

Client complaints policy

Our complaints policy

Knipe Woodhouse-Smith is committed to providing high quality legal services to all our clients. When something goes wrong, we need you to tell us about it. This will help us to improve our standards.

Our complaints procedure

If you have a concern or a complaint that has not been dealt with to your satisfaction by the person handling your case or their supervising partner, please contact us as soon as you are aware of the problem so this can be addressed. You can contact us at Knipe Woodhouse-Smith, 145-147 High Street, Chalfont St Peter, Bucks SL9 9QL or by email at info@knipewoodhouse.com.

What will happen next?

1. We will send you a letter acknowledging receipt of your complaint within five days of our receiving the complaint, enclosing a copy of this procedure.
2. We will then investigate your complaint. This will normally involve passing your complaint to our client care partner, Ian Johnson or if the complaint is against him our partner Brian Knipe will review your matter file and speak to the member of staff who acted for you.
3. We may then invite you to a meeting to discuss and, it is hoped, resolve your complaint. We will do this within 14 days of sending you the acknowledgement letter.
4. Within three days of the meeting, we will write to you to confirm what took place and any solutions we have agreed with you.
5. If you do not want a meeting or it is not possible, we will send you a detailed written reply to your complaint, including our suggestions for resolving the matter, within 21 days of sending you the acknowledgement letter.
6. At this stage, if you are still not satisfied, you should contact us again to explain why you remain unhappy with our response and we will review your comments. Depending on the matter we may at this stage arrange for another partner to review the decision.
7. We will write to you within 14 days of receiving your request for a review, confirming our final position on your complaint and explaining our reasons.
8. If you are still not satisfied, you can then contact the Legal Ombudsman at PO Box 6806, Wolverhampton WV1 9WJ or call 0300 555 0333 about your complaint. Any complaint to the Legal Ombudsman must usually be made within six months of your receiving a final written response from us regarding your complaint. The Legal Ombudsman has provided further guidance on its service at www.legalombudsman.org.uk.

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