

SERVICES
FOR INDIVIDUALS

Refreshingly Approachable



www.woodfines.co.uk


Woodfines
SOLICITORS



About Us

Woodfines is a full-service legal firm with offices in Bedford, Cambridge, Milton Keynes and Sandy. Our experienced and knowledgeable lawyers are committed to providing you and your family with effective legal advice.

Our objective is to deliver practical solutions whilst maintaining our 'client first' philosophy. Although our origins can be

traced back to the 1800s, we are known for our forward-thinking approach to providing creative legal solutions to meet the individual needs of our clients.

You will always receive honest and tailored advice which goes the extra mile to deliver the results you need.

For more detailed information, please visit our website or contact one of our offices.

“Approachable and efficient, understanding and professional.”



Family

We understand that issues relating to Family Law can be life-changing and that they need to be handled sensitively and competently. This is why we aim to deal with all matters in an understanding and compassionate manner, whilst tailoring advice which meets your needs and goals.

Members of our Family Law team are on the Law Society Children's Panel and are accredited Family Law Specialists with Resolution. We therefore have the qualifications and expertise to provide specialist legal advice to assist you with

your family and matrimonial needs.

We will support and advise you through every step of your case with discretion and sensitivity, and we will keep you informed at every stage. Whether dealing with financial issues or arrangements for children, our starting point is negotiation – resolving differences practically and efficiently, with creative solutions. However, should court proceedings be the only route forward, we will seek to conclude matters as quickly and favourably as possible.

“I was very satisfied with the service I received during a difficult divorce. Practical yet empathetic advice ensured I was kept up to date and in control all of the time.”

Woodfines' highly skilled Family Law team is able to advise on most aspects of Family Law, including:

Divorce

The mechanics of obtaining a divorce nowadays are usually quite straightforward - particularly if the couple agree that the marriage is over. The difficulties tend to lie in resolving the related practical issues stemming from divorce, such as how to separate, where to live, arrangements for the children and any money matters. We will provide sensitive advice on all of these issues to ensure the right outcome for you.

Separation

We can negotiate and prepare separation agreements whether you are married or living together to provide financial certainty.

Children

If you are unable to reach an agreement on any matters regarding your children, through discussions, attendance at mediation or negotiations through your legal representatives, we may be able to advise you on making an application under the Children's Act 1989 for an order and can represent you in Court through to final hearing if needed.

Assets and Finance

We can help you to reach agreements on splitting assets and payment of

maintenance. If settlement cannot be agreed out of court, we can support you in making an application to the court for a financial remedy order to address all assets so that your future financial needs are catered for.

Property

We can advise on property ownership during separation and will help you to make necessary arrangements. We work closely with our Residential Conveyancing team who can also advise on house sales and purchases should it be required.

Domestic Violence

If you have experienced personal assault or are suffering from harassment, we may be able to apply for an injunction to protect you and your family.

Pre-Nuptial Agreements

We have experience in drafting a range of pre- and post-nuptial agreements, and also provide advice and representation on enforcing an agreement if required.

Co-habitation

We have extensive experience of dealing with cohabitation disputes and are able to provide the specialist advice that is required if you wish to pursue a claim. In these instances, we work directly with our Litigation team who can advise on a number of issues surrounding disputes, as well as represent you in court if required.



House Sale and Purchase

There are few more exciting times than moving home, but it can be a highly stressful time too. It is also likely to be the biggest transaction of your life, so you need the security and peace of mind that comes from receiving the best advice delivered with a personal touch.

We deal with your move promptly and efficiently and if you are unsure how to start the legal side of the moving process, we will be happy to answer any queries about moving home or the service we provide.

“All our needs were dealt with very promptly and any questions answered very quickly. I would recommend your firm to all family and friends.”

“The conveyancing service offered by Woodfines was both efficient and stress-free.”

Woodfines' Residential Conveyancing team advises on:

- Buying and selling houses and flats
- Remortgages
- Auction sales and purchases
- Probate sales and gifts
- Right-to-buy
- Equity release
- Joint and shared ownership
- Shared ownership leases
- Transfers of equity
- Enfranchisement
- Sales and purchases of freehold blocks of flats
- Residential leases
- Tenancy agreements
- Letting a property
- Advice for first time buyers

We are known for our personal, approachable and professional style, whilst never losing sight of the time-critical nature behind all conveyancing transactions.

We understand how demanding the moving process can be and have a team of experienced property lawyers able to support your move. Our dedicated teams are accessible and can be flexible to meet your needs.

Woodfines holds the Law Society's Conveyancing Quality Scheme (CQS) status, which marks us out as meeting high standards in the residential conveyancing process. This is an independent quality mark for law firms who undertake conveyancing and provides you with the assurance that you will receive a high quality service from a highly knowledgeable and skilled team.



Disputes

Woodfines' Litigation team specialises in providing high quality, practical advice to individuals on a broad spectrum of disputes. We ensure that our service is provided in a cost effective and friendly, but professional, manner.

We are able to offer local knowledge and assistance in the following areas:

Clinical Negligence

If you have suffered an illness or injury as a result of substandard medical treatment, or a member of your family has sadly

died as a result of a medical error, you may wish to seek redress against the treatment provider. Our experienced team will be able to help you achieve your aims, whether it be an apology, an explanation of what went wrong, assistance through the Inquest process and/or fair compensation.

Consumer Rights

As a consumer, you may have purchased goods or services which have not met your reasonable expectations. The seller may be refusing to either rectify the situation

appropriately or even acknowledge that a problem exists. If you are dissatisfied and believe that your consumer rights have been breached, we can help to achieve a remedy, which may include a full or partial refund, repair, replacement and compensation for the inconvenience you have suffered.

Debt Recovery

Whether you are owed money from someone who is refusing to repay it to you, a written contract reflecting the transaction has not been honoured, or if someone is claiming money from you, we have the expertise to advise you and help you to get your money back.

or claims for damages, nuisance or trespass. We understand that disputes with your neighbours lead to unpleasant tensions. We can provide expert advice to help guide you through what can be stressful and sensitive situations.

Rented Property

If you are a landlord, you may find it difficult to understand your rights in what is a very complex area of the law. We can provide specialist legal advice on the following: residential agreements, residential licences, tenancy deposit schemes, possession proceedings, eviction or disrepair.

“First class service. Always keeping in touch with all that was going on regarding my case, very helpful in every way.”

Professional Negligence

If you have instructed a professional to provide a service to you, but they have failed to meet your reasonable expectations, we can advise and support you in making a claim for compensation for negligence and for any loss or damage you may have suffered.

Property Disputes

As a homeowner, there may be times when you need advice about your rights and the corresponding rights of your neighbours. For example, boundary disputes, issues relating to rights of way,

Will Disputes

There are a number of situations which may leave you feeling that a Will has been written or executed incorrectly, or that you are being challenged on the validity or contents of a friend or family member's Will. In these cases, we offer sensitive advice and representation to resolve any disputed issue.

In all dispute scenarios, you will need pragmatic and straight-forward advice. In addition to this, our team will provide you with all funding options available and keep you up to date at every stage of your matter.



Accident Claims

If you have suffered an injury and someone else is to blame, our Litigation team will help you claim the compensation you deserve. We will ensure that your claim is resolved sympathetically and efficiently.

Whatever kind of accident you have had, we will make the process of your claim as uncomplicated as possible and will keep you informed every step of the way.

Whether you are ready to make a personal injury claim, are wondering if you have a claim at all, or if you are concerned about bringing a claim (particularly if you have had an accident at work), our Litigation team are able to provide information and advice in answering all of your questions.

We will provide straight-forward advice in the following areas:

- Whether or not you have a claim in law
- The potential damages that you can expect to recover
- What is involved in bringing a personal injury action
- The best method of funding your case

“Woodfines give help in all areas, whether small or large problems.”



Road Traffic Offences

We understand that facing motoring allegations can be a nerve-racking experience. We are able to offer the essential advice that you will need throughout any investigation or prosecution. This area of law can be very technical, and we pride ourselves on the quality of advice we deliver.

We can assist you with all road traffic issues including the following:

- Drink or drug driving
- Dangerous or careless driving (including fatal accidents)
- Speeding
- Failure to provide driver information
- Defective vehicles
- Failure to stop or failure to report accident
- Appeals against the DVLA

Our lawyers are experienced advocates and can represent you in Court, advancing any defence you may have available or working to reduce the period of ban and the fine imposed. We also have excellent links with other leading forensic technical professionals in this field, should their expertise be required.

We can help you deal with communications from the Police, as well as Court summonses.

“Would strongly recommend Woodfines to anyone seeking legal advice, friendly and calming influence making you feel at ease. Very good overall service.”



Wills, Trusts and Probate

Woodfines' private client team is highly respected and includes members of the Society of Trust and Estate Practitioners. As such, we have the qualifications and knowledge to ensure that your needs are safeguarded for the future.

Wills

Our team has a wealth of experience of advising on Wills, as well as the preparation and ongoing management of trusts and inheritance tax planning. We deal with:

- Wills and Codicils
- Inheritance tax

- Planning involving trusts
- Tax and protection of assets

Probate

We act sensitively and efficiently in administering estates on death in matters of probate. We have built an excellent reputation based on the trust and respect of many generations of clients. We handle all aspects of dealing with an estate and are often called upon to act as executors, either alone or with a family member. We also advise on how to keep tax on death to a minimum.

“The service dealing with the power of attorney was thorough, considerate, helpful and explained in a straight forward way.”

This involves:

- Fully administering estates including those where there is no will
- Obtaining a Grant of Probate or Letters of Administration where required
- Dealing with assets abroad
- Advising on tax-efficient deeds of variation
- Preparation of tax returns for executors and trustees
- Disputed Wills

Elderly Client Affairs

We recognise that as you get older you may need specialist advice which addresses problems you may face now or in the future. We are wholly committed to providing a comprehensive service to you and your

families in order to help you manage your affairs. This may include:

- Lasting Powers of Attorney
- Applications to the Court of Protection
- Advance welfare and medical decisions
- Assessing mental capacity
- Handling your financial affairs
- Care fees planning
- Protecting your home
- Equity Release

Woodfines' highly experienced team can provide reliable, tailored advice in all areas of private client law, ensuring that you and your family receive peace of mind and bespoke advice for your benefit both now and in the future.

“Being elderly, it was good to have contact with people that were patient and explained things one could understand.”



Services for Business

Woodfines also offers a comprehensive range of services for businesses. We pride ourselves on taking the time to get to know your business and the issues that most affect it. We then provide a bespoke service tailored to your individual requirements.

Our teams work closely to provide legal advice on a range of issues which may potentially affect a business, including contractual disputes, employment matters, property sales or purchases, etc.

Our highly skilled team of lawyers also offer specialist advice in niche areas including agribusiness, road transport and logistics, recruitment and public procurement, amongst others.

Our clients appreciate the high level of technical advice and care we provide at rates which compare favourably to those of city firms, whilst also benefitting from our relationships with other professional advisers across the business community.

Our business services include:

- Agriculture and Agribusiness
- Commercial Property
- Company Commercial
- Dispute Resolution
- Employment
- International Services
- Licensing
- Public Procurement
- Recruitment
- Regulatory Matters
- Road Transport and Logistics

For more information, please visit our website: www.woodfines.co.uk



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