

DIVORCE 2.0

The AMICABLE divorce

A revamped divorce process designed to encourage the amicable divorce, not fight against it.

Daisy O'Donoghue at KJSmith Solicitors explains

When someone mentions the word 'divorce', it is often met with a story about a friend, or a friend of a friend, who went through a bitter and expensive battle. People are far less likely to regale their friend with a tale of 'the amicable divorce' - the divorce where two people wish to remain friends but no longer wish to be married.

This type of divorce exists too but until recently the English legal system has made such divorces difficult but thankfully, this has now changed.

From the **6th April 2022**, we welcomed **Divorce 2.0** - a revamped divorce process designed to encourage the amicable divorce, not fight against it.

Prior to 6th April 2022, the party who started the divorce process would need

to lay the blame squarely at the foot of their spouse citing either adultery or their partner's unreasonable behaviour as the reason for the breakdown of the marriage.

If the parties wished to avoid this unpleasant task, they would need to be separated for at least two years (provided the other party consented to the divorce) before starting the process leaving the parties in limbo for a significant amount of time.

The new divorce process removes the blame game. No longer will you need to out your spouse's adultery or come up with numerous examples of their unreasonable behaviour. It will be enough to simply not wish to be married anymore. It will also be possible to make a joint application and start

the process together which was not previously possible.

So, welcome to the new, more amicable, era of divorce.



Daisy O'Donoghue

kjs KJSmith Solicitors

If you would benefit from a free 45-minute family law consultation, please call 01344 523 000 (Ascot) 01483 370 100 (Guildford) 01494 629 000 (Beaconsfield) or email info@kjsmith.co.uk kjsmith.co.uk

Other branches located across the Thames Valley.