

Family dispute resolution letter (to other party or their lawyer)

We have been retained by [insert client name] in regard to parenting issues.

At this stage, we have recommended to our client that [you both/the parties] discuss arrangements for the [child/children] with the assistance of a Family Dispute Resolution (FDR) practitioner.

We find that better progress is usually made at the early stage of a separation by not involving lawyers until after the parties have discussed child issues informally with an FDR person.

We have given our client the name of an experienced FDR provider who would be available, namely [insert FDR provider's name, address and telephone number/s].

Any agreement reached during FDR can be documented and filed in the court as a joint application for binding consent orders.

Although FDR is compulsory, would you please confirm that you agree to attending, and let us know of any preferred times. An appointment would then be made for FDR to occur at a convenient time.

We suggest the FDR provider's fee be shared equally, unless for some reason it is not reasonable for the fee to be shared.

We look forward to hearing from you soon.

Yours faithfully,

Note - Send a copy of this letter to your client for their information.