

News Release

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Warrington law firm helps families in crisis

Warrington law firm Forshaws Davies Ridgway LLP can continue to help vulnerable families, thanks to a new legal aid contract.

Following a rigorous re-tendering process, many law firms have lost their ability to provide family services under the legal aid scheme, leaving the future uncertain for hundreds of family solicitors and their clients. After October, Forshaws Davies Ridgway (FDR) will be one of the few in the area to have retained the right to provide subsidised advice on divorce, separation, co-habitation or family finance.

Jennifer Roulston, a partner based at the firm's Stockton Heath office, is delighted she will be able to continue to offer this essential service to families in crisis.

She said: "Many families rely on legal aid to fund essential legal work to manage the fall-out from separation and divorce, particularly where children are involved."

And lead family partner Audrey Venables added: "Some families also choose to cut costs by opting for the new collaborative law process, which allows couples to resolve their disputes outside the courtroom. It involves both sides meeting face to face, with their collaborative lawyers, to agree a way forward. In many cases the process can provide a much cheaper and more amicable resolution to their situation."

For more information about family legal aid services, contact Jennifer Roulston or Audrey Venables at Forshaws Davies Ridgway LLP, Warrington on 01925 230000. www.fdrlaw.co.uk.

EDITOR'S NOTES:

For further information, please contact: Jennifer Roulston at FDR Stockton Heath on 01925 604713, email <u>Jennifer.roulston@fdrlaw.co.uk</u> or Audrey Venables at FDR Warrington on 01925 230000, email <u>Audrey.venables@fdrlaw.co.uk</u>.

About Forshaws Davies Ridgway LLP (FDR)

- FDR is a full service legal practice with five offices in Cheshire and Warrington
- 18 Partners
- Over 120 staff
- Top 15 practice in NW
- Top 200 practice in England & Wales
- Mortgage Strategy Awards 2009 & 2010 'Best Conveyancer' Runner Up
- Services include: Commercial Law, Conveyancing, Criminal, Family, Litigation, Wills & Probate

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On behalf of Forshaws Davies Ridgway LLP