What will the cost be?
That’s usually the first question that clients think about when considering whether to seek legal advice. This brochure details the various funding options that may be available to you.

Fixed fee interviews
We offer a fixed fee interview for family matters. It enables you to talk through your concerns with a specialist solicitor, while knowing exactly what it will cost.
A fixed fee interview is not appropriate if you are already involved in court proceedings and need to instruct a solicitor to represent you in those proceedings or if you require work to be carried out urgently.

How long do you get?
We are able to offer fixed fee interviews of 60 minutes (or occasionally 30 minutes) to assess whether it is worth instructing solicitors for your case.

**DETAILED ADVICE CANNOT BE GIVEN AT THIS STAGE.**

In all cases, full payment must be made on the day of the interview by cash or cheque. Please ensure you obtain confirmation of cost when you telephone for an appointment, as fees are subject to change from time to time.

Why use the service?
- An opportunity for you to explain your concerns to a solicitor
- To discover what services are available and the fee structure that would apply
- To ascertain whether you need to take any urgent action
- To find out what future costs might be involved
- To help you decide if it is worthwhile for you to employ a solicitor

YOU ARE UNDER NO OBLIGATION TO ENGAGE THOMAS DUNTON SOLICITORS.

Are you able to give me a quote for legal services?
There are certain services for which we can give you a quotation or an estimate for the work we undertake on your behalf. These include:
- Residential property sale and purchase
- Residential property re-mortgages
- Residential leases
- Wills (except complex Wills)
- Change of name deeds

Our website also has detailed pricing on conveyancing, probate and employment tribunal costs.

Do you offer free advice?
Yes, in some cases we can offer you an initial appointment without any charge at all. These would include:
- Personal Injury claims
- Business Start-ups
- A legal ‘health check’ for existing businesses

Please make sure you confirm this is a free appointment when you book.

Legal Aid
Thomas Dunton are accredited to carry out publicly funded work - Legal Aid - in specific circumstances. These may include such areas of law as:
- Divorce
- Family and Child Care
- and, in limited circumstances, Personal Injury

In recent years the types of cases for which legal aid was available has significantly reduced. Please look at our website www.thomasdunton.co.uk/funding to find out more about the criteria required to receive legal aid.

For more information, please contact us on 01689 822554 or visit our website www.thomasdunton.co.uk
Contingency Fee Agreement
We may be able to enter into a Contingency Fee Agreement to cover your representation at an employment tribunal nearing. You would then only have to pay legal fees if you were awarded money by the Tribunal. In which case, all you would pay is a percentage of the money awarded, as agreed in advance.

Conditional Fee Agreement (No Win, No Fee)
We may be able to assist with your claim on the basis of a Conditional Fee Agreement. This is known popularly as a No Win, No Fee scheme. The idea is that, by making the claim, you do not risk being financially worse off than you were before, whatever the result. If you lose, you pay us nothing, and if you win your opponent pays towards your costs. We will provide you with a Conditional Fee Agreement which sets out all the terms of the agreement between us. It will include details of any arrangement for funding of disbursements and details of your Conditional Fee Insurance. Disbursements are payments to others who help with your claim, such as experts.

Conditional Fee Insurance
If you lose your case, there is a risk that you would have to pay your opponent’s legal costs and your own disbursements. For this reason the popular term No Win, No Fee can be somewhat misleading. We aim to avoid that risk for you by advising and arranging that you take out Conditional Fee Insurance. The insurer would then pay your opponent’s costs and disbursements. It would also pay your own disbursements if you lost the case.

Legal expenses insurance
Many of our clients already have the benefit of legal expenses insurance. Most motor policies include legal expenses insurance, as do some building, home contents and holiday policies and even credit cards and some bank accounts. Sometimes insurers will tell you to use their own nominated solicitor. This may not be convenient for you, nor provide the level of service you would like. If you talk to us about it, we can usually make arrangements with the insurers so that we may act on your behalf.

Assistance from trade unions and other associations
If you are a member of the above, trade organisations or similar bodies, you may be eligible for financial assistance with your claim. If this is the case, please discuss it with us and provide the details. We will probably be able to act on your behalf as your nominated solicitor.

For more information, with no obligation, please call 01689 822554 or visit our website www.thomasdunton.co.uk

Don’t leave legal issues too late: seek advice at the earliest stage.

www.thomasdunton.co.uk