Separation: overview of your options

Direct Agreement → Find out what your rights are → Both parties agree the terms → Your solicitor puts the terms into a legal document → **Terms are agreed, and then put into a legal separation agreement.**

In all cases, financial information must be exchanged.

Mediation → Find a trained mediator → You reach an agreement → Draw up into Memorandum of Understanding →

→ You don't reach an Agreement → Couple can still achieve agreement by Collaborative or traditional negotiation

Collaborative → Find your own Collaborative solicitor → No correspondence: all issues are addresses in face-to-face meetings. → You reach an agreement

→ You don't reach an agreement: a new solicitor must be instructed to begin traditional process.

Court Orders.

Vouched Affidavit of Means exchanged.

Traditional → Instruct a solicitor and take advice → Negotiate a settlement → Agree Order on consent →

→ File a Court application & clarify timetable. Exchange financial information → Settlement meeting. Court hearing → Rules order on consent or Court Order following Court hearing.