



A comprehensive guide to the procedures of

Divorce

The information provided in this document is not intended to constitute professional advice and you should take full and comprehensive legal or accountancy or financial advice as appropriate on your individual circumstances by a fully qualified Solicitor, Accountant or Financial Advisor/Mortgage Broker respectively before you embark on any course of action.

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The '**No Fault**' divorce came into force on 06 April 2022 meaning that couples did not have to blame the other for the failure of the marriage such as unreasonable behaviour or adultery or have to wait two or five years for a divorce.

The new procedure allowed for the parties to seek a divorce as a **joint application** or as **sole application**. The current fee to issue the application is £593.00. A copy of your marriage certificate will be required.

Terminology within the new procedure had also changed. The Petition is now referred to as the Application and the Petitioner was now the Applicant. The Decree Nisi was replaced with Conditional Order and Decree Absolute with Final Divorce Order.

The applications are now submitted through the online portal. The process is much simpler and the online portal allows you to see when documents are submitted and you are notified when there is an update on your matter.

There is a **20 week 'reflection period'** after the divorce application has been filed before the Conditional Order is granted. The Respondent has to file their Response. If they do not then advice can be given as to the options available to proceed with the divorce.

The 20 week 'reflection period' allows the parties to **negotiate and reach an agreement regarding the financial aspects of their divorce**. Any agreement can then be prepared by way of a consent order which is signed by both parties and submitted through the portal once the Conditional Order has been granted.

Six weeks after the Conditional Order has been pronounced, the Applicant can make an application for the **Final Divorce Order**.

Penn Chambers Solicitors can guide you through the divorce process, assist you in resolving your financial and children matters.

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