



## Divorce Procedure

On 6 April 2022, the law changed and all divorce is now on a 'no fault' basis. This means that the only ground for divorce is the irretrievable breakdown of the marriage. There is no longer any need to cite adultery or behaviour or to wait until you have been separated for two or more years.

It is open to either party to start the divorce process or an application can be filed jointly.

All divorces are dealt with through an online government portal. There is a court fee of £593 to issue the application which is payable at the time the application for divorce is filed and is paid directly to the divorce service.

Once the application for divorce has been filed, there is a period of 20 weeks before the Court can pronounce the first order in the divorce, the 'conditional order' (formerly the Decree Nisi). During this 20 week period, it is expected that negotiations will take place with a view to trying to reach an agreement as to the financial issues ancillary to the divorce. Once the conditional order has been made, the court then has the power to make a financial order. Most orders are made by consent.

Once a period of six weeks has elapsed from the date of the conditional order, it is then open to the person bringing the divorce to apply for the marriage to be dissolved. The court will then make the 'final order' (formerly the Decree Absolute).

For further information, or to discuss how we may be able to assist in your personal situation, please call

+44 (0) 1753 880075  
clarityfamilylaw.co.uk