



# **SUSSEX POLICE FEDERATION**

*Serving Sussex Police Officers*

## **SEPARATION / DIVORCE INFORMATION**

## Introduction

It is an unfortunate statistic that the divorce rate among police officers is more than double the national average and therefore it is hoped that the following information, by way of a check list, will be helpful for officers facing a separation or divorce.

### Moving out of the marital home

Let the force know your new address by completing the [Permission to Reside](#) form found on the front page of the Force intranet website under HR on-line.

Please update the Federation regarding your marital status and change of address.

[Please click this link to complete your details and submit to us.](#)

### Your Wellbeing

- You may wish to briefly discuss your circumstances with your line manager as your emotional situation could affect you in the work place and you may need some flexibility in your working pattern. The full time Federation Rep for flexible working is Andy Foster.
- Need, Hardship or Distress? – The Sussex Police Charitable Trust can assist if you are currently a member. **Contact: Amanda Lane on 540703**
- The Force offer counselling via EAP - **Freephone: 0800 243 458**
- If you are contributing to the Group Insurance Scheme, The Care First counselling assistance is available over the telephone or on-line.  
[Please click here for more information.](#)

### Concerns about your pension

- Clinics – Slater Gordon, divorce specialist, hold a monthly clinic in the Federation offices, Lewes Block, HQ. An initial consultation of 1 hour is free. A financial clinic is also available. You can see appointments dates from our website.  
[Please click here to access the clinic dates](#) or see Routine Orders.

You can request a valuation of your pension from WSCC website. The request forms to be downloaded are highlighted in blue at the foot of the webpage. [West Sussex County Council: Police Officer pensions downloads - Please click here for full information](#) . If you have any queries relating to your pension please ring WSCC on 01243 642148 and ask for Keir Greenway who deals with serving officers pensions. Valuations will be posted to you but please allow at least a couple of weeks.

- The NARPO website also gives information about pensions.  
[Please click here for the NARPO website.](#)

## Putting your affairs in order

- The Federation offers a Divorce clinic run by Slater Gordon solicitors on a monthly basis. An initial consultation is free. If you are seeking marital advice from the solicitor please let us know if your spouse is a serving police officer to avoid any conflict of interests.
- Changing your Will or making a fresh Will. Slater Gordon offer a free “straight-forward will” service on-line using the discount code available. [Please click here for more information](#)
- Changing your beneficiary to the Death Benefit Scheme run by the Force. This is the scheme where members donate £1 to any officer who dies in service and a beneficiary is nominated. To change this please put your request in writing to The Sussex Police Charitable Trust nominating a new beneficiary.

## Group Insurance scheme

- If you are insuring your spouse/partner/civil partner under the above scheme you can continue to cover them up until the time of your divorce or in the case of a partner, cease living together.
- You are unable to cover a partner on the insurance if you are still married to another person.
- You may wish to cease paying the extra £5.05 premium for your spouse/partner/civil partner and if so please email the Federation to request this. [Click here to send an email](#)
- Please read the Travel Insurance document to ensure you are up to date with who is covered under your travel insurance. In particular check your children’s cover if they no longer live with you.
- You may wish to update your beneficiary to the Group Scheme – you can nominate more than one person including your children. If you need to nominate or change your beneficiary, [please click here to download the form to complete and send us](#)