

Claire Spurgeon

Partner



claire.spurgeon@pinneytalfourd.co.uk

01277 246 837

Claire Spurgeon studied law at the University of Hertfordshire and then completed her Legal Practice at the College of Law, Guildford. She qualified as a Solicitor in 2000 and joined local firm Prestons & Kerlys in 2001 before becoming a Partner in 2005 and later a Partner at Pinney Talfourd upon merger of the firms in 2011.

Claire is a Partner in the Family Team specialising in family work exclusively for in excess of 20 years. She is also a member of Resolution. She regularly acts for high net worth individuals in negotiating a settlement of more complex financial settlements within divorce proceedings. She has more recently acted for parties in the negotiation of high net worth Prenuptial Agreements. She has built a strong reputation and has been referred to in Legal 500 as being “pragmatic with a steely resolve” and “particularly good at providing clarity”.

Claire is regularly recommended for referred work due to her approachable and personal manner and her ability is clear and concise advice.

Claire has recently been responsible for the set up and development of the Chelmsford Family Department following the acquisition of a Chelmsford based firm. This has included supervision and training of more junior staff and the development of the presence of Pinney Talfourd in the town generally. Claire previously assisted in the development of the Brentwood Family Department and has sat on the Executive Committee for the Brentwood Chamber of Commerce for many years, in 2022 being made Honorary Solicitor.

EXPERTISE

Claire’s expertise covers:

- **High Net Worth Divorce**

Upminster

54 Station Road, Upminster, Essex RM14 2TU
DX 35555 Upminster
T: 01708 229444 F: 01708 228163
E upminster@pinneytalfourd.co.uk

Brentwood

30 High Street, Brentwood, Essex CM14 4AJ
DX 5003 Brentwood
T: 01277 211755 F: 01277 261154
E brentwood@pinneytalfourd.co.uk

Hornchurch

40 North Street, Hornchurch, Essex RM11 1EW
DX 51004 Hornchurch
T: 01708 511000 F: 01708 511040
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Leigh-on-Sea

The Old Gasworks, 43 Progress Rd, Leigh-on-Sea SS9 5PR
By appointment only.
E leighonsea@pinneytalfourd.co.uk

Canary Wharf

18th Floor, 40 Bank Street, Canary Wharf, London E14 5AB
DX 51004 Hornchurch
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E canarywharf@pinneytalfourd.co.uk

- Domestic Abuse
- Divorce
- Cohabitation Agreements
- Civil Partnership Dissolution
- Children Act (application for parents)
- Children Act (application for grandparents)
- Adoption
- Separation Agreements
- Prenuptial / Pre-Civil Agreements
- Postnuptial / Post-Civil Agreements
- Mediation
- International Divorce
- Fixed Fee Family Services
- Finances Post Divorce

BADGES & AWARDS

Claire is listed as a Leading Lawyer by [Wiselaw](#).

Areas of Expertise

Family

Claire's expertise covers the following:-

- complex divorce cases
- high net worth and complex financial remedy proceedings
- financial settlements involving businesses and extensive property portfolios
- financial settlements including assets abroad
- financial settlements including complex tax issues and pension sharing
- representation of parents and grandparents in Children Act proceedings
- representation of parties in cohabitee disputes including cases issued under the Trusts of Land and Appointment of Trustees Act 1996
- preparation of Declaration of Trust relating to land
- drafting and advising on Prenuptial and Postnuptial Agreements
- advising on and providing representation in relation to non-molestation and occupation orders

Notable Family cases

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Representing the wife in contested divorce proceedings where the Husband would not consent to a divorce.

Representing clients where jurisdiction is an issue.

Representing wife where valuation of a family business was disputed.

Representing a Husband on the acquisition of Decree Absolute when the wife refused to apply despite it being her own application.

Representing wife in high net worth divorce where assets exceeded £40million.

Successfully representing father as intervener in his son's divorce proceedings concerning disputes as to beneficial interest in properties purchased as a family. The properties were worth more than £1million (net) and the issues spread over in excess of 10 properties.

Representing wife where the valuation of a family business was disputed.

Representing wife in divorce proceedings where there were multiple pension funds worth several million. Working with actuaries in relation to the distribution of those pensions. Advising also in relation to inheritance issues arising and advising on the issue of a behaviour conduct claim.

Representing wife in contested financial remedy proceedings where there was an extensive property portfolio and land for development and assets exceeding £3million.

Representing husband in contested financial remedy proceedings and providing advice in respect of the treatment of significant discretionary bonus and share incentives, including long term investment plans.

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Children Act (applications by parents)

Notable Children Act (applications by parents) cases

Representing mother in child contact matters where residence and contact were disputed in light of the child's special needs.

Representing father in child contact proceedings where there were allegations of substance mis-use and domestic violence.

Representing mother in an application to remove the child from the jurisdiction and also representing a father in defence of a similar application.

Representing father in defending an application under the Hague Convention for abduction of his child. Later supervising on a similar application for a mother to return a child to its country of birth from which she had fled.

Pre-nuptial / Pre-Civil Agreements

Notable Pre-nuptial / Pre-Civil Agreements cases

Preparing various Pre-nuptial Agreements for high net worth clients and also advising on the significance of the same.

Advising in relation to Pre-nuptial Agreements initially drafted abroad.

Successfully preventing a Pre-nuptial Agreement attempted too near a marriage date.

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Trust Deeds

Notable Trust Deeds cases

Drafting and advising on Trust Deeds to reflect each party's interest in jointly owned property.

Memberships

- Resolution
- Brentwood Chamber of Commerce

Awards



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