



Family Law

We specialise in helping you and your family with:

- Child-related disputes
- Division of property
- Divorce
- Education
- Guardianships and Powers of Attorney
- Pre-nuptial agreements
- Separation
- Tax and succession planning
- Wills



Our other services and market sectors include:



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Family matters

Family life has many pleasures, but also many risks. You and your partner may be thinking about moving in together, you may be about to start a family, you may be experiencing the stress and difficulty of a marriage or partnership breakdown: all of these carry not only real risks, but often the fear of the unknown if you don't know what is likely to happen, and how.

The first, and probably the most important, aspect of facing life's hurdles is ensuring you look after number one – you and your family. Yet many people are unaware of, or simply can't find the time to plan, the few essential legal processes to ensure you and your family are protected for what the future may hold for you.

A helping hand

This is where Gillespie Macandrew's experienced Family Law Team can help. Our specialists have long experience in resolving various family matters. Whether you are planning for the future or coping with a crisis, we aim to give you the best advice, combined with value for money to help bring an early solution to your situation.

Our advice is delivered with the right balance of sympathetic listening, emotional support and a realistic assessment of your circumstances. Clients entrust us with the legal aspects of their most personal issues and we help them to achieve the best possible outcome. Our service is shaped not only by the law, but also by the care we take to understand the needs of each individual and their family.

More than legal advice

Our diverse professional team is able to address not just the legal but also the financial, pensions and tax-planning questions that life often brings up. Based in the West End of Edinburgh, all our services and personnel are under one roof, making it easier for you to deal with us.

Why not contact a member of the team and book a free half hour consultation to discuss your current circumstances?

Key contacts



John Stirling

John is a Litigation and Dispute Resolution Partner and a Solicitor Advocate. He has a particular interest in family law and the issues it raises, with some 15 years practice in this field of law. John is also an experienced commercial and property litigation and planning specialist. John has been a Court of Session reporter in corporate reconstructions and capital reductions for many years and specialised in property litigation since 2005. He also maintains a long standing interest in charity law.

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John MacFie is an Associate and Head of our Family Dispute Resolution

team. He has more than 20 years of experience in general practice and litigation and works with his clients and other advisers to find the least destructive and most effective solutions to often difficult and stressful situations. He has particular expertise in cases concerning children and international child abduction, property, pre-nuptial agreements, cohabitation and all aspects of relationship breakdown. Much of his work involves the negotiation of successful private out of court settlements for clients.

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Donald Winskill is an Associate and a qualified member of the Association of

Taxation Technicians. He prepares custom-made Wills that save tax, minimise the impact of nursing fees, and ensure that his clients' wealth passes to the right beneficiaries. He understands the additional complexities that can arise from second marriages or where provision needs to be made for youngsters or vulnerable adults. Donald recently became the first Edinburgh-based solicitor to be accredited by the Law Society of Scotland as a specialist in Incapacity & Mental Disability Law.

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