

Probate Fees

Coming to DRN for probate advice and support means that you will work with our team of experienced wills and probate lawyers as well as one solicitor assigned to your case. We understand the sensitivity involved in these matters, and you will be able to rely on your DRN lawyer for empathetic guidance and legal support throughout your case.

All estate and probate cases are unique and their complex nature can lead to fluctuating costs dependent on the work carried out and other costs incurred such as Inheritance Tax. Our experienced probate solicitors can provide you with a free consultation, during which we can discuss the size and complexity of your case and may even be able to offer a fixed fee, giving you full visibility of the estate you will be entitled to retain.

Applying for the Grant of Probate only

We can offer a fixed-fee service for simply obtaining the Grant of Probate in the sum of £500 (+VAT + Disbursements**)

We will handle the full process for you. This quote is for estates where:

- There is a valid will and no dispute between executors
- There is no inheritance tax payable and the executors do not need to submit a full account to HMRC
- All information and documentation required is provided at the first interview
- You personally wish to deal with the administration of the estate once the grant has been obtained

We anticipate this will take between 3-4 weeks from the receipt of all information to enable us to complete the necessary paperwork and obtain the grant from the court

**Disbursements required on top of our fees:

- Probate application fee of £157.50 (inclusive of 5 copy grants)
- £7 Swearing of the oath (per executor)

Applying for the Grant of Probate, collecting and distributing the assets

We anticipate this will take between 10 and 15 hours' work at £201 per hour. Total costs are estimated at £2,010 - £3,015 (+VAT + Disbursements*).

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 5 bank or building society accounts
- There are no other intangible assets
- There are 1- 4 beneficiaries and their whereabouts and bank details are known
- 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 required on top of our fees:

- Probate application fee of £157.50 (inclusive of 5 copy grants)
- £7 Swearing of the oath (per executor)
- Bankruptcy-only Land Charges Department searches (£2 per beneficiary)
- £90 (approx.) Post in The London Gazette – Protects against unexpected claims from unknown creditors.
- £90 (approx.) 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. You will only be charged the disbursements we actually pay out on behalf of the estate in your particular case, nothing more.

Potential additional costs

- If there is no will or the estate consists of any share holdings (stocks and bonds), there are 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.

How long will this take?

On average, estates that fall within this range are completed with within 3-8 months. The sale of a property may delay the administration of the estate. Typically, obtaining the Grant of Probate takes 6-8 weeks.

Collecting assets then follows, which can take between 3-8 weeks inclusive of all necessary statements. Once this has been done, accounts will be prepared for approval and we can distribute the assets, which normally takes 4-6 weeks.

Our team of Private Client Solicitors have extensive experience in Wills, Probate, Elderly Care, Lasting Powers of Attorney and Court of Protection.



Sara Jane Chorkley
Head of the Private Client Department

Sara Jane studied for her Law Degree at UCLAN before completing her LPC at Chester College of Law in 1995. Sara Jane qualified with a practice in North Yorkshire before moving to the Private Client department at one of the country's largest regional firms where she spent 11 years developing her skills in this complex area of law. Sara Jane joined DRN in January 2013 and is based at the firm's Hargreaves Street office in Burnley.

MEET THE REST OF OUR TEAM