

Probate and Estate Administration – Our Fees

- Our fees will vary depending on the complexity of the matter.
- Please note that we are not able to specify our fees as these will depend on the complexity of your probate matter and the value of the Estate. For ease of reference, we outline how the estimated fees are calculated below depending on the complexity of your case.

Simple case – from £1500 to £3,000

Simple case will typically be where: -

- There is a valid Will
- There is no more than one property
- There are no high value or specialist personal chattels (for example valuable art objects, jewellery, classic vehicles)
- There are no more than two or three bank or building society accounts
- There are no other intangible assets (for example shares, bank accounts, building society accounts, National Savings products)
- There are no more than three adult beneficiaries, based in the UK whose addresses can be identified.
- There are no disputes between beneficiaries on the division of assets and no claims against the estate.
- There is no Inheritance Tax to pay, and the Executors do not need to submit a full Inheritance Tax account to HM Revenue and Customs
- There is no claim against the estate by DWP for overpayment of means tested benefits
- There are no claims by HMRC for underpayment of income tax prior to death owing to under/no declaration of income

Medium complex case - from £3,500 to £5,500

This will typically be where the value of estate is in excess of the Inheritance Nil Rate Band (£325,000), but less than £1,000,000.00.

Higher complex case – up to £10,000

This will typically be where: -

- Inheritance tax due
- 4 or more beneficiaries
- Numerous assets over which voluminous legal work involved
- Several individual shareholdings rather than held within a portfolio
- Rental properties
- Foreign assets
- Small businesses
- Farmland
- Related trusts

- Complicated tax calculations (for example taxable gifts, capital gains tax calculations for multiple assets, foreign income)
- Disputes with HMRC (for example valuation over assets)
- Disputes with the District Valuer
- Inland Revenue enquiries relating to non or under declaration of income during lifetime
- Business property relief claims
- Agricultural property relief claims
- Taxable lifetime gifts and/or claims for gifts from surplus income involved

*Please note the prices are exclusive VAT and disbursements.

*Disbursements are the costs paid to third parties, for example Probate Registry, Land Registry, London Gazette, Local Newspaper, Property valuers, Bankruptcy searches, Travel costs, Postal costs. We will require money on account to be paid to us in advance to cover these if incurred.

- Probate Registry – *there is no fee if the estate is £5,000 or less. If the value of the estate is over £5,000, the application fee is £215.
- Extra copies if the probate cost £1.50 each.
- Bankruptcy Search - £1 - £2 per beneficiary.
- Advertisement in Local Newspaper - £100 - £125 (helps to protect against unexpected claims)
- Advertisement in the London Gazette - £75 - £100 (helps to protect against unexpected claims from unknown creditors).
- Postal costs – Local UK post – c. £4.80 - £10.00 for the registered post service per letter, depending on the weight of the letter.
- Property valuers – c. £500 – TBC (depending on the size and condition of the Property).
- Travel costs – depend on destination and always discuss and agreed prior with client.

*Please note that you may be able to get help to pay probate fee and other court fees if you have a low income or are on certain benefits. Our private client expert solicitor will assist you to find out if you are eligible for this.

Steps

1. Register the death with all the organizations
2. Notify the beneficiaries
3. Complete the IHT account
4. Preparation and submission of Grant of Probate application
5. Encashing the assets of the estate
6. Paying the liabilities of the estate
7. Preparation of the final estate account
8. Distribution of the estate to the beneficiaries

*Typically, the process of finalising the Estate may take from 3 months to over a year, depending on the complexity of the case, Probate Registry and HMRC response.

Our Team

Our Private Client and Administration team has over 20 years of collective experience in providing high quality work in all the matters relating to wills and probate.

We have two members of the team who may work on your matter. Regardless of who pursues the work for you, it will be supervised by Ed Turner.

In the event, we require a bigger team to work on your matter, we also outsource our Probate and Administration work to qualified consultant solicitors.

All the Probate and Administration of the Estate work is heavily supervised by the firm's Compliance Officer, Ed Turner, who in the past few years has also assisted our clients on their probate matters.

If you have any queries, you should contact Ed Turner at Ed.Turner@ha-law.co.uk (0203 882 0730).