



Fee Schedule

Probate

Some law firms charge a percentage of the value of the overall estate and for time spent on files. **Our charging rates are simpler, lower and more transparent.**

We have two methods for charging on probate files:

- Fixed-fee quotation; or
- Time-recorded basis.

If we are charging on a time-recorded basis, we estimate the time we anticipate we will take to complete the work (and the spend involved) and will inform you if this is likely to be exceeded.

Please be aware that a fixed-fee quotation will not be available if an estate is deemed too complex, or there are too many unknown factors.

Fixed Fee Quotation

For fixed-fee quotations, we calculate how much time we anticipate we will spend on your file. We consider several factors including: whether the estate is taxable, if the deceased made gifts of more than £3,000 pa in the last 7 years, the number of legacies and residuary beneficiaries, the number of investments and whether the deceased owned any property.

The overall size of the estate is considered, but is not in itself a major factor.

When we have worked out how much time we are likely to spend, we will add a small contingency to cover unexpected developments, then calculate our costs at the hourly rates of £230 to £250 per hour for solicitors, and between £160 to £200 per hour for Legal Executives and support staff. All fees are subject to VAT (currently charged at 20%).

We aim to save our clients' money by using Paralegals and support staff (who have relevant experience and training) for less technical elements of the work and solicitors or Legal Executives where their expertise is needed.

Time-recorded

For a time-recorded matter, we use the same process as with a fixed fee quotation (shown above), to calculate how long we are likely to take. For example, if a probate matter will take between 7 and 10 hours to complete, at a rate of £230.00 per hour, the estimation would be between £1,610.00 to £2,300.00 plus VAT (currently charged at 20%).



Services

We can assist with full Estate Administration (the process of obtaining the grant of probate, collecting assets, paying debts/taxes, and distributing inheritance) or the Grant of Probate only (the legal document that authorises the executor to manage a deceased's estate).

Grant of Probate only

If you only require our assistance with obtaining a grant of probate, the typical charge is £1,500 for a non-taxable estate, or £2,500 for a taxable estate, both subject to VAT which is currently charged at 20%.

We ask you to provide the valuations of assets and then sell the assets once probate is granted and distribute them in accordance with the terms of the Will.

If the estate is taxable, our fees include the completion and submission of an IHT400 form, the primary form used to report a deceased person's estate to HMRC when applying for probate.

Grant of Probate Fees

Service	Fee
Grant only (no IHT400 form)	£1,500 + VAT at 20%
Grant only (IHT400 form included, non-taxable)	£2,500 + VAT at 20%
Grant only (IHT400 form included, taxable)	£3,500 + VAT at 20%
Foreign Estates	£3,000 + VAT at 20%*

*Please note: Foreign estates will not be subject to VAT if you are not domiciled in the UK.

Estate Administration

If you would like us to assist with full Estate Administration, the services that are included are shown below, with likely timescales for key stages.

- Valuing the known assets of the estate and making reasonable enquiries into other assets owned by the deceased;
- Ascertaining any liabilities of the estate and settling these once funds are available;
- Preparing the paperwork required for an application for a Grant to the estate including preparing the inheritance tax return and corresponding with HMRC regarding the payment of tax;



- Encashing the assets in the estate or transferring them to the beneficiaries;
- Preparation of full, detailed accounts showing the estate transactions;
- Completing due diligence checks for beneficiaries, if required, and contacting them regarding the progress of the administration;
- Distributing the estate in accordance with the terms of the Will;
- Advice on how to safeguard your position as executor, including arranging statutory notices if required.

Timescale:

- In the case of a simple probate where we can ascertain valuations of all assets quickly, we may be able to apply for Grant of Probate within 3-4 weeks of the original instruction.
- The probate registry is unpredictable and turnaround times for applications vary.
- Once we have the Grant, it takes at least 6 weeks to sell the assets and distribute to beneficiaries – thought this can be much longer if for example, a property takes time to sell.
- If inheritance tax is payable, HMRC advises that executors should expect them to take at least until the first anniversary of the death to confirm that all the tax has been paid.
- Please be assured that if a matter is urgent (e.g. because of a property sale), we will take whatever steps we can to speed up the process.

Estate Administration – Fees

Service	Estimated Hours	Notes
Standard estate (1 property & 5–6 accounts/assets)	30–35	Based on merged hourly rates (time recorded) + VAT at 20%
Complex estate (multiple properties, share portfolios, land, frequent visits)	45–60	Fees confirmed once details are known + VAT at 20%

Important: All fees are subject to VAT (at 20%) and disbursements. If a matter is more complex, additional time-based charges may apply. We will always discuss this with you before any further costs are incurred.

Disbursements

The disbursements are typically:

- Probate fee: £273 plus £1.50 for each extra copy of the grant of probate required
- Bankruptcy searches: £2 each



- ID checks – see extras
- Fees for getting office copy entries from the land registry: £3 each
- Fees for valuation of assets and selling shares: various

Extras

- ID searches - we use an independent service which saves our clients having to produce original passports etc. We charge £5 + VAT per search.
- Foreign currency transfers – clients have the option to use a currency exchange service, which gives better exchange rates than the banks. We charge £50 + VAT to use the service; the banks will deduct their own charges, normally around £15 per transfer.

Prices correct as of October 2025.