

Probate Fees

The following information is published in line with the SRA Transparency Rules which came into force on 6th December 2018 to provide guidance in terms of our probate fees.

Applying for the grant, collecting and distributing the assets

Every estate is different and so it can be difficult to accurately estimate the cost of the work before we meet with you to see what assets are involved.

The exact cost will depend on the individual circumstances of the matter. For example, if there is one beneficiary and no property, costs will be at the lower end of the range. If there are multiple beneficiaries, a property and multiple bank accounts, costs will be at the higher end.

In order to help you we set out below an example of the costs involved when applying for the grant, collecting and distributing the assets.

This quote is for estates where:

- There is a valid will
- All of the assets are in the UK
- There is no more than one property
- There are no more than 3 bank or building society accounts
- There are no other intangible assets
- There are 2-3 beneficiaries
- There are no disputes between beneficiaries on division of assets. If disputes arise this is likely to lead to an increase in costs
- There is no inheritance tax payable and the executors do not need to submit a full account (Inheritance Tax 400) to HMRC
- There are no claims made against the estate

We will handle the full process for you. The matter will be dealt with by a Solicitor or an Assistant Legal Executive. All of our Solicitors have more than ten years' experience and are Full Members of the Society of Trust and Estate Practitioners (STEP).

We anticipate this will take between 5 and 10 hours work at a rate of £205 per hour. Total costs estimated at £1,500 – £2,500 (+VAT).

Disbursements included in this estimate:

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| Probate application fee | £155 |
| Swearing of the oath | £7 (per executor) |
| Bankruptcy-only Land Charges Department searches | £2 (per beneficiary) |
| Post in The London Gazette– Protects against unexpected claims from unknown creditors. | £85 (approximately) |
| Post in a Local Newspaper – This also helps to protect against unexpected claims. | £150 -£200 |

Disbursements are costs related to your matter that are payable to third parties, such as court fees. We will handle the payment of the disbursements on your behalf to ensure a smoother process.

Potential additional costs

If there is no will or the estate consists of any share holdings (stocks and bonds) there are likely to be additional costs that could range significantly depending on the estate and how it is to be dealt with. We can give you a more accurate quote once we have more information.

If any additional copies of the grant are required, they will cost £0.50 (1 per asset usually).

Dealing with the sale or transfer of any property in the estate is not included.

How long will this process take?

It is difficult to estimate accurately how long the administration will take, as we are dependent upon response from third parties, such as the financial institutions, HM Revenue & Customs and the Court.

The general law allows executors 12 months to complete the administration of the estate, which in most cases is very generous. On average, estates that fall within this range are dealt with within 6 months.