

## The role of the mediator

The role of the mediator is to:

- facilitate a constructive discussion about the issues
- ensure the process is fair and safe
- assist the parties with mutual decision-making
- act impartially and independently.

Our mediators are skilled and accredited practitioners who possess a range of qualifications including law, counselling, psychology and social work. All mediators have acquired post-graduate qualifications in Family Dispute Resolution.

Our mediators do not provide legal advice and will encourage parties to obtain independent legal advice.

Reaching a property settlement after separation can bring relief and independence. Contact us now to hear how mediation can help.

For more information or to make an appointment please call **1300 364 277** or contact a local office

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### Launceston

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TASMANIA

## Property Settlement Mediation

Mediation can help you reach a fair settlement of your property and finances following separation



... resolve your property settlement together through mediation

## What are the benefits of mediation?

Mediation encourages an environment of cooperation. The advantages of mediation include:

- having the opportunity to reach an agreement yourselves
- having the chance to tell your side of the story
- the potential to resolve issues in a timely manner
- a service that is private and confidential
- a service that minimises legal costs and avoids an adversarial court process.

## Is mediation suitable for me?

Mediation brings people together with the goal of resolving the issues that are in dispute. It supports an environment in which the parties can speak freely and be understood.

Property settlement mediation is a voluntary process and it may not be appropriate for everyone, or for every dispute. During the first meeting the mediator will undertake an assessment as to whether mediation is an appropriate dispute resolution option.

## What happens in mediation?

Mediation sessions generally run for two hours and the process may require two to five sessions spread over a number of weeks or months. While the process is tailored to the requirements of each dispute, the following steps describe a typical property settlement mediation:

- Step 1** Identify what is included in the property pool
- Step 2** Discuss the parties' interests, contributions and future needs
- Step 3** Negotiate a division of the property pool
- Step 4** Summarise the agreement in writing

## How much does it cost?

We are a not-for-profit organisation and our fees are subsidised. Each participant pays for him/herself. The fees are discounted if you hold a concession card.

Please contact 1300 364 277 if you would like more information about fees.

## How do I organise a property settlement mediation?

The first step is to contact the mediation service to arrange a confidential individual appointment with a mediator. This initial appointment usually takes about one hour.

At that meeting the mediator will explain the process, assess suitability for mediation and answer any questions. With the client's consent we can invite the other party to participate in the process.

avoid the rivalry and cost of the family law courts...

phone 1300 364 277  
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