# CLIENT 7: GARETH CHEESEMAN (DIVORCED)

Client ID: C007  
**Last Updated:** 18/01/2026  
**Next Review:** 20/02/2027 (15:00, Office)

# PERSONAL DETAILS

**Gareth Cheeseman**  
DOB: 19/07/1979 (Age 46)  
Status: Divorced (2022)

**Address:** Apartment 5B, Riverside Development, Weybridge, KT13 8PL  
**Contact:** 07723 891234 | gareth.cheeseman@constructionpm.com

**Occupation:** Construction Project Manager, BuildRight Ltd  
Salary: £78,000 + £8,000 bonus (£86,000 total)

**Ex-Wife:** Claire Cheeseman  
Custody: 50/50  
**Children:**

* Jack (13), DOB 12/03/2012
* Lily (11), DOB 08/09/2014

**Maintenance:** £1,200/month child maintenance

* Jack until 2030
* Lily until 2032  
  (No spousal maintenance)

# FINANCIAL SUMMARY

Net Worth: £285,000 (post-divorce rebuild phase)  
Income: £86,000

**Property:** Renting

* Apartment rent: £1,850/month
* Previous property sold in divorce; actively rebuilding toward ownership

**Assets:**

* ISA: £38,000
* Savings: £45,000 (Santander / Marcus)
* Pensions:
  + BuildRight £125,000
  + Balfour Beatty £55,000
* Car: Audi Q5 (2020) £22,000 owned outright

**Liabilities:** None  
(Divorce settlement completed; clean break)

# PROTECTION

* Life Cover: £250,000 (expires 2042), in trust for children
* Critical Illness: None
* Income Protection: None
* PMI: Vitality (via employer)

# DIVORCE SETTLEMENT (2022 – HISTORICAL CONTEXT)

* Marital home sold £565,000
* Mortgage cleared £185,000
* Net £380,000 split £190,000 each
* Claire purchased £450k property with new mortgage
* Gareth allocation:
  + £50k flat deposit (property sold 2023)
  + £140k into ISA / savings / pension
* Approx. £200k net worth reduction but clean financial separation

# GOALS & PRIORITIES

1. Rebuild long-term financial security
2. Purchase property £400k (deposit £40k) – target 2026
3. Retire age 60 (14 years) – TARGET £45k/year
4. University funding: £30k per child (£60k total)
5. Relationship progression (dating Sarah, 9+ months)
6. Possible career move into consultancy (£95k–£110k)

# RECENT CHANGES (Jan 2026 Review)

* Relationship with Sarah ongoing and stable (now >1 year)
* Ongoing emotional support for Jack; private therapy continues
* Lily remains well-adjusted
* Promotion to Senior PM effective Oct 2024 sustained (£72k → £78k)
* Consultancy option still under consideration but deferred

# TAX POSITION

* Income £86,000
* Full personal allowance retained
* Higher-rate taxpayer
* Limited immediate tax-planning opportunities

# RECOMMENDATIONS STATUS

**Last Full Review: Jan 2026**

✓ Emergency fund achieved

* True emergency reserve £25k
* Additional savings earmarked for house deposit

**IN PROGRESS:**

* House purchase planning
  + £40k deposit target
  + £20k ring-fenced
  + Saving £800/month → ~£19,200 over 24 months
  + On track for mid-2026 purchase

✓ Pension contributions increased

* Employee 8% (£6,240) + Employer 8% (£6,240)
* Total £12,480/year (post-promotion)

**DECLINED (FOR NOW):**

* Income Protection (£85/month for £3,500/month cover)
  + Not affordable alongside therapy costs
  + Strong recommendation to revisit once pressure eases

**NOT STARTED:**

* Critical Illness (£75/month, £100k cover) – deferred
* Pension consolidation (£55k Balfour Beatty pot; ~£300/year saving) – low priority

**PENDING (URGENT):**

* Will update post-divorce
  + Current will invalid (leaves estate to ex-spouse)
  + Required: new will to children, guardianship to sister Kate
  + Emotional resistance noted – adviser to book solicitor directly

**NOT STARTED:**

* LPAs – deferred but noted as future priority

# CURRENT OPPORTUNITIES

1. Salary uplift embedded
   * £6k/year increase already supporting £800/month house savings
2. Relationship planning with Sarah – THREE SCENARIOS:  
   A) **Move into Sarah’s home** (£520k value, £180k mortgage)
   * Gareth pays £900/month
   * Continues saving £800/month
   * Reaches £40k deposit July 2026
   * **RECOMMENDED** (with cohabitation agreement)  
     B) Rent together (£2,400/month; £1,200 each)
   * Saves £650/month vs current rent
   * Faster deposit but delays Sarah’s equity  
     C) Buy jointly (£600k property, £140k deposit combined)
   * £460k mortgage, £1,300/month each
   * High relationship/financial risk unless married
3. Career consultancy option
   * £95k–£110k potential income
   * Net gain marginal at £95k; attractive only at £110k+
   * Recommend delay until post-house purchase for mortgage stability
4. Children’s university funding
   * Target £60k total
   * Start £300/month from 2026 post-house purchase
   * Projected: Jack £24k, Lily £34k; supplement later if needed
5. Jack’s therapy costs
   * £4,160/year
   * Explore EAP or NHS support alongside private therapy

# CONCERNS & RISKS

* Single-income vulnerability with ongoing maintenance
* No income protection during peak responsibility years
* Relationship financial exposure without legal safeguards
* Property timing uncertainty (rates ~4.75%, flat prices)
* Career change risk while mortgage planning
* Emotional load: parenting, work, dating post-divorce
* Retirement shortfall risk:
  + Projected pot ~£580k at 60
  + Income ~£34.7k vs £45k target
  + Options: higher contributions, work to 65, or reduce target

# UPCOMING ACTIONS

**Before Next Review (2026):**

* Will drafting appointment booked and completed
* Relationship housing decision confirmed
* House deposit progress review
* Jack therapy reassessment

**At Next Review (2027):**

* Mortgage pre-approval and purchase planning
* Retirement shortfall modelling
* Cohabitation agreement discussion (if applicable)
* Income protection revisit
* University savings plan activation

# RECENT COMMUNICATION

10/01/26: Email – Salary increase confirmed  
14/01/26: Call – Housing discussions with Sarah  
18/01/26: Text – Jack’s therapy progress update

# NOTES

* Still emotionally processing divorce; sensitivity required
* Highly committed father; significant emotional and financial effort
* Prefers direct, practical advice without jargon
* Uses cycling for stress management
* Close to sister Kate (Reading) – intended guardian
* Financially cautious post-divorce; needs reassurance on protection
* Dating anxiety around finances and blending families
* Divorce context remains emotionally charged