



Children's social care regulatory solicitors

making it easier
to access
legal services

Stephensons

Stephensons Solicitors LLP

At Stephensons we have an expert team of regulatory solicitors who specialise in assisting providers in children's social care, including residential children's homes, fostering agencies, adoption agencies, and residential family centres.

Our Ofsted solicitors have developed an excellent reputation in this field, and we pride ourselves on achieving the best possible results for our clients. We have successfully defended and represented numerous providers across a variety of sectors, assisting them in retaining their registration, lifting suspensions and restrictions of registration, avoiding criminal prosecutions, and improving the overall gradings of settings.

We understand the intense pressure on providers to comply with the vast and complex regulations governing regulated settings, whilst ensuring that children are suitably protected and safeguarded. We appreciate how a negative inspection report, or any potential enforcement action can impact significantly on your business and your reputation and in many cases, unfairly so.

We recognise that inspections and enforcement action can be a stressful and frustrating time and our experience allows us to provide clear and strategic advice at all stages.

We have a network of offices and we act for clients nationwide. We appreciate that Ofsted often impose tight deadlines and we regularly prepare cases at very short notice. We also understand the needs and anxieties of our professional clients at risk of losing their registration and in some cases, their business and reputation.

We will provide you with a clear indication of our fees at each stage of your case. This allows for clarity and certainty on costs while your case is ongoing. We also offer a number of payment options to suit your individual needs.

Our services

As specialist Ofsted lawyers, we act for providers across the social care and childcare sectors in relation to the following:

- Factual accuracy responses
- Complaints against inspection reports and/or inspectors
- Complaints to ICASO and the Parliamentary and Health Service Ombudsman
- Compliance notices
- Notices of proposal to cancel registration, refuse registration, and impose conditions on registration
- Appeals to the First-tier Tribunal (Health, Education and Social Care Chamber) against notices of decision to cancel or refuse registration and notices restricting accommodation
- Appeals to the First-tier Tribunal (Health, Education and Social Care Chamber) against suspension notices
- Emergency applications to the Magistrates' Courts
- Regulatory meetings
- Interviews under caution
- Warning letters and simple cautions
- Prosecutions
- Advice on unregulated and unregistered provisions

Care Quality Commission solicitors

Our regulatory team are also specialists in dealing with issues that may arise from CQC inspections of providers who provide social care services to children and young people. We have developed an excellent reputation in the health and social care sectors and we pride ourselves on achieving the best possible results for our clients. We can help with the following:

- Factual accuracy challenges against draft inspection reports
- Ratings review requests
- Challenging notices of proposal to cancel, suspend, impose or vary conditions of registration
- Appeals to the first-tier tribunal (care standards chamber)
- Criminal investigations and prosecutions
- CQC registration advice & challenging refusals of registration
- Challenging warning notices
- Complaints
- Inquests
- Safeguarding investigations

Legal services for businesses

Stephensons is a full service law firm meaning we can provide a range of other services for your business such as:

Business recovery services
Commercial advice & deals
Commercial litigation
Commercial property law
Corporate law
Data privacy law
Debt recovery

Defending discrimination claims
Employment law & HR support
Financial dispute resolution
Insolvency law
Legal costs services
Regulatory and professional discipline
Residential landlord services
Road transport law



Call us on **0333 344 4885** or email regulatoryenquiries@stephensons.co.uk

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