

The Standard Financial Process under the Matrimonial Causes Act 1973

This is the standard process and does not take into account any emergency or other interim applications which may extend the timetable.

Consider how you will pay for your legal fees. If you believe you may be entitled to Legal Aid please note that there are strict and narrow criteria for eligibility. Teelan & Silwal Family Law Limited do not deal with publicly funded (Legal Aid) cases but can recommend a Legal Aid solicitor to you, should you be eligible.

12 to 16 weeks from issuing to First Appointment
(subject to court time tabling)

12 to 16 weeks from First Appointment to FDR
(subject to court time tabling)

16 to 24 weeks from FDR to Final Hearing
(subject to court time tabling)



Throughout the process, consideration needs to be given as to whether experts need to be instructed (e.g. re pensions or property valuations)

35 days before FDA

14 days before FDA

1 day before FDA

As indicated by the Court

7 days before FDR

1 day before FDR **

The majority of disputes settle at this hearing or shortly thereafter. If not, however, the matter may proceed to Final Hearing

Within 21 days of the date of the FDR appointment, or a date as directed by the court **

6 weeks before Final Hearing

14 days before Final Hearing

14 days before Final Hearing

7 days before Final Hearing

If case does not settle beforehand, Judge will make the final order at Final Hearing

