

APPLYING FOR THE GRANT, COLLECTING AND DISTRIBUTING THE ASSETS

We can assist with obtaining the grant of probate and assisting with the distribution of an estate on behalf of the executors. The cost of obtaining probate will vary depending on the complexity of the estate and the assets contained within it. Our hourly rates range from £190 plus VAT to £360 plus VAT. Please refer to our Terms of Business for the hourly rates of each member of the team. Our typical costs for dealing with an estate based on an hourly rate of £260 plus VAT per hour is estimated to be within the range of £5,500 to £7,000 plus VAT. This is based on an estate where:

- There is a valid will;
- There is no more than one residential property;¹
- There are no more than four bank or building society accounts;
- There are no other intangible assets;
- There are no more than four liabilities;
- There are no more than three beneficiaries;
- There are no disputes between beneficiaries and there are no claims made by beneficiaries or others against the estate. If disputes arise this will lead to an increase in our costs;
- Beneficiaries named in the Will can be located by their address and no additional tracing is required;
- No interim distributions to beneficiaries are required;
- There were no gifts made by the deceased in the 7 years prior to their death in excess of £3,000 per year
- There are no requirements for an income tax return
- There is no inheritance tax payable, there are no reliefs other than spouse exemption required to be claimed, there are no transferable inheritance tax allowances to be claimed and the executors do not need to submit a full account to HMRC;

¹ Please note that our costs for administering the estate and dealing with probate matters do not include the sale or transfer of estate property.

Disbursements in addition to this fee:

- Identification checks at £20 plus VAT per executor and beneficiary
- Probate application fee of £300 plus £16 for each office copy Grant of Probate required;
- Bankruptcy searches at £6 per beneficiary;
- Where or if required, between £90 and £250 for notices to be placed in the appropriate local newspaper and the London Gazette, to protect against unexpected claims from unknown creditors;
- If a search is required to ascertain if there is a more recent Will, a will search at £140.

What Are Disbursements?

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

Potential Additional Costs:

Our legal fees may be reviewed where:

- There is no will
- The estate includes share holdings (stocks and bonds). This will very likely attract additional costs that could range significantly depending on the estate and how it is dealt with. We can give you a more accurate quote once we have more information;
- Additional assets are discovered during the estate administration process;
- Income/ Capital Gains Tax Returns are required;
- Disagreements arise between executors or beneficiaries;
- The deceased made gifts in the 7 years prior to death;
- The deceased had an interest in a trust;
- You require us to deal with the sale or transfer of any property in the estate.

What Is The Timescale?

On average, estates that fall within this range are usually dealt with within 6 to 12 months. Obtaining the grant of probate can take anywhere between 4 -6 months. Collecting assets follows, which can take a further 2-3 months. Once all assets are collected, we can distribute the estate, which normally takes between 1 -2 months, provided we have all the necessary details from the beneficiaries.

We also offer a range of services including assisting with the preparation of the Inheritance Tax and Probate papers where you may already have the majority of the information required.

Please do not hesitate to get in touch with a member of the [team](#) for further information.

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