**Our complaints policy**

We are committed to providing a high quality legal service to all our clients and the highest standards of client care at all times. However, we would always wish to know if you are unhappy with any aspect of our services. We need you to tell us about it. This will help us to improve our standards.

**Our complaints procedure**

If you are unhappy with any aspect of the service you have received or about the bill, the first step is to speak to the member of our team who has been dealing with your matter. Most issues can be resolved quickly and amicably at this stage.

If the issue cannot be resolved, then please contact Solicitor, Miss Anna Rushton of Step Legal as follows;

Contact Miss Anna Rushton;

Email –  annarushton@steplegal.co.uk or

Telephone – 01782 757298

For all matters being dealt with by Miss Anna Rushton please contact Solicitor, Mr Dominic Jones of Step Legal as follows;

Email – dominicjones@steplegal.co.uk or

Telephone – 01270 442081

Alternatively, you can write to either Miss Anna Rushton or Mr Dominic Jones at our head office address at;

Step Legal Solicitors, 213-215 Nantwich Road, Crewe, Cheshire, CW2 6DA.

**What will happen next?**

1. We will send you a letter acknowledging receipt of your complaint within 3 working days of us receiving the formal complaint, enclosing a copy of this procedure.
2. We will then investigate your complaint. Either Miss Anna Rushton or Mr Dominic Jones will review your file which may include speaking with the member/s of staff who have been involved in your matter. The investigation might also involve inviting you to a meeting to discuss your complaint. We will do this within 7 working days of sending you the acknowledgement letter.
3. Within 3 working days of any meeting we will write to you to confirm what took place and any solutions we have agreed with you.
4. If you do not want a meeting or if it is not possible, we will send you a detailed written reply to your complaint, including suggestions for resolving the matter, within 7 working days of sending you the acknowledgement letter.
5. At this stage, if you are still not satisfied, you should contact us again and we will arrange for Director, Mr Abid Hussain to review this decision.
6. We will write to you within 7 working days of receiving your request for a review, confirming our final position on your complaint and explaining our reasons.
7. If, following our investigation of your complaint, you remain unhappy with the service provided by the Company, then you may contact the Legal Ombudsman. Their details are:

The Legal Ombudsman, PO Box 6167 Slough SL1 0EH
[www.legalombudsman.org.uk](http://www.legalombudsman.org.uk/)
Telephone: 0300 5550333
Email: enquiries@legalombudsman.org.uk.

The Legal Ombudsman accepts complaints from individuals and small businesses, charities or associations. You must take your complaint to the Legal Ombudsman within six months of receiving a final response to your complaint from us. From 1 April 2023, the Legal Ombudsman **also** expects complaints to be made to them within 1 year of the date of the act or omission about which you are concerned or within 1 year of you realising there was a concern. You also have the right to complain about or challenge the bill by applying for an assessment of the bill under Part III of the Solicitors Act 1974 but please note that the Legal Ombudsman may not consider a complaint about the bill if you have applied to the Court for assessment of the bill.

1. The Solicitors Regulation Authority (SRA) can help you if you are concerned about the firm’s or any member of it’s staff’s behaviour. The SRA investigate concerns such as dishonesty, unfair treatment due to age, disability or other characteristics. You can raise concerns with the SRA at [Report a Solicitor](https://www.sra.org.uk/consumers/problems/report-solicitor/)
2. If we consider the firm or any member of our staff has been guilty of serious misconduct, then we shall report such conduct to the Solicitors Regulation Authority in any event.

If we have to change any of the timescales above, we will let you know and explain why.

**Conclusion**

This may all sound daunting so if you have any questions about our complaints procedure please do not hesitate to contact us.  Please rest assured we take your concerns seriously and we will seek to resolve any problems as quickly and openly as we can. We will use the outcome of any complaints to review our processes and improve our service where possible.