our Solicitors dealing with care matters are on the Law Society's Children Panel.

Forced Marriage

We have a Resolution accredited specialist in Forced Marriage and Honour based violence - 1 of only 10 in the country.

Child Abduction

We have nationally renowned specialists in Child Abduction cases who are qualified to practise advocacy in higher courts.

www.theleedslawfirm.co.uk

Tel: 0113 284 5000

The **Leeds** Law Firm



What our clients say...

"I can't fault or recommend how to improve on 100% commitment, service and outcome of my divorce. We expected a lot less than we achieved. You were very empathetic and provided me with excellent advice, and you were with me every step of the way"



"Nice, friendly people, who know what they are doing and get the job done"

"The level of legal advice was very good and easy understand during a very emotional time. The advice and support I received regarding the children was invaluable"

Frequently Asked Questions

I have not yet been married for one year. Can I obtain a divorce?

No. There is an absolute bar to a divorce petition being filed at Court before one year has elapsed from the date of the marriage. There is however nothing to prevent the preparation of the proceedings so the petition can be filed as soon as one year has elapsed.

On what basis can I seek a divorce?

The only ground for a divorce is the irretrievable breakdown of the marriage. A divorce can only proceed if the court can be persuaded that one of the five facts proving irretrievable breakdown has been proved. The five facts are:

- Your spouse has committed adultery and you find it intolerable to continue living together.
- Your spouse has behaved in such a way that it would be unreasonable to expect you to continue living together.
- Your spouse has deserted you for a continuous period of two years or more.
- You and your spouse have been living separately for two years or more and your spouse agrees to the divorce.
- You and your spouse have been living separately for five years or more, whether or not your spouse agrees to the divorce.

I do not own the property in which I live with my partner to whom I am not married, can I make a claim?

This would depend on all the circumstances of your residing in the property, for example the contributions,

and type of contributions, you have made and the intentions between you and your spouse at the time the property was purchased. Your lawyer will discuss the details relevant to your case with you.

What orders can I seek in relation to my children?

Residence - This states with whom the child will live.

Contact - This defines when and how the child will see the parent with whom they do not live.

Prohibited Steps - This prevents a parent from doing something.

Specific Issue - This decides a specific issue about the child's upbringing.

Parental Responsibility - If this cannot be agreed between the parties.

What options are available to me regarding Domestic Violence Injunctions?

Under the Family Law Act you can apply to the court for :-

- An Occupation Order which regulates who is allowed to live in a property and may set boundaries to prevent someone either entering the property or being within a fixed radius of the same.

A Non-Molestation Order which prevents someone from causing physical or emotional harm to another or prevents them from encouraging a third person to do so.

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