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Relationships




the Family Law Service from

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the Family Law Service from Gordon Brown Associates

 **ascent** - you should seek the help and advice of our Family Law specialists if you are considering and/or encountering any of the following:

- marriage difficulties and divorce
- relationship breakdown
- domestic violence
- cohabitation
- contemplating living together or marriage
- pre-nuptial agreements
- issues relating to your children

 **ascent - divorce and separation agreements**

The law concerning marriage breakdown or divorce is complex and no two cases involve precisely the same issues. Similarly, the breakdown of any relationship is inevitably stressful for those concerned. We will help by

explaining your options, which could include a Separation Agreement, Judicial Separation and Divorce - together with their respective timescales. Whichever option, we then efficiently deal with the many issues which arise, such as the division of assets and financial and childcare arrangements.

 **ascent - domestic violence and injunctions**

Here the issue is immediate. We will ensure the victims of abuse or violence are safe and protected, if need be by Court injunction. We will also deal with any issues which may arise in relation to housing or children. Such cases are always given our highest priority.

 **ascent - pre-nuptial agreements and co-habitation agreements**

At the onset of a relationship it is prudent to identify the financial position of each party and what might happen to each party's financial position in the event of relationship breakdown. A framework for separation can be put in place at any time during a co-habiting relationship by way of a Cohabitation Agreement, or alternatively a Pre-nuptial Agreement can be prepared prior to marriage. Should your relationship come to an end, the agreement will deal with issues

such as the division of assets and how joint liabilities are handled, as well as residence and contact issues for children.

 **ascent - family law specialists**

Our specialist lawyers will sensitively explain the law, your options and how progress can be made. They will also advise as to whether Legal Aid can contribute to your costs.

To make an appointment, please contact our Family Law Service:

Ian Lawson, Partner (for Chester le Street and Newcastle offices)

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Nicola Crowther (for Chester le Street, Stanley and Gateshead offices)

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