## Note on the Correct Use of the ES2 (Composite Asset Schedule)

1. This note has been drafted by the 'Money and Property' sub-committee of the FLBA.
2. The purpose of the ES2 is to record the assets, liabilities, and income values in a simple and neutral format, and in such a way as to enable any differences in the values asserted by the parties to be highlighted and identified easily by the court. The template was designed to limit (or eliminate altogether) disagreements between the parties as to how those numbers should be presented, which might cause delay to the lodging of the composite asset schedule.
3. It ought to be considered best practice for the ES2 to travel between the parties or their solicitors at the same time as any updating disclosure is served. This will allow for the ES2 to be updated with each round of updating disclosure, and therefore in advance of any court hearings.

## Recording values and highlighting differences

4. The ES2 has been designed so that the values for assets, liabilities, and incomes which populate the ES2 do not have to be agreed between the parties before the document is lodged. The column for assets/liabilities held by each of the parties (or held jointly) is divided in half, allowing space for each party to set out separately the numbers which they say make up the assets, liabilities, and incomes in the case.
5. The parties do not need to agree or approve the numbers which other party chooses to assert in their allotted side of the three columns, nor should a party attempt to populate the parts which are reserved for the other party's case.
6. Each party must set out, on 'their' side of all three columns, the numerical values that they contend for all of the individual assets/liabilities in the case, including those of the other party and those which are held jointly. Values on both sides of the three columns should be populated, even where the parties are using the same figure.
7. Where the figures ascribed by the parties for any individual item are different (save for figures which are less than $£ 50$ apart), the parties must highlight (in yellow) the two adjacent cells with competing values. It is not necessary to highlight any sub-totals which are different. Please see the example ES2 (Sample v Sample) to see how this looks in practice.
8. Liabilities or overdrawn bank accounts should be entered as negative numbers. All numbers should be recorded in $£$ Sterling, even if the parties cannot agree on exchange rate.
9. It is acceptable, when recording bank account numbers, to refer only to the last four digits of the account number, with an asterisk to denote the abbreviation. For example an account number which is 26354790 may be recorded as *4790
10. It is acceptable, if the parties consider it helpful, to add additional calculation boxes into the ES2 which calculate the totality of the combined resources of the parties. These calculations must show the combined total of the values asserted by each party. Please see the example ES2 (Sample v Sample) as to how this additional calculation ought to be presented.

## Disputes about the inclusion of certain Assets / Liabilities / Incomes

11. The format of the ES2 has been designed to prevent disagreements about the way resources should be presented (for example due to arguments about beneficial ownership, illiquidity, non-matrimonial character, relevance, or 'soft' debts). Advocates will present such arguments, by reference to the ES2, in their submissions to the court and in any additional schedules which form part of their position statements.
12. Where there is a dispute about whether an asset exists or whether it should be included in the ES2 at all, it should nevertheless be recorded in the ES2. The party disputing inclusion will leave a blank cell for the value of the asset and the competing adjacent cells must be highlighted in yellow, denoting the dispute. Please see the example ES2 (Sample v Sample) at Footnotes 5, 6 and 7.
13. If an asset is legally owned by a third party, but it is asserted that one (or both) of the parties has a beneficial interest in it, it must therefore be recorded in the ES2. The party denying the beneficial interest will leave the value cells blank and the cells will be highlighted in yellow to denote the dispute. See the example ES2 (Sample v Sample) at Footnote 3
14. The asserted beneficial interest in assets which are jointly owned by the parties themselves must not be recorded in the ES2. For example, if an asset (such as a family home or a joint bank account) is held in the parties' joint names, the entire asset must be recorded in the 'Joint' column. Apportioning the value across the parties' columns is not acceptable. Please see the example ES2 (Sample v Sample) at Footnote 4.

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|  | HUSBAND |  | WIFE |  | JOINT |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| NON-PENSION ASSETS (net) | £1,644,635 | £1,095,650 | £95,820 | £423,252 | £829,137 | £825,137 |
| Applicant's Case: $\mathbf{£ 2 , 5 6 9 , 5 9 2}$ Respondent's Case: $£ 2,344,039$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |


| PENSION ASSETS |  |  | HUSBAND |  | WIFE |  | JOINT |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Husband |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Aviva Pension | Occupational | AV837502 | £123,745 | £123,745 |  |  |  |  |
| Hargreaves Lansdown | MP | HL856383 | £32,000 | £32,000 |  |  |  |  |
| Barclays SIPP | SIPP | BB85757 | £73,629 | £73,629 |  |  |  |  |
| Wife |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| NHS Pension scheme Scottish Widows | Final Salary Personal | NHS77576 SW85858 |  |  | $\begin{array}{r} £ 325,038 \\ £ 17,234 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r}£ 325,038 \\ £ 17,234 \\ \hline\end{array}$ |  |  |
|  |  |  | £229,374 | £229,374 | £342,272 | £342,272 | £0 | £0 |


|  | HUSBAND |  | WIFE |  | JOINT |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| TOTAL ASSETS (INC. PENSIONS) | £1,874,009 | £1,325,024 | £438,092 | £765,524 | £829,137 | £825,137 |
| Applicant's Case: Respondent's Case: $£ 2,141,238$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |



