

What is the court process to sort out financial settlements?

File your Form A Application with court fee of £255.

The court issues proceedings and sets a date for a First Directions Appointment with dates for filing and serving your Form E Financial Statement, exchange of other documents before the next hearing.

File and exchange Form E.

Documents to be filed and served before the First Directions Hearing are a Statement of Issues, Chronology Questionnaire, Form G and Form H Estimate of Costs.

First Directions Hearing at court combined with a Financial Dispute Resolution Hearing, if parties agree.

Court directs which questions are to be answered, whether there should be any valuations of any property or assets and whether any expert evidence is required.

Preparing for Financial Dispute Resolution Hearing, responding to questionnaire, obtaining valuations/expert evidence, filing and serving proposals for settlement and cost estimates.

Financial Dispute Resolution Hearing, the District Judge normally assists the parties to try and reach a financial settlement. most cases settle at this hearing or just after Final Order made.

If not:

If no agreement the District Judge will give directions and set the case down for a final hearing, which includes preparing a Trial bundle of papers, possible further statements be exchanged.

Possible use of Barristers.

Outline proposals for settlement.

Form H1/Costs Estimate

Final Hearing – the court will make a Final Order after hearing the evidence.

