

Our Probate Prices – Detailed

We offer two levels of service for Probate, being:

1. Grant of Probate – Grant only (with a will) / Letters of administration (without a will)
2. Full Administration (will) / Letters of Administration (no will)

Grant only

We will obtain the Grant of Probate on your behalf. This should typically be completed within 6 months. You will then administer the estate.

Which includes

- √ Obtaining the grant, collecting assets and preparing the Inheritance tax (IHT) for IHT205 (for estates where not IHT is payable) and supporting documentation.

Not Included

- × Completion of an IHT400 where inheritance tax has to be paid within 6 months of death.

If IHT is payable a discussion would be held to review the assets and provide a fee based upon the assets. Instances such as multiple beneficiaries/bank accounts and stocks/shares render a matter more complex.

Our fee

We are pleased to offer a fixed fee service for this service.

Our fixed fee service starts at £950.00 plus VAT (20%).

If the estate is subject to Inheritance Tax, the case is more complex and requires more work. Our fixed fee will increase based upon the assets within the estate.

What does this include?

1. An initial meeting with one of our specialist Private Client solicitors to discuss your case and start gathering together the necessary information about the estate. We are happy to arrange this appointment outside of working hours and at your own home, if that suits you best.
2. Identify relevant parties' executors, administrators and beneficiaries.
3. Reviewing the full details of the estate, including the assets and liabilities.
4. Identify the type of application you require.
5. Obtaining all relevant documents required to make the application.
6. Submission of the application to the Probate Registry.
7. Securely sending relevant copies of the application.

How long will this take?

On average obtaining a grant of probate takes approximately 6 months. However, times scales for the grant being received vary in accordance with the Office of the Public Guardian,

Are there any third-party charges?

Third-party charges during a case are called "disbursements". It is hard to predict what disbursements might apply to your specific case, as circumstances differ and occasionally third-party charges can increase/decrease.

We provide the following list as examples of disbursements that might apply to your case:

- Identification and bankruptcy checks on all executors and beneficiaries (UK residents) - £8.40 inclusive of VAT (20%) per individual - **Required**
- Identification and bankruptcy checks on all executors and beneficiaries (non UK residents) - £60.00 inclusive of VAT (20%) per individual - **Required**
- Probate Court fee - £300.00 – **Required**
- Copies of Grant of Probate - £1.50 per document – **Required**
- Telegraphic transfer fee of funds - £30.00 per transaction – **Required**

To confirm, disbursements are paid in addition to our above legal fee.

Estate Administration / Letters of administration

We would complete the work outlined in securing the Grant of Probate and then subsequently administer the estate on your behalf.

Our fee

We do not apply any fixed fee for this service, as your fee will depend on the complexity and duration of your case.

We can estimate that a standard estate administration takes between 10 to 15 hours. Our Private Client specialist solicitors charge an hourly rate of £273.00 plus VAT (20%). As such, our total costs estimated charges are £2,730.00 - £4,095.00 plus VAT (20%). However, costs are dictated by a number of differing variables such as the number of beneficiaries, bank accounts, properties, stocks and shares.

The above quote relates to estates where there is;

1. A valid will
2. No more than one property
3. No more than 3 bank accounts
4. No other intangible assets
5. No disputes between beneficiaries
6. No claims against the estate

The following are examples of an estate administration which would likely attract fees at the higher bracket:

- There is more than one property
- There are assets overseas
- There are business assets
- There is trust within the will

We will keep you regularly informed about the charges being incurred throughout your case.

What does this include?

1. An initial meeting with one of our specialist Private Client solicitors to discuss your case and start gathering together the necessary information about the estate. We are happy to arrange this appointment outside of working hours and at your own home, if that suits you best.
2. Reviewing the full details of the estate, including the assets and liabilities.

3. Preparation of the relevant application, either Grant of Probate (will) or Letters of Administration (no will). We would also prepare the HM Revenue & Customs Form is relevant and prepare any legal statement(s) of the executors.
4. Submission of the application to the Probate Registry.
5. Upon receipt of the Grant of Probate or Letters of Administration, we would collect the assets. This might include selling any property which our conveyancing team can assist with.
6. Finalising any tax liabilities for the estate.
7. Distribution of the assets and discharging any liabilities.

What is NOT including?

Dealing with the sale or transfer of any property in the estate is not included, however we have an experienced conveyancing department who can complete this for you.

How long will this take?

On average simple estates are dealt with within 8-10 months. However, the administration relies upon all associated banks, agencies and providers confirming the position of any accounts without delay.

We aim to complete the administration element of your case within 12 months.

As such, from start to finish, for an estate administration, we aim to complete the process within 18 months.

We will keep you regularly updated on the progression of your case.

Are there any third-party charges?

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We provide the following list as examples of disbursements that might apply to your case:

- Identification and bankruptcy checks on all executors and beneficiaries (UK residents) - £8.40 inclusive of VAT (20%) per individual - **Required**
- Identification and bankruptcy checks on all executors and beneficiaries (non UK residents) - £60.00 inclusive of VAT (20%) per individual - **Required**
- Probate Court fee - £300.00 – **Required**
- Copies of Grant of Probate - £1.50 per document – **Required**
- Telegraphic transfer fee of funds - £30.00 per transaction – **Required**
- Financial asset search - £234.00 inclusive of VAT (20%) – **Recommended**
- Statutory notices - £114.00 inclusive of VAT (20%) – **Recommended**

To confirm, disbursements are paid in addition to our above legal fee.

Potential additional costs

If there is no will or the estate consists of any share holdings (stocks and bonds) there is 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.