



Wills

We charge £125 plus VAT (£25) on average for the preparation of one simple Will, or £240 plus VAT (£48) for a “pair” of Wills, e.g. for Wills for a couple which are in a similar format. Our costs are based on the assumption that the Will is relatively simple and no complex tax advice is required.

Lasting Powers of Attorney

The table below summarises my basic costs regarding the preparation and registering of Lasting Powers of Attorney for Property and Financial Affairs or a Lasting Power of Attorney for Health and Welfare. There will be an additional court fee of £82 per application, which represents the registration fees with the Office of the Public Guardian.

Fees for Lasting Powers of Attorney		
Number	Prepare	Prepare & register
Single person	£250 + VAT (£50)	£350 + VAT (£70)
Two people (a couple)	£400 + VAT (£80)	£550 + VAT (£110)

Probate

This is the collection and distribution of money, property and other assets belonging to a person following their death. Where these assets are within the UK and the matters are not contested, we will charge £500 + VAT (£100) on average for this work. If the estate is more complex, the fee is based on our charging rate of £225 per hour. There will be other costs on top. These are fees and charges we will need to pay on your behalf as part of the process, such as Probate fees (see below), oath swearing fees, statutory advertisements (these protect against unexpected claims from unknown creditors) etc. They are likely to be £300 to £400.

We understand the stress and emotion surrounding a recent bereavement. The work we will carry out will involve:

- Ascertaining the legally appointed executors or administrators and beneficiaries
- Ascertaining the assets comprised in the estate
- Applying for a Grant of Probate (where there is a Will) or Letters of Administration (where there is no Will), including completing HMRC forms
- Ascertaining and paying any tax on the estate
- Obtaining the Grant of Probate and securely providing copies to you
- Collecting in the assets comprised in the estate
- Deciding upon and executing distributions of the estate in accordance with the will or intestacy rules

On average it will take four to six weeks for us to gather the information to be able to draft the HMRC forms. After that it takes three to four weeks to obtain a Grant of Probate and then the estate can be distributed which can take two to three weeks.

Obviously, our fees do not include any external costs and charges that we may incur as part of the administration (e.g. tax, penalties, repayable benefits, fees and charges). You will also be responsible for these items on behalf of the estate.

Probate fees are in the course of changing. At the moment the fee is £155.00 for the issue of the Grant of Probate plus 50p per copy (we usually apply for 10-20 copies, as these need to be sent off to banks etc. before funds are released).