

# **Legal Fees and Disbursements for Probate**

**LEGAL FEES AND DISBURSEMENT COSTS FOR OBTAINING GRANT OF PROBATE WHERE THE DECEASED HAS A VALID WILL**

**Re: Current charging rates for obtaining probate for uncontested estates where the deceased has a valid will**

**There are different rates which the Firm may apply and as follows:**

- 1. In cases where there are no unusual circumstances or complexities the firm may work on the basis of a fixed price quotation. This is unlikely to be less than £750.00 plus VAT and disbursements or more than £1,500 plus VAT and disbursements.**
- 2. If the matter is more complex or there are unusual circumstances, then the Firm charge purely on a time basis. The time will be dependent on what is required. The hourly rate will be the rate prevailing at the date of death. The minimum rate is currently £200 per hour plus VAT and disbursements.**

**The likely disbursements to be incurred are as set out below:**

Disbursements are costs related to your matter that are payable to third parties which we handle on your behalf.

- |   |         |
|---|---------|
| • Probate Court fee                         | £155.00 |
| • Sealed copies of the Grant – 50p per copy |         |
| • Bankruptcy search (per person)            | £2.00   |
| • Fee to swear the Oath per executor        | £7.00   |
| • Statutory notice (approx. per notice)     | £200.00 |

<b>Estimated total costs based upon legal fees of £750.00</b>	<b>£1,265.00</b>
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**The estimated total cost assumes we are instructed to solely obtain the Grant of Probate and there are no unusual circumstances or complexities.**

**LEGAL FEES AND DISBURSEMENT COSTS FOR OBTAINING PROBATE WHERE THE DECEASED DOES NOT HAVE A VALID WILL**

**Re: Current charging rates for obtaining Probate for uncontested estates where the deceased does not have a valid will**

There are different rates which the Firm may apply and as follows:

1. In cases where there are no unusual circumstances or complexities the Firm may work on the basis of a fixed price quotation. This is unlikely to be less than £1,000 plus VAT and disbursements or more than £2,000 plus VAT and disbursements.
2. If the matter is more complex or there are unusual circumstances then the Firm charge purely on a time basis. The time will be dependent on what is required. The hourly rate will be the rate prevailing at the date of death. The minimum rate is currently £200 per hour plus VAT and disbursements.

The likely disbursement costs to be incurred are as set out below:

Disbursements are costs related to your matter that are payable to third parties which we handle on your behalf.

- |   |          |
|---|----------|
| • Probate Court fee                         | £ 155.00 |
| • Sealed copies of the Grant – 50p per copy |          |
| • Bankruptcy search (per person)            | £2.00    |
| • Fee to swear the Oath per executor        | £5.00    |
| • Statutory notice (approx. per notice)     | £200.00  |

<b>Estimated total costs based upon legal fees of £1000.00</b>	<b>£1,563.00</b>
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The estimated total cost assumes we are instructed to solely obtain the Letters of Administration and there are no unusual circumstances or complexities.

**LEGAL FEES AND DISBURSEMENT COSTS FOR DEALING WITH THE ADMINISTRATION OF AN ESTATE**

**Re: Current charging rates for acting in the administration of an uncontested estate with only assets in the UK**

There are different rates which the Firm may apply depending on the circumstances as follows:

1. In cases where there are few assets and they are of little value the Firm may work on the basis of a fixed price quotation. This is unlikely to be less than £1,200 plus VAT and disbursements or more than £1,800 plus VAT and disbursements.
2. If the estate is more complex and has a large number of assets or assets with a high value, then the Firm charge on a time basis. The time will be dependent on what is required. The hourly rate will be the rate prevailing at the date of death. The minimum rate is currently £200 per hour plus VAT and disbursements. It is difficult to estimate, in advance, how many hours are likely to be needed to complete the administration of an estate but (generally) it is likely to be somewhere between 10 to 30 hours. In some cases a time limit can be imposed which cannot be exceeded by the Firm without prior authorisation.
3. Where an estate is particularly valuable, with numerous and/or complex assets and Inheritance Tax is payable, then a percentage of the gross value of the estate will be applied in addition to the hourly rate based on time spent. The percentage will generally vary from ¼% to 2% but may, in certain cases be slightly more. Both the percentage and hourly rate are subject to VAT and the usual disbursements.
4. If there is a continuing Trust, time spent dealing with the matter will be based on an hourly rate currently £200 plus VAT. However, in larger or more complex matters, a percentage charge of between ¼% and 2 ½% of the Trust assets may apply. An estimate of the likely time to be spent (on an annual basis) will be given (where possible) at the outset.

The likely disbursements to be incurred are as set out below:

Disbursements are costs related to your matter that are payable to third parties which we handle on your behalf.

- |   |         |
|---|---------|
| • Probate Court fee                         | £155.00 |
| • Sealed copies of the Grant – 50p per copy |         |
| • Bankruptcy search (per person)            | £ 2.00  |
| • Bank transfer fee (per transfer)          | £ 40.00 |
| • VAT on bank transfer (per transfer)       | £ 8.00  |
| • Statutory notice (approx. per notice)     | £200.00 |

<b>Estimated total costs based upon legal fees of £1200.00</b>	<b>£1846.00</b>
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