Probate (last reviewed 14.05.2024)

Applying for grant of probate, collecting and distributing the assets

We anticipate this will take 6-12 months. Total costs estimated at £3,000-£10,000+VAT (20%).

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 quote is for estates where:

- There is a valid will
- There is no more than one property
- There are no more than five bank or building society accounts
- There are no other intangible assets
- There are one to four beneficiaries
- There are no disputes between beneficiaries on division of assets (if disputes arise this will 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 (IHT400)
- There are no claims made against the estate

Other costs (where applicable VAT is included at 20%):

- Probate application fee £300.00 (plus £1.50 for each additional copy).
- £84.00 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.

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.
- Dealing with the sale or transfer of any property in the estate is 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 3-6 months. Collecting assets then follows, which can take 3 months. Once this has been done, we can distribute the assets, which normally takes a further 3 months.

As part of our 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
- Collect in all the estate assets
- Pay any debts or liabilities owed by the estate
- Distribute remaining assets to the beneficiaries

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