



ST. MARY'S
CHAMBERS

FAMILY LAW SPECIALISTS



CSR

CHILD SETTLEMENT REPORT

Going through a court case to determine issues about children can be traumatic, expensive and time-consuming.

St Mary's Chambers provides a bespoke service to help family members to reach a negotiated settlement with regards to arrangements for children.

An experienced family barrister is jointly instructed to produce a Child Settlement Report (CSR) which will assess the court's likely approach to the issues and the probable outcome if matters go forward.

This is a swift and cost effective way of obtaining an independent view of proceedings without prolonged litigation.

It can be particularly effective as a means of breaking a deadlock in negotiations.

It can also assist when employed as part of a collaborative approach to dispute resolution.

HOW THE CSR WORKS

Both parties must agree to the preparation of the report.

The parties must submit a short statement setting out the key issues, their proposals to settle the case and their comments on the other side's proposals to settle the case together with the joint fee.

The barrister instructed will evaluate the information provided and give a reasoned assessment of the Court's likely approach and of the probable outcome.

If the barrister is not able to provide a clear indication of the likely settlement the report will set out the reasons for this and the fee will be reduced automatically by 50%.

The report will usually be provided within 21 days.

Once instructions to provide a report have been accepted the barrister concerned will not be able to act for either party if settlement is not reached and the litigation continues.

The report is non-binding and without prejudice.

WHAT THE CSR COSTS

Limited issues cases—for example those involving Residence or shared Residence, commencing or progressing Contact or single issues such as a change of name, change of school or acquiring Parental Responsibility	£500(+VAT)
More Complex cases* - For example those involving combination of the issues set out above, the competing need of different siblings or international issues.	£750(+VAT)

If you are interested in using the **CSR** or if you would like more information contact **Scott** on **0115 943 7180** or at scott.baldwin@stmarysflc.co.uk