

Wills and Probate Service: Your Guide to Our Fees

Applying for the grant, collecting and distributing the assets

We anticipate this will take between 8 and 12 hours work at £225.00 per hour. Total costs estimated at between £1,800 + VAT to £2,700 + VAT + Disbursements (see below)

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 estimate 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 up to 4 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:

- Probate application fee of £273
- £5 Swearing of the oath for (one executor) + £2 exhibit

Disbursements not included in this fee:

- Bankruptcy-only Land Charges Department searches (£2 per beneficiary)

Kenneth Elliott & Rowe Limited trading as kenneth elliott + rowe solicitors

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Regulated by the Solicitors Regulation Authority SRA number: 647165

- £75 + VAT Post in The London Gazette – Protects against unexpected claims from unknown creditors.
- £100 to £125 + VAT Post in a Local Newspaper – 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.

Potential additional costs

- If 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.
- If any additional copies of the grant are required, they will cost £0.50 (1 per asset usually).
- Dealing with the sale or transfer of any property in the estate is not included.
- Preparing self assessment tax returns are not included.

How long will this take?

On average, estates that fall within this range are dealt with within 6-12 months. Typically, obtaining the grant of probate takes 10-12 weeks. Collecting assets then follows, which can take between 4-6 weeks. Once this has been done, we can distribute the assets, which normally takes 4-6 weeks.

Probate – limited to obtaining the Grant of Probate

We can help you through this difficult process by obtaining the Grant of Probate on your behalf.

How much does this service cost?

This includes: obtaining the grant for one executor. It does not include complex estates or completing the complex IHT forms.

Breakdown of costs:

Legal fees £895

VAT on legal fees @ 20%

Disbursements:

- Probate court fee of £273
- £5 Swearing of the oath + £2 exhibit

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.

As part of our fixed fee we will:

- Provide you with a dedicated and experienced probate lawyer to work on your matter
- Identify the legally appointed executors or administrators and beneficiaries
- Accurately identify the type of Probate application you will require
- Complete the Probate Application
- Draft a legal oath for you to swear
- Make the application to the Probate Court on your behalf
- Obtain the Probate and securely send it to you

Typically, obtaining the grant of probate takes 1-2 months from when you provide us with all the required information.

Please note that the fee does not include obtaining the relevant documents required to make the application for the grant of probate, applying for the transfer of the unused nil rate band, applying for residence nil rate band and the distribution of estate assets to the beneficiaries.

Probate Department Staff Profiles:

David Gregory – Probate Executive

David joined us in 1995 having completed a law degree at a London University.

David spends 100% of his time on Wills Probate and Powers of Attorney work.