

## About Us

Founded by Oonagh Alen-Buckley in 1983, Alen-Buckley LLP is a modern law firm with offices in Wandsworth and Belgravia. Our experienced lawyers pride themselves on delivering practical, easily understood and commercially considered advice with openness and efficiency.

We have a team of ten lawyers, and provide a range of legal services catering for individuals, companies, lenders and investors. We also act for and advise high profile and high net worth individuals.



We advise on all matters of family law including:

- Divorce and nullity
- Financial settlements
- Children Act applications
- Pre and post-nuptial agreements
- Cohabitation agreements
- Inheritance Act claims
- Child maintenance
- Adoption

2-4 Bennet Court  
1 Bellevue Road  
London SW17 7EG

2 Eaton Gate  
London SW1W 9BJ  
(by appointment only)

Tel: 020 8767 8336  
Fax: 020 8767 1241  
DX: 38104 Clapham 2  
Email: [general@alen-buckley.co.uk](mailto:general@alen-buckley.co.uk)  
[www.alen-buckley.co.uk](http://www.alen-buckley.co.uk)

# Family

**ALLEN-BUCKLEY LLP**

SOLICITORS

## Empathetic, Practical, Professional

Family breakdown is always a testing time. At Alen-Buckley LLP we focus on achieving results for our clients which will enable them to move forward

## Relationship Planning

Matrimonial finance law is noted for its lack of certainty of outcome when there is a division of assets following a separation. Meanwhile, although the terms common-law wife or husband are frequently used to describe a couple who live together, these relationships do not of themselves have any legal recognition. A cohabitee's rights on separation will depend on how the property and other assets are owned and whether they are the parent with day to day care of any child of the relationship. Generally, they have fewer rights in the event of a relationship breakdown than a spouse would on the breakdown of a marriage.

Taking the time to consider what would happen if your relationship were to break down might at first seem pessimistic. However, having an agreed plan in place could give you reassurance in your relationship and could minimise acrimony should the relationship encounter difficulties at a later stage.

We can help you decide if entering into an agreement is the right option for your circumstances, whether you are planning to live together, are already living together, are considering marriage or are already married.

## In Relationship Difficulties

There can seem a myriad of decisions to make when there are difficulties within a marriage or a relationship and it can be overwhelming. Our specialist solicitors will:

- consider with you whether relationship counselling is appropriate;
- explain your options to you in plain language and give you a clear idea of the likely costs involved in pursuing these; and
- identify and deal effectively with any urgent issues, whether these concern you, the children or the financial aspects of the relationship or marriage.

If you do then decide to separate permanently, we will:

- consider appropriate arrangements for the children with you at the earliest stage;
- offer you practical advice as to how the financial assets may be distributed;



- help you find the right forum for discussing these aspects from the range of alternative dispute resolution methods available including mediation and arbitration;
- guide and represent you through the process of a court application, if this should prove necessary; and
- if you are married we will also assist you in legally bringing your marriage to an end, help you respond to an application if your husband or wife has already begun proceedings; or consider interim separation arrangements with you, as you prefer.

## Children

We are specialists in all aspects of child law.

Whether you need to be guided through your rights to see your children or grandchildren, or be guided as to you or your partner's financial obligations towards his or her children, we can help.

For assistance please contact:

Oonagh Alen-Buckley  
oab@alen-buckley.co.uk  
020 8767 8336

John Polsue  
jpolsue@alen-buckley.co.uk  
020 8767 8336

Katie Machin  
kmachin@alen-buckley.co.uk  
020 8767 8336