



An Introduction to Family Law Services
for Police Officers and Staff

“The “sound” family department at Howells handles care and children matters, divorce and financial work with a high value. Margaret Phillips heads the team and is known for her ancillary relief work.”

*Source: Chambers & Partners
Legal Directory 2012*



Family Law Services

OUR SERVICES

Expertise on your doorstep

Our dedicated Family Law Team works across the Firm's offices in Cardiff, Caerphilly, Talbot Green, Swansea and Newport. Our network of offices allows us to offer our services to clients throughout South, East and West Wales.

Our services include:

- General advice on divorce & separation
- International aspects of marriage including overseas assets
- Financial settlements (including pensions)
- Contact & parental responsibility
- Residence
- Dealing with Child Abduction
- Adoption
- Prenuptial agreements
- Separation agreements
- Cohabitation contracts
- Breakdown of Civil Partnership or cohabitee relationship

The team is comprised of experienced and sympathetic Family Lawyers, supported by legal assistants and secretarial staff.

All of our solicitors are members of the Law Society's Family Panel or members of the solicitors' organisation, Resolution, a body that promotes a non-confrontational approach in a family breakdown.

Admission to Resolution can only be achieved through the recommendation of our fellow solicitors.

We recognise the importance of balancing strong representation with a conciliatory approach and that when dealing with a family breakdown, the interests of our clients and their children are paramount.

We also recognise that in most police divorce cases, financial security, particularly the preservation of pensions will be one of many important considerations a police officer will need to take into account.

We are ideally placed to offer a convenient, cost-effective and local service to the officers, support staff and families of Police Forces across Wales.

OUR FEES

[Fixed Fee Divorce](#) (Uncontested)

We are able to offer police officers and support staff a specially discounted fixed fee from £350 + VAT + disbursements for a standard, uncontested divorce and specially discounted rates for ancillary matters.

We are happy to discuss your preferred payment options and offer a budget plan or payment via standing order. Invoices are sent on a quarterly basis.

Our Team

Margaret Phillips

*Partner & Head of Family Law
Qualified 1979*

Margaret Phillips is a graduate of the University of Wales and is a highly regarded partner with over thirty years' experience of Matrimonial & Family Law.

As Head of the Firm's Family Law Department, handles high value and complex matters, including issues involving trusts and pension related matters.

Margaret has been recognised by Chambers & Partners Legal Directory and also the Legal 500 publication for a number of years as a leader in her field.

Margaret has been Secretary of Women in Law for twenty years and also sits on the Council of Cardiff Law Society.

Richard Scott

Partner - Qualified 2003

Richard has worked exclusively in the field of Family Law undertaking all aspects of family work, to include Divorce, Ancillary Relief, Cohabitation, Injunctions and child contact issues (Private and Public Law). These include negotiation of contact agreements between parties and dealing with contact and residence disputes through the courts. Richard's strengths lie in the area of divorce, finance and particularly pensions. Richard is an accredited specialist in the field of family law and is on the Family Law Panel.

Both Margaret and Richard have vast experience in representing police officers where child custody arrangements and police pension issues are paramount.

It is vital if you are a police officer that you speak to a divorce solicitor that is a pension specialist in order to protect your rights and assets.

Both Margaret and Richard are available for surgeries in both the South Wales and Gwent Police Federation offices. Please see the police federation website for details www.swpf.org or www.gwentpf.org.

Alternatively both Richard and Margaret can meet with clients in either our Cardiff office or any of our other 5 regional offices.

We offer a free initial half hour appointment

To arrange a free initial appointment please contact Richard or Margaret on the information below:

Direct Dial: (029) 2043 7477
Departmental: (029) 2040 4014
richard.scott@howellslegal.com





Benefits For Police Federation Members

Free Initial Half Hour Interview

Clients have the opportunity to discuss their circumstances in a free initial confidential half hour interview to take place either during a surgery (see below) or at the nearest Howells branch.

Legal Helpline

There are occasions when general guidance on matrimonial and family related matters will be required and our experience shows that this can often be given quite effectively by telephone. There may also be occasions when you need instant advice and guidance. We provide our clients with a legal telephone helpline number to give them access to such advice quickly and efficiently at the times when they need it most.

Regular Advice Surgeries

We understand that Wales is a wide geographic area and it can be difficult or inconvenient to travel long distances to talk to a solicitor.

We will be holding regular surgeries where you can talk in confidence to an experienced matrimonial lawyer at a location convenient to you. During these surgeries, we will also be giving short presentations on Matrimonial and Family Law related topics pertinent to officers and their families.

Our services include:

- “Weatherproofing Your Assets” - A Guide to Cohabitation
- The Civil Partnership Act - Overview and Implications
- Inheritance Tax Planning
- Domestic Violence & Injunctions
- Contact & Residence Orders
- Parental Responsibility

Discounted Private Client Services

Howells will also provide police officers and support staff with a 10% discount on our other services

- Conveyancing
- Commercial Property
- Litigation
- Wills, Probate and Asset Management
- Personal Injury

Please contact Tristan Lewis
on (029) 2040 4020 or
email tristan.l@howellslegal.com





Useful Contact Information

Cardiff

1st Floor, Hallinans House,
22 Newport Road, CF24 0TD

Swansea

4 Langdon House, Langdon Road,
SA1 Waterfront, Swansea, SA1 8QY

Caerphilly

72/74 Cardiff Road, CF83 1JQ

Talbot Green

1st Floor, 83 Talbot Road,
Talbot Green, CF72 8AE

Newport

Lerwick House,
29 Bridge Street, NP20 4BG

Visit our website at
[http://www.howellslegal.co.uk/services/
police-federation-members](http://www.howellslegal.co.uk/services/police-federation-members)

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Police Conveyancing

Discounted rates for your sale,
purchase or remortgage.

We would be delighted to assist
you with any property related
transactions. We will provide you with
an excellent service and also offer a
10% discount on our current fees.

Your case will be handled by an
experienced Solicitor and we will do
everything possible to complete your
transactions as quickly and efficiently
as possible.

For further information please
contact:

Tristan Lewis on 029 2043 7488
or e-mail tristan.l@howellslegal.com

