



## JOHN HODGE SOLICITORS: LEGAL GUIDESHEET – Fixed Fee Divorce Service

At John Hodge Solicitors we continually seek to provide a service which meets the needs of our clients, so to assist you in budgeting for your legal fees we are happy to consider with you the possible provision of a fixed fee in undefended divorce proceedings.

Please read the Client information sheets "Divorce" and "Divorce - the Procedure". These information sheets explain the procedure and the various documents that will need to be completed.

If you are the **Applicant** the fixed fee will cover the following:

- 60 minute appointment to discuss your case and to obtain information relevant to the divorce process.
- Preparing the petition, Statement in support of Petition, Application for Conditional Order (Decree Nisi) and Application for the Order for Divorce (Decree Absolute)
- Providing your spouse or their legal representative with a copy of the relevant documents (as a matter of good practice, although this will not always be appropriate and will be discussed with you at the initial meeting)
- Lodging the relevant documentation at Court and keeping you informed as to the progress of the matter.

**John Hodge Solicitors Fixed Fee is £545**

VAT will have to be added currently at 20%.

**Our costs including VAT are £654**

In addition to our costs, the Court charge a court fee both to issue the divorce proceedings and on submission of the application for an Order for Divorce (Decree Absolute)

The current court issue fee is £550. You may apply to the court for an exemption or remission of these fees. We can provide you with the

application form; please request it from us.

**Total Cost to you would be £1,204**

A first payment on account of £218 is required at the outset of your case. You are also required to pay the court issue fee at this stage (currently £550)

A further £218 is required when Decree Nisi is pronounced.

The final £218 is required before the application for Decree Absolute is submitted.

A fixed fee is not available in the following circumstances:

- Your spouse does not agree to a divorce
- You and your spouse do not agree the basis of the Petition.
- You and your spouse do not agree who will fund the costs of the divorce
- There are issues about jurisdiction (i.e. which country the divorce should be issued in)

Please be aware that the fixed price does not include:

- Obtaining a copy of your marriage certificate
- Photocopying charges
- Special bank charges
- Costs of third parties, e.g. process server's fees, translators fees.
- Costs associated with financial matters pertaining to the divorce or any children matters.

The Fixed Fee Divorce service will not suit all clients. It assumes a certain level of input from you. We will need you to work with us on the correspondence and documents we prepare. We are happy to discuss this with you at the initial appointment and explain other services which may be more suitable for you.