

## The Divorce Process – Sole Application

### APPLICATION ISSUED

- Application and 'Acknowledgement of Service' (AoS) form sent to Respondent by 1st class post.
- The Respondent is requested to complete & return this form to the court within 14 days.

Please note the court will **not** chase the Respondent for the completed form.



### AOS RECEIVED BY COURT

Applicant sent a copy with their Application for the Conditional Order.



### APPLYING FOR CONDITIONAL

- After 20 weeks the Applicant can apply for the Conditional Order.
- The Application is referred to a Judge.



### CONDITIONAL ORDER (CO) HEARING DATE

- When Judge has approved application, letter confirming date of CO hearing is sent to both parties.
- No need to attend hearing unless there are objections.



### APPLYING FOR FINAL ORDER (FO)

- APPLICANT:** Can apply no earlier than **6 weeks and 1 day** after CO.
- RESPONDENT:** Can apply no earlier than **3 months after the 6 weeks and 1 day** has expired. A hearing may be required and therefore transferred to a local court.
- This is the final part of the divorce process.

### NO RESPONSE FROM RESPONDENT?

It may be longer than the stated 14 days before receiving the AoS due to court workloads.

The Applicant may apply to the court for the following:-

- Bailiff Service:** If Bailiff is successful, the Applicant will be able to apply for CO.
- Deemed Service:** The Applicant can apply to the court for the divorce papers to be considered as having been received by the Respondent.
- Dispense with Service:** When the Applicant has no knowledge of the Respondent's whereabouts.

**Note.** For any of the above, evidence may be required in support of the application.

### WHY HAS MY CONDITIONAL ORDER APPLICATION BEEN REFUSED?

Judge not satisfied with application – further information & instructions will be sent to the Applicant.

**Note.** Re submitted applications for the Conditional Order will join the back of the application queue and will mean a delay in the divorce process.

SOURCE: HM COURTS & TRIBUNALS SERVICE



## The Divorce Process – Joint Application

