

You will find in this section information about typical probate cases we are asked to advise on:

The exact cost is going to depend on the individual circumstances of your matter and in all cases you will be provided with a dedicated and experienced probate solicitor to work on your matter.

Disbursements are costs related to your matter that are payable to third parties and in all cases where a grant of representation is required the following disbursements are payable:

- Probate application fee of £155 plus 50p for each additional office copy (fees are due to increase in April 2019)
- Oath fee of £5 per person plus £2 per Will and Codicil

CASE 1

Application for a Grant only where there is no inheritance tax to pay. This is chargeable on a fixed fee basis.

The cost of this service is £750 plus VAT (£150) plus the usual disbursements as detailed above.

For this fee we will:

- Identify the executors or administrators and the type of grant you are going to need
- Draft the relevant oath and HMRC report.
- Arrange for you to swear the oath
- Submit the application to the Probate Court
- Provide you with the copies of the Grant once issued.

We estimate that this process will take between 6 – 8 weeks from the date you supply all the necessary valuations for the assets and liabilities.

The fixed fee does not cover the time taken in dealing with any queries that may be raised by either HMRC or the Probate Registry.

CASE 2

Application for a Grant only where there is inheritance tax payable.

The cost of this service is £1,750 plus VAT (£350) and disbursements as detailed above.

For this fee we will:

- Identify the executors or administrators and the type of grant you are going to need
- Draft the relevant oath and HMRC report.
- Arrange for you to swear the oath
- Correspond with HMRC and arrange for the payment of the tax due
- Submit the application to the Probate Court once HMRC have acknowledged receipt of the tax paid
- Provide you with the copies of the Grant once issued.

We estimate that this process will take between 10-12 weeks from the date you supply all the necessary valuations for the assets and liabilities.

The fixed fee does not cover the time taken in dealing with any queries that may be raised by either HMRC or the Probate Registry.

CASE 3

Simple estate where we are applying for the grant, collecting and distributing the assets where there is no inheritance tax to pay.

This estimate is based on an estate where there is a valid Will, only one property, 3 – 4 bank or building society accounts and no more than 4 beneficiaries.

The cost of this service is based on the hourly rate of the solicitor acting for you but is typically in the region of between £1,500 and £5,000 plus VAT and disbursements as detailed above.

For this fee we will:

- Identify the executors or administrators and the type of grant you are going to need
- Identify and value the assets and liabilities of the estate
- Draft the relevant oath and HMRC report.
- Arrange for you to swear the oath
- Submit the application to the Probate Court
- Once probate has been granted we will call in the assets comprising the estate and pay all outstanding liabilities.
- We will prepare an account detailing the administration
- Distribute the estate in accordance with the Will.

The sale or transfer of any property in the estate will be dealt with by our conveyancing team.

Additional costs can arise where there are shares involved, claims for overpaid means tested benefits or missing beneficiaries.

We estimate that such estates will take approximately 6 – 12 months to complete. The Grant is usually received within 2-3 months with the remaining administration taking a further 3-9 months depending on such matters as the sale of the house.

CASE 4

Complex estate where there is inheritance tax to pay alongside applying for the grant, collecting and distributing the assets.

This estimate is based on an estate where there is a valid Will, only one property, 3 – 4 bank or building society accounts and no more than 4 beneficiaries.

The cost of this service is based on the hourly rate of the solicitor acting for you but is typically in the region of between £4,000 and £8,000 plus VAT and disbursements as detailed above.

For this fee we will:

- Identify the executors or administrators and the type of grant you are going to need
- Identify and value the assets and liabilities of the estate
- Draft the relevant oath and HMRC report.
- Correspond with HMRC and arrange for the payment of the tax due
- Arrange for you to swear the oath
- Submit the application to the Probate Court
- Once probate has been granted we will call in the assets comprising the estate and pay all outstanding liabilities.
- We will prepare an account detailing the administration
- Distribute the estate in accordance with the Will.

The sale or transfer of any property in the estate will be dealt with by our conveyancing team.

Additional costs can arise where there are shares involved, claims for overpaid means tested benefits or missing beneficiaries.

In addition the estimated fee does not cover the time taken in dealing with any queries that may be raised by either HMRC or the Probate Registry.

We estimate that such estates will take approximately 12-24 months to complete. The Grant is usually received within 6-12 months with the remaining administration taking a further 12-18 months depending on such matters as the sale of the house and queries raised by HMRC.