

Probate costs

We can help you through this difficult process by obtaining the Grant of Probate on your behalf. We will also undertake the collecting and distributing of assets.

How much does this service cost?

We offer a fixed fee or a complete estate administration service

Fixed Fee Service

The total costs depends upon the value of the estate as follows:

- **Fixed fee of £1,500 plus VAT at 20% where the gross estate is up to the excepted limit of £325,000 or**
- **Fixed fee of £2,200 plus VAT at 20% where the gross estate is above the excepted limit of £325,000**

This fixed fee service only includes obtaining the Grant of Probate for you.

Breakdown of costs:

Legal fees: as stated above plus vat and includes the following disbursements

Disbursements:

- Probate court fee of £273 plus £1.50 per office copy (no VAT is payable on these sums).
- Bankruptcy-only Land Charges Department searches at £3 per beneficiary (no VAT is payable on these sums).
- Approximately £250 (inclusive of VAT at 20%) for a post in The London Gazette and a Local Newspaper – Protects against unexpected claims from unknown creditors.

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

On average, estates that fall within this range are dealt with within 3-6months.

Typically, obtaining the grant of probate takes 2-3 weeks.

Complete Administration of the estate service

This includes: making enquiries, completing the inheritance tax account, obtaining the Grant of Probate, collecting assets and distributing them.

Breakdown of costs:

Legal fees:

1. An average estate will cost between £3,800 to £4,800 plus VAT at 20%
2. Large and complicated estates can cost in excess of £8,500 plus VAT at 20%

We anticipate that an average estate will take between 17 to 20 hours work at £220 per hour plus VAT at 20%.

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As part of our service we will:

- Provide you with a dedicated and experienced probate solicitor of over 12 years' experience to work on your matter
- Identify the legally appointed executors or administrators and beneficiaries
- Accurately identify the type of Probate application you will require
- Obtain the relevant documents required to make the application
- Complete the Probate Application and the relevant HMRC forms
- Draft a legal oath for you to swear
- Make the application to the Probate Court on your behalf
- Obtain the Probate and securely send two copies to you
- Collect and distribute all assets in the estate

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.

We will handle the full process for you. This quote is for estates where:

- There is a valid will
- There is no more than one property
- 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 to HMRC
- There are no claims made against the estate

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

How long will this take?

On average, estates that fall within this range are dealt with within 6-15 months. Typically, submitting an estate account application to the Revenue takes between 2 to 3 months, obtaining the grant of probate takes 2-3 weeks. Collecting assets then follows. Once this has been done, we can distribute the assets.