

Probate – CLG

We can help you through this difficult process by obtaining the Grant of Probate on your behalf. We will also undertake the collecting and distributing of assets.

How much does this service cost?

If there is no inheritance tax

TOTAL: fixed fee of £3,000 to £5,000 plus VAT (£600 to £1,000).

If there is inheritance tax to pay

TOTAL: fixed fee of £5,000 to £8,000 plus VAT (£1,200 to £1,600)

Both include: obtaining the grant, plus copies of the same (depending on instructions), collecting assets and distributing them.

Disbursements:

- Probate court fee of £273 plus £1.50 per additional copy of the Grant or Letters of Administration. These charges are not subject to VAT
- Bankruptcy-only Land Charges Department searches (£2 per beneficiary, not subject to VAT).
- £112.80 (Inclusive of VAT) approximately Post in The London Gazette – Protects against unexpected claims from unknown creditors.

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 solicitor to work on your matter
- Identify the legally appointed executors or administrators and beneficiaries
- Accurately identify the type of Probate application you will require
- Obtain the relevant documents required to make the application
- Complete the Probate Application and the relevant HMRC forms
- Make the application to the Probate Court on your behalf

- Obtain the Probate and securely send two copies to you
- Collect and distribute all assets in the estate

Average time to complete

Estates that fall within this range are dealt with within 6 to 12 months. Typically, obtaining the grant of probate takes 3 to 4 months. Collecting assets then follows, which can take between 2 to 4 months. If inheritance tax is due then it could take 4 to 6 months to receive clearance from HMRC. Once this has been done, we can distribute the assets, which normally takes 1 to 2 months.

We generally suggest that distribution to beneficiaries does not take place until 10 months after Grant of Probate in case any subsequent claims or liabilities arise. For this reason, we will also recommend advertising the Grant of Probate in the London Gazette and perhaps a local paper.

Executors can proceed without advertising and without waiting for the 10 months. However, the Executors will then be personally liable for any subsequent 3rd party claims emerging after distribution of the Estate.

Potential additional costs:

If the estate consists of any share holdings (stocks and bonds) and has more than five bank accounts and four beneficiaries 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.

- Capital Gains Tax implications
- Preparation of Deeds of Variation, Declaration of Trusts and Deed of Renunciation.
- Assets abroad
- Dealing with the sale of any property in the estate is not included.
- Requirement to claim a Residential Nil Band
- Search for missing beneficiary's estate
- Foreign domicile issues

Applying just for the Grant of Probate or Letters of Administration

TOTAL: fixed fee of £1,500 plus VAT (£300)

Will – Fixed fee

Single will	£250 plus VAT (£50)
Mirror will (two wills based on the same terms)	£350 – £450 plus VAT (£70 - £90)

Plus disbursements usually limited to obtaining office copy entries from the Land Registry which cost £3.00 and not subject to VAT

Average time to complete

Two to three weeks, depending upon how quickly information is made available to us.

Potential additional costs:

- Vulnerable persons trust
- Foreign domicile issues

Trust – Fixed fee

Declaration of Trust	£350 plus VAT (£70)
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Lasting Powers of Attorney

One LPA	£350 plus VAT (70)
Two LPA's	£600 plus VAT (£120)

Disbursements limited to OPG application fees of £82 per application. VAT is not payable on these fees

Court of Protection

Deputyship Order relating to property affairs

£950 plus VAT (£190)

Disbursements limited to Court application fee of £371 per application VAT is not payable on these fees