

## **Checklist: Questions for your lawyer**

You can print this checklist to help you remember some of the questions you should ask your lawyer.

Tick on each box as you go.

### Questions for your lawyer

#### **Ask about the lawyer's experience:**

- Are you a solicitor or barrister?
- How long have you been practising?
- Do you have a copy of your current practising certificate?
- What areas of law do you specialise in?
- Have you done cases like mine before? What were the outcomes?

#### **Ask about the lawyer's fees:**

- How will you be charging me? Is it a fixed rate or an hourly rate?
- How much is my matter likely to cost?
- Can the costs increase? If so, by how much?
- Are there any other costs I need to know about?
- How much do you charge for disbursements?
- Will you give me a costs agreement?
- Do you need any money upfront?

**Ask about your legal problem:**

What are my options?

Can I resolve my matter without going to court?

What are my chances of winning?

What do you recommend I do?

How long is my case likely to take?

Should I expect any problems or delays?

Is there anything I can do to help you?

Are you going to handle my case or will someone else?

What's the next step?

**Ask about how to stay in touch:**

How often will you keep me updated about my matter?

What is the best way to contact you?

If someone else is working on my case, can I talk to them if I can't talk to you?

**Other questions that are specific to your legal issue::**

