

Obtaining a Grant of Probate and/or dealing with the administration of the Estate

Who will deal with your matter?

Our team has over 42 years of collective experience in delivering high quality work in all matters relating to obtaining a grant of probate and/or dealing with the administration of the estate.

We have three members of the team who may work on your matter which will be supervised by Gursharan Bunger, Solicitor, who is Head of Private Client.

How much will it cost?

Our fees for acting on your behalf will be depend on the complexity of the matter and the level of service that you require.

Grant only

We are able to provide a fixed fee cost for obtaining the Grant, whether it is an application for a Grant of Probate or a Grant for Letters of Administration. We will make the application based on the information that you provide us.

- A simple estate requiring form IHT 205 - £650 plus vat
- More complex estate requiring form IHT 400 (but no inheritance tax due) - £1200 plus Vat

There will also be third party fees payable. The probate fee at present is £155.00 per application and 50p for additional copies and there will be Oath swear fees.

Our service includes preparing the Oath and relevant IHT forms, which is sworn by the Executors/Administrators, and then submitted to the Probate Registry for the Grant to be issued.

The timescale for obtaining the Grant will be dependent from when we receive the information from you to when we receive the Grant from the Probate Registry. As a rough guide, this can vary from 1 month to 6 months.

Grant and the administration of the estate

Our team can provide you with professional support and legal expertise throughout the administration of the estate.

Our service includes:

- Initial meeting
- Collating details of the assets and liabilities and obtaining the date of death values.
- Preparing the relevant Inland Revenue forms, and dealing with Inheritance Tax Liabilities (if any), preparing the Oath and submitting the application to the Probate Registry
- Registering the Grant with banks, building societies and other investment companies, closing accounts, realising investments and clearing all liabilities.

- Finalising affairs with H M Revenue and Customs
- Preparing final estate accounts and distributing the estate to the beneficiaries

As mentioned, our costs will be depend on the complexity of your matter. At our initial meeting, once we are able to identify the work involved, we will provide you with an estimate on costs. Points that are taken into consideration for determining the costs include:

- Whether the deceased died with or without a Will
- The complexity of the Will
- The amount and value of assets
- Inheritance tax liability
- Identifying all beneficiaries
- Assistance received from the family in helping deal with the administration
- Whether the deceased had a property

As a guide, our costs for dealing with the administration of the estate are as follows:

Simple straight forward estate - £1600 plus Vat to £5,000 plus Vat

More complex estates – £5,000 plus Vat to £25,000 plus Vat (could exceed this amount)

The timescale can vary from 6 months to 5 years plus, again depending on the estate and any complications that may arise during the administration period.

As mentioned above, there will be third party costs.

- Oath swear fees
- The Probate Registry fees for issuing the Grant will be £155.00 and a fee of 50p for all subsequent copies.
- Bankruptcy Searches for all beneficiaries - £2 per person
- You may also wish to have Statutory Notices, Landmark Search, Certainty Searches carried out.