## Mediation can put you, not the court, in control

When a marriage, civil part-nership or long-term relation-ship breaks down, people often brace themselves for an ar-duous journey fraught with legal wrangling and court

For many, mediation avoids all this and is an easier, quick-er and more cost-effective op-

Mediation puts you, rather than the court, in control by encouraging you to work with your former partner at a pace which suits you to reach a solution geared towards your circumstances.

This is often an extremely emotional time, particularly when the break-up is one-sided or acrimonious. Rest assured that mediators are trained to help you overcome seemingly insurmountable obstacles and find a mutually acceptable way fortually acceptable way for-

People who have been through mediation often tell us they've been able to maintain more amicable relation-ships and family members have coped better with the break-up.

So, how does mediation work? Withy King's family mediators provide free initial consultations with each individual separately to establish



Katherine Moody, from Withy King Solicitors

whether mediation is a suitable option.

Once appointed, the mediator will act as an impartial, third party who will host meetings in a neutral, safe environment where you can work out the key issues, such as the division of your finances and arrangements for any children.

Financial experts or life

counsellors can also attend.

Mediation often sees people finding novel ways of dividing their assets for the benefit of the entire family.

This is a far cry from the

court scenario where a judge dictates the outcome. While mediation is often the best route, it is not right for every-

Withy King also has a spe-cialist team of family lawyers who will advise and represent you if required and they have an excellent track record in this area.

For further information about mediation or your par-ticular relationship diffi-culties, contact Katherine culties, contact Katherine Moody or Sharon MacDonald on 01225 730100 or email katherine.moody@withyking.co.uk.

