

## Probate

We employ an experience consultant solicitor who can advise on many aspects of private client matters including basic / complex wills, probate and trust matters.

You will find more costing information on our website.

### Applying for the grant, collecting and distributing the assets

We anticipate costs of an uncomplicated probate to cost between £3,000-£5,000 plus VAT.

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 more than 2 bank or building society accounts
- There are no other intangible assets
- There are no more than 3 beneficiaries
- 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

Disbursements included in this fee (where applicable VAT, and all of which are subject to confirmation at the time we instruct them to be carried out):

- Probate application fee of £215 on estates greater than £5,000
- Copy Probate at £1.50 per copy, as required (we would normally ask for between 5 – 15 copies).
- £5 Swearing of the oath (per executor by independent solicitor / commissioner of oaths, this does not include the drafting of the oath or any advice on the oath itself)
- Bankruptcy-only Land Charges Department searches (£2 per beneficiary)
- £73 Post in The London Gazette – Protects against unexpected claims from unknown creditors.

- £215 Post in a Local Newspaper (estimated) – This also helps to protect against unexpected claims.

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. To find out more, [read this overview](#).

## Potential additional costs

- Probate containing one further trust or with some other single complication | £5,000 - £7,000 plus VAT
- Probate containing an international element which needs considering | £5,000 – £10,000 plus VAT
- Complex probate | £20,000 – £125,000 plus VAT
- Where the estate requires further advice, such as funding of IHT or other more complex matters, that time will be charged in addition.
- It is assumed that no attendance will be required outside the office. Extra hourly time will be charged for attending anywhere except our office.
- Where 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 or any other asset in the estate is not included.
- Any advice satellite to or incidental to the Probate process, but which does not form part of the Probate itself will be in addition and notified to you at the time that is to be incurred.

## How long will this take?

On average, estates that fall within this range are dealt with within 6 – 18 months. Typically, obtaining the grant of probate takes 2 – 3 months from the date of application. Collecting assets then follows, which can take between 3 – 12 months. Once this has been done, we can distribute the assets, which normally takes 6 – 18 months.

Probates can take longer for a variety of reasons outside of our or your control. We will keep you updated on progress as the matter progresses.