



myerson

Myerson **Family**

Our guide to civil partnership dissolution

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Welcome

We understand the complexities of modern life and, therefore, everything we do is ultimately about you, and it is important you get to know the team that will be working with you every step of the way. It's a deep source of satisfaction that so many clients choose Myerson as their trusted adviser.

Why Myerson?

Our highly experienced and discreet family lawyers, provide clear and supportive legal advice, tailored towards your individual family needs.

As a Top 200 UK Law Firm, we are also proud to be ranked as '**Top Tier**' in the prestigious international directory **The Legal 500**, and commended by The Times '**Best Law Firms 2023**'. This means you can be certain that you will be receiving the highest quality legal advice.

Being a full-service law firm means we are well placed to provide wide-ranging, tailored legal advice to meet your individual needs. We work closely with other departments internally including Real Estate, Corporate, Commercial and Private Wealth Lawyers to ensure that your needs are protected comprehensively.

You can find out more about our **Family Team** by clicking [here](#).



Civil Partnership Dissolution

A civil partnership dissolution is the civil partnership terminology for divorce.

What are the grounds for a dissolution of civil partnership?

An application for a dissolution made after 6 April 2022 will be made on the basis that the civil partnership has irretrievably broken down. There is no longer any requirement or ability to raise allegations of fault or blame against your civil partner to apply for a dissolution.

To apply for a civil partnership dissolution, your civil partnership must have been entered into at least one year prior to the application. You can apply for a dissolution as a sole applicant, or on a joint basis.

How much does a dissolution cost?

A dissolution can typically cost around £600 plus VAT and a court fee of £593. However, if there are issues that arise which delay the dissolution procedure, such as if your civil partner refuses to respond to the dissolution application, costs may be higher.

This is not a fixed fee but an estimate of our typical charges for acting on your behalf in relation to dissolution proceedings. It does not include the cost of resolving issues surrounding children or finances.



What is the dissolution process?

- You make an application for a dissolution at the Family Court through the HMCTS online portal and pay a court fee of £593. You will also need to file a copy of the original civil partnership certificate.
- The Court will send your application to your civil partner with an acknowledgement of service.
- Your civil partner will have fourteen days from receipt to respond to the dissolution application.
- There is a minimum period of 20 weeks from the application being issued until you can apply for the Conditional Order in the dissolution.
- Six weeks from pronouncement of the Conditional Order, you can apply for the Final Order. It is bad practice to apply for the Final Order in the dissolution proceedings before finances are resolved, as termination of the civil partnership affects inheritance rights, pension rights and taxation.

What if my civil partner does not cooperate with the dissolution proceedings?

We can arrange for a process server to serve the divorce application on your civil partner. You would need to have a reasonable belief that they are still living at the address you gave for them in the application. Once the process server provides a statement of service, we would be able to apply for your Conditional Order.

Alternatively, If you consider that your civil partner has received the application but is intentionally refusing to respond to it, you can make an application to court for 'deemed service' and ask for the court to accept that they have been served with the application. You will need to show you have exhausted all other options of serving the divorce application on your civil partner before making an application for deemed service.



What if the respondent defend the application for a civil partnership dissolution?

It is no longer possible to defend a civil partnership dissolution application unless there is a dispute about whether the court of England Wales have the jurisdiction to deal with the proceedings. If one party submits that the civil partnership has broken down irretrievably, the court must take that statement as conclusive evidence and make a dissolution order.



You're in safe hands!

If you would like further information about how we can help you with **civil partnership dissolution**, or if you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact a member of our **Family Law Team** today.

Call: 0161 941 4000

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