

## Options for settlements

Benefits and features	Lawyer Negotiation 8	Orthodox Mediation	Directive Mediation	Collaborative Law	Early Neutral Evaluation	Arbitration	In Court settlements 1
Safe 2	yes	care needed 4	yes 3	yes	yes	yes	yes
Use of third party 7	no	yes	yes	no	yes	yes	yes
Intended to improve communication and/or parenting skills	not really	yes	possibly	possibly	no	no	no
Same lawyer throughout	yes	yes	yes	no 5	yes	yes	yes
Privileged	yes	yes	yes	yes	open or privileged	no	yes
All issues 6	yes	yes	less likely	yes	unlikely	less likely	no
Costs in contrast to final court hearing (v high)	med	low	low/med	med	med	med/high	med/high
Significant parties involvement in terms	good	high	high	good	low	low	medium
Suitable for cross border cases 9	yes	possibly	yes	unlikely	yes	yes	yes
Speed - at parties' pace	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	no
Requires court proceedings	no	no	no	no	no	no	yes
Undertaken at iFLG	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	n/a

### Footnotes

- 1 such as Financial Dispute Resolution and conciliation hearings
- 2 insofar as any aspect of the process can be fully free from domestic abuse
- 3 provided lawyers are present at the directive mediations
- 4 screening for possible domestic abuse is vitally important
- 5 if one party commences non consensual proceedings
- 6 all issues means finance and children and/or divorce and similar issues dealt with at the same time
- 7 in addition to parties' lawyers
- 8 often round table meetings with parties present, also correspondence and telephone calls
- 9 never discuss settlements in a cross border case without first taking cross border advice and sometimes issuing proceedings

The International Family Law Group includes specialist family law solicitors, family and civil mediators, directive mediators, collaborative lawyers, arbitrators and early neutral evaluation lawyers. It handles both national and cross border settlements. Contact David Hodson for details and visit [www.iflg.uk.com](http://www.iflg.uk.com)