

This leaflet describes our expertise in mental health law matters but Hatten Wyatt also provides a full range of legal services for private clients and businesses in Gravesend and throughout Kent and south east London.

When you need legal advice, talk to us as soon as you can. A solicitor's experience and expertise can often resolve a difficult situation before it has more permanent effects on you, your family or business. This is a summary of some matters we can help you with:

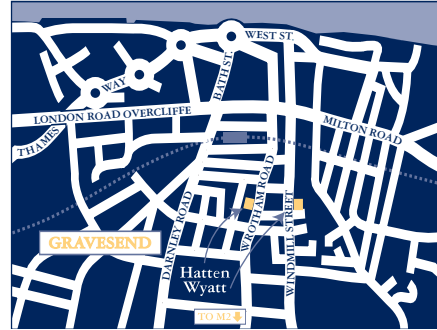
- Separation, divorce and children's issues
- Private disputes
- Personal injury
- Crime/advice at Police station/representation in court
- Actions against the Police
- Employment problems (for employees and employers)
- Buying/selling your home
- Licensing applications
- Wills, tax planning and services for older clients
- Probate
- Contesting a Will
- Commercial property transactions
- Business services
- Immigration

We are committed to provide high quality advice and service to all our clients regardless of the nature or value of the matter. Your work will be supervised by one solicitor, with access to the combined knowledge of the firm, who will keep you informed about the progress of your case, explain the legal procedures and answer your questions and take into account the longer term implications as well as the immediate benefits of our advice.



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HATTEN WYATT

Solicitors & Advocates

Established 1844

Mental Health Law





HATTEN WYATT

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Hatten Wyatt is one of the few law firms in north Kent currently holding a Mental Health Franchise. This means that our Mental Health Law Department has been recognised as a specialist provider of this important community service.

The Department handles all mental health issues as they affect:

- individuals suffering mental health problems
- patients already being treated
- members of their family
- hospital administrators

We advise clients detained under the Mental Health Act (for both civil and criminal matters), advising on detention and treatment and, if necessary, making representation before the Mental Health Review Tribunal. We also advise nearest relatives of detained patients of their rights.

We know well the unpredictable nature of this work and we're able to represent tribunal patients at very short notice and undertake to visit patients within 24 hours of being requested. In all matters, we will always explain clearly the choices and options open to you and we can introduce you to other mental health professionals who may be able to help you and your family.

Representing patients

- Manager's Hearing
- tribunals (restricted and non-restricted)
- guardianship matters
- Court of Protection
- medication/treatment issues
- suspect/offender's rights

Other legal matters

- assessment/treatment options
- nearest relative's rights/powers
- your appeal
- your rights concerning treatment and medication
- your financial affairs, welfare entitlement and the security of your family
- the role/powers of the Mental Health Review Tribunal
- supervised/conditional discharge
- Powers of Attorney

Advice for administrators

- problems arising from admission
- duty of referral
- scrutiny of documents
- validity of sections
- renewals
- hospital orders
- reclassifications

Mental Health Department

Coming to see you: If you are unable to visit our office, we will visit you wherever you are. Our aim is to talk to you, face to face, within 24 hours of your first contact with us. We realise that you do not need the additional stress of waiting for an appointment and we will ensure this does not happen.

Visiting our office: Our office is open from 9am to 5.30pm, from Monday to Friday. Please telephone or call in to make an appointment so we can be sure a member of the Mental Health Department is available. We have ground floor meeting rooms. Please tell us, when you make your appointment, if you prefer one of these rooms.

Emergencies: Telephone or come to our office. We will provide legal advice as soon as we possibly can. At any time outside office hours, please telephone the appropriate emergency number overleaf.

Fees: If you have been sectioned under the Mental Health Act you will qualify for free public funding and you will not have to make any contribution or pay any costs whatsoever. In other circumstances, you may still be entitled to public funding and we will advise you when we see you.

Languages: In addition to English, members of staff can also speak French, Urdu, Gujarati and Punjabi. Please tell us if you would prefer to discuss your matter in a language other than English.