



FAMILY LAW

Family Law is not a difficult area of law to deal with yourself, providing you take the right advice and follow the steps required to reach your target.

Whether you are making an application, or an application has been made against you, the process is usually straightforward, albeit frustrating, and excellent results can be obtained at very little cost as illustrated in this guide.

If your concern is children, finances, divorce, separation, or Domestic Abuse injunctions, how to obtain the help and assistance you need all are explained in this guide.

WHERE DO PEOPLE GO WRONG?

The courts deal with thousands of cases every day and are looking for a solution that is fair and is best for the children. What one person thinks is fair and best is not always what someone else feels is, and so it is important to take an overview of your situation and look at what a likely outcome may look like, and adjust your expectations accordingly.

There are too many urban myths about court cases that lead people in the wrong direction and at a time when you need to be concentrating on your likely outcome, chasing the wrong arguments will divert your attention away from what you should be doing.

## SIMON WALLAND FAMILY LAW

### SUPPORT – GUIDANCE – ADVICE

Speak to Simon and benefit from his many years of experience in dealing with situations just like yours. There is not much that Simon has not dealt with before.

If you feel that you would be more comfortable having an experienced person alongside you in court, Simon can recommend a McKenzie Friend to attend court with you. The cost will vary depending on court location and type of hearing but will typically be £400 for a children hearing and £500 for a financial hearing.

**SIMON WALLAND FAMILY LAW**  
**SUPPORT – GUIDANCE – ADVICE**

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### **Simon Walland**

Simon began assisting litigants as a McKenzie Friend in 2002 and in 2006 took a Law Degree and was called to the Bar in 2010.

He has appeared at all levels of Court including the Court of Appeal and been named in judgments.

Simon has trained McKenzie Friends for several years.

GENERAL ADVICE

If you are looking for general advice on Family Law, to see if your situation falls within one of the areas, or to see whether you are in a situation that may need an application to be made, or whether it is best left alone, then book an appointment with Simon and he will advise you accordingly.

Cost is just £30 for a 30 minute consultation.

CHILDREN – MAKING AN APPLICATION/LIKELY OUTCOMES

If you are thinking of making an application and are unsure where to start, what to apply for, or even whether you have a situation that the court can assist you with, then book an appointment with Simon and he will advise you accordingly.

Cost is just £30 for a 30 minute consultation.

If you would like Simon to prepare your application, the cost is just £60.



**CHILDREN – PREPARING FOR AND ATTENDING YOUR FIRST HEARING**

Having made an application and are concerned about presenting your case properly and how you can ensure that you will be heard in court, book an appointment with Simon and he will advise you accordingly. The biggest downfall is to put forward the wrong arguments in court and miss the opportunity to progress your case.

Cost is just £30 for a 30 minute consultation.

If you would like Simon to help write a Position Statement, the cost is just £75.

CHILDREN

Subsequent hearings tend to follow a path through to concluding the case as soon as possible, and so the issues that concern you may be brushed aside if they do not satisfy the courts programme, or if they are not presented properly. Guiding the outcome of your case means that you need to take a lead and push things in your direction and not just go with the flow.

If you are concerned about not being heard in court, or if things are going in the wrong direction, or making no progress at all, book an appointment with Simon and he will advise you accordingly.

Cost is just £30 for a 30 minute consultation.

If you would like Simon to help write a Position Statement, the cost is just £75.

CHILDREN

The court will very often appoint CAFCASS to make a report. It is worth speaking to Simon before you speak to CAFCASS so that you ensure that what is important to you is explained properly and heard by CAFCASS. They often work to their own agenda and you can usually guide them in your direction if handled properly.

Cost is just £30 for a 30 minute consultation.

If you would like Simon to help write a response to the report for use in your next court hearing, the cost is just £75.

CHILDREN – FACT FINDING HEARING

The court will use a Fact Finding Hearing to reach a conclusion on whether events alleged by you, or against you are true or false. These hearings are difficult and crucial to your intended outcome because they determine the honesty of each party.

Cost is just £30 for a 30 minute consultation.

If you would like Simon to help prepare you for a Fact Finding Hearing, the cost is just £250.

CHILDREN – FINAL HEARING

The court will use a Final Hearing to reach a conclusion on what happens in your case. The outcome of a final hearing is obviously crucial because they determine the future steps and a final order. These hearing usually involve cross examination and witnesses and so preparation is vitally important.

Cost is just £30 for a 30 minute consultation.

If you would like Simon to help prepare you for a Final Hearing, the cost is just £250.

FINANCES – MAKING AN APPLICATION/LIKELY OUTCOMES

If you are thinking of making an application and are unsure where to start, what to apply for, or even whether you have a situation that the court can assist you with, then book an appointment with Simon and he will advise you accordingly.

Cost is just £30 for a 30 minute consultation.

If you would like Simon to prepare your application, the cost is just £60.

**FINANCES – PREPARING FOR AND ATTENDING YOUR FIRST HEARING**

The First Directions Appointment (FDA hearing) has a lot of preparation to put in place before attending the hearing, and the accuracy of that preparation will affect the overall costs you may be liable for.

The court will provide you with a list of documents to prepare which Simon will explain to you, or prepare for you.

Cost is just £30 for a 30 minute consultation.

If you would like Simon to help prepare the documentation, the cost is just £200.

**FINANCES – PREPARING FOR AND ATTENDING YOUR SECOND HEARING**

The Financial Dispute Resolution (FDR hearing) also has preparation which needs to be realistically considered and explained thoroughly for the court to consider properly.

The hearing is intended as a means to settle the case, and most cases do settle at this hearing. It is too easy to be pressured into an unrealistic solution, and so good preparation is essential.

Cost is just £30 for a 30 minute consultation.

If you would like Simon to help prepare the documentation, the cost is just £200.



FINANCES – PREPARING FOR AND ATTENDING YOUR FINAL HEARING

The Final Hearing is your final opportunity to present your financial situation and use cross examination of the other party to demonstrate to the court why your proposals are realistic and should be adopted.

Simon is able to prepare your cross examination and other documents for a Final Hearing.

Cost is just £30 for a 30 minute consultation.

If you would like Simon to help prepare the documentation, the cost is just £250.

DIVORCE

In many ways, obtaining a divorce is straightforward, but the ramifications can be enormous. Equally with a separation the same applies. If you want to discuss your situation and determine the best approach for you to take, book a consultation with Simon.

Cost is just £30 for a 30 minute consultation.

If you would like Simon to help prepare your divorce petition, the cost is just £60.

INJUNCTION – NON-MOLESTATION/OCCUPATION ORDER

Non-molestation orders are often made before you were even aware of an application, and so a hearing will be set for you to demonstrate to the court that it should never have been made against you.

Equally, if you need to apply for a Non-molestation Order, it needs to be made properly and the facts presented will ensure that an order is made for your safety.

Cost is just £30 for a 30 minute consultation.

If you would like Simon to help prepare an application, the cost is just £100.

If you would like Simon to help prepare a defence to an order, the cost is £200.

INJUNCTION – FACT FINDING HEARING

The court will use a Fact Finding Hearing to reach a conclusion on whether events alleged by you, or against you are true or false. These hearings are difficult and crucial to your intended outcome because they determine the honesty of each party.

Cost is just £30 for a 30 minute consultation.

If you would like Simon to help prepare you for a Fact Finding Hearing, the cost is just £250.