

## CIVIL PARTNERSHIP DISSOLUTION

### GROUNDS FOR DISSOLUTION

Dissolution is simply the legal ending of a civil partnership. There is only one ground for dissolution - irretrievable breakdown of the civil partnership. The person applying for the dissolution proceedings (the Petitioner) needs to prove this by one of four "facts." The other party to the civil partnership is the Respondent. The "facts" are as follows:-

1. Unreasonable behaviour;
2. You have been deserted for 2 years or more;
3. You have been separated and lived apart for 2 years or more and you both agree to the dissolution;
4. You have been separated and lived apart for 5 years or more.

*\*Please note that adultery cannot be relied upon in dissolution proceedings.\**

### PROCEDURE

*Please see our step by step guide to civil partnership dissolution for an overview of the procedure.*

### COURT FEES

- a) To apply for the dissolution proceedings - [£550](#)
- b) To apply for the conditional order - **no Court fee**
- c) To apply for the final order - [no fee](#)

### KEY POINTS

The parties must have been in a civil partnership for 12 months or more before proceedings can be commenced, and both be living permanently in the UK.

Dissolution proceedings alone usually take between 4 and 6 months to finalise.

Neither party has to attend Court.

PI8: 09.12

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