

**“Moving our research online with LexisPSL has dramatically increased our efficiency as a team, with Lexis Smart Forms and Precedents we not only save time but can be confident we are always using the most up-to-date documents”**

*Sarah Palmer, Head of Wills & Probate, Brain Chase Coles Solicitors*



## Brain Chase Coles Requirements

Brain Chase Coles are a Basingstoke based law firm with over 30 years experience of offering a broad range of legal services to corporate and private clients.

Steady growth and an impressive number of referrals from satisfied clients are testament to the high esteem in which the firm is held. Amid this progress, it remains independent and takes pride in offering the same personal touch as it always did.

Brain Chase Coles now consists of 4 partners, 9 additional lawyers and a small team of support staff. Their areas of legal expertise include Property, Wills & Probate and Private Client, Family Law and Litigation.

As an increasing number of junior fee earners join the firm there is a preference for using online research and productivity tools. Combined with the reality of storing and updating the range of print titles required across the different departments, the Head of Wills & Probate was able to build a business case to move their legal research online. She was confident this would also result in an increase in their efficiency and enhance the service they provide to their customers.

## The LexisNexis Solution

After reviewing the alternatives, Brain Chase Coles decided on a combination of Lexis® Library, Lexis® PSL and Lexis® Smart Forms and Precedents across Wills & Probate, Dispute Resolution and Family.

“We chose Lexis Legal Intelligence as the majority of our historical files were produced using the Butterworths content.” explains Sarah Palmer, Head of Wills & Probate. “Having access to this content online not only offered a value for money option compared to the breadth of printed material we required, but the practical guidance of LexisPSL and ease of use of the forms and precedents also saves us so much time.”

The combination of LexisLibrary, LexisPSL and LexisSmart provides a fully comprehensive online legal research and guidance service. LexisLibrary enables access to comprehensive consolidated legislation and over 500,000 cases. Established names like Butterworths, Tolley and Halsbury's ensure the firm has access to the most authoritative legal opinion and analysis.

**“The great thing about LexisNexis is you know there is always a lawyer at the end of a phone. This makes such a difference when you need help with something fast, as they understand your work and the pressures you are under”.**

LexisPSL provides up-to-date practical guidance from specialist solicitors and barristers, helping the firm to give its clients the best advice possible. The addition of LexisSmart Forms and Precedents gives access to relevant forms in fillable PDF format (Adobe) and 150 precedents using advanced document assembly technology from Business Integrity.

## How did Brain Chase Coles Benefit?

Brain Chase Coles have experienced the benefits of a significant increase in their staff efficiency, improvement in the quality of advice they are able to provide to their customers and decrease in time spent loose-leaf filing. Fee-earners now have instant online access to the information they require.

Secretarial support staff spend less time completing forms and are therefore able to take on more tasks to help the lawyers. A key benefit of LexisSmart Forms has been the ability to fill, save and share completed inheritance tax forms, which Brain Chase Coles were not previously able to do with forms from the HM Revenue & Customs site.

As Sarah commented “Junior lawyers can use the LexisSmart Precedents Q&A interview to create simple wills with greater ease and there is a reduced chance of errors. With over 200 wills to draft a year, anything that speeds up that process is beneficial. Staying up-to-date is always an issue, but with Lexis Legal Intelligence we can be confident that we are always referring to the latest legislation and best practice”.

There are also financial benefits to the law firm as a whole. Saving time on research and drafting means an increase in the number of billable hours. More specifically, certain types of work are billed for at a fixed fee, so using automated precedents reduces the time it takes to produce documents, making the work more profitable. For example, the new LexisSmart documents are especially easy to use, and producing a ‘change of name deed’ can take as little as five minutes to complete.

In conclusion, Sarah says: “By going online we have not only improved our efficiency, but also made significant time and financial savings. On the research side alone, we are saving many hours a week and the information is so much more accessible. Choosing Lexis Legal Intelligence has made life easier for the people in our firm, both fee-earners and support staff. Overall, I believe the LexisNexis package we subscribe to offers the best content available at an affordable price.”