

CLIENT COMPLAINT INFORMATION PACK

Your Complaint

We take very seriously all expressions of dissatisfaction from our clients. If you have received this leaflet, it is likely that you have already expressed your concerns verbally or in writing to us.

This leaflet explains our procedures for handling complaints. Our objective is to ensure that your complaint is dealt with swiftly in an attempt to reach an amicable and satisfactory solution, that addresses your concerns and puts things right where possible.

Making your Complaint

Informal verbal complaints should be addressed to the person in our company who you deal with, for the work in question in the first instance.

If you are not satisfied with their response or feel that the matter is too serious to be dealt with informally, then you should write or speak to their supervisor or our Complaints Manager / Senior Partner, Simon Hindmarsh. In the event that the complaint is about Simon Hindmarsh, please contact Adrian Hindmarsh. You will find the contact details for all these people in the terms of business that we sent you, but if you are unable to locate this, our office reception team will be able to assist. You can contact them on 01922 452860.

Please provide us with as much detail as possible regarding your complaint, preferably in writing. This will make it easier for us to investigate thoroughly and address your concerns meaningfully. It also means there is less room for misunderstandings.

Response Times

- **Acknowledgement of Written Complaints within 3 Working Days.**

Written complaints will be acknowledged by email or letter within 3 working days of receipt of your complaint. In our response, we will confirm the name of the person responsible for handling the complaint.

- **Full Response usually within 20 Working Days**

A full reply will be sent as soon as the matter has been investigated and our proposals for dealing with your concerns have been agreed upon. We will always endeavour to provide a full response within 20 working days. If that is not possible, an interim response will be given explaining why it is not possible to meet this deadline, when we expect our investigations to be completed and a response finalised.

- **Recourse to the Legal Ombudsman after 8 weeks or where we have not resolved your complaint.**

If we have not finalised our response within 8 weeks, you have the right to take your complaint to the Legal Ombudsman, details of whom are provided below.

If, in the unusual event that we are unable to resolve the matter to your satisfaction, you can take the matter up with the Legal Ombudsman:

- Address: Legal Ombudsman, PO Box 6167, Slough. SL1 0EH
- Web: www.legalombudsman.org.uk
- Telephone: 0300 555 0333

The Legal Ombudsman will normally expect you to have taken the matter through our complaints procedure before they will investigate your complaint. In normal circumstances they will expect you to refer the matter to them within one year of the issue occurring (or you realising it had occurred) or within six months of receiving the final letter from us regarding your complaint.

Learning from Complaints

While we never like to receive any complaints, we view them as an opportunity to learn and improve. All complaints (whether written or verbal) are recorded and logged centrally to enable us to detect recurring problems and trends and correct recurring problems. In this manner, we aim to constantly improve the service we provide.

CLIENT COMPLAINT FORM

| | | | | |
|--|------------------------------|---|------------|-------|
| Your Name | | | | |
| Your Matter Name & Reference | | | | |
| Nature of your Complaint | Staff Attitude/ Behaviour | Quality of Service | Error Made | Other |
| Date issue occurred | | | | |
| Have you sought an informal resolution with your contact at our company? | YES / NO | If YES: Who did you speak to, and why could they not resolve the matter to your satisfaction? | | |

| | |
|---|--|
| Summary Details of Complaint | |
| Resolution/Remedy Sought | |
| Improvements we could make | |
| Supporting Documents attached (list, if any) | |

Signature:

Date: