

Wills, Probate and Estate Administration

Sandra Murgatroyd is the Principal Solicitor of Murgatroyd Solicitors and will undertake all the legal work in your matter. Sandra qualified as a solicitor in 2000. Sandra has completed several professional development courses in probate and estate administration. She is a sole practitioner, and her hourly rate is £200.00 (no VAT).

We offer the following legal charges.

We offer a fixed fee for the following:

<i>Legal Service</i>	<i>Fixed Fee</i>
Single Will	£250.00 (no VAT)
Pair of Wills	£350.00 (no VAT)
Single Will Trust Such as Life Property Interest Trust and Discretionary Trust	From £650.00 (no VAT)
Pair of Will Trust	From £750.00 (no VAT)
Trust	From £1,500 (no VAT)
Lasting Power of Attorney for property & financial or health and welfare with registration *	£350.00 (no VAT)
Lasting Power of Attorney for property & financial affairs and health and welfare with registration *	£500.00 (no VAT)

* A fee of £82.00 per application is payable to the Office of Public Guardian when the Lasting Powers of Attorney are registered unless you are eligible for a fee remission or exemption.

Probate Work

Applying for the grant, collecting, and distributing the assets.

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 beneficiaries, a property and multiple bank accounts, costs will be at the higher end.

Applying for the Grant, collecting and distributing the assets

We anticipate this will take between 10 and 25 hours work at £200.00 per hour. Total costs estimated at £2,000.00 - £5,000.00 (no VAT).

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 7 bank or building society accounts
- There are no other intangible assets
- There are 1-4 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 £155.00 (if the estate value is over £5,000.00)
- Office copies of the Grant of Probate (if required) - £1.50 per copy
- Bankruptcy-only Land Charges Department searches (£2.00 per beneficiary)
- £250.00 (approximately) for Statutory Notices in The London Gazette and local newspaper
- £114.00 (inclusive of VAT) for a Certainty Will Search - a search to see if a Will was made or whether you have the most up-to-date version (if required)

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.

- If there is inheritance tax to pay, there is a requirement to submit a full inheritance tax account and pay any inheritance tax before the Grant of Probate can be obtained. This additional work will add approximately 4- 6 weeks to the time taken to obtain probate and will be in the region of £300 - £500 (no VAT).

On average, estates that fall within this range are dealt within 6 - 9 months (depending on whether it is necessary to wait a 6 -10 months period from the date of issue of the Grant of Probate and the time required to sell a property and timing issues at the Probate Registry. Typically, obtaining the Grant of Probate takes 8 -12 weeks once the application is submitted. Collecting assets can take between 4 - 6 weeks (provided there is no property to sell). Once this has been done, we can distribute the assets, which normally takes 2 – 4 weeks.

Fixed Fee for a Grant of Probate Only

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

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 claims made against the estate
- The executors/administrators provide all the details of assets and liabilities
- Identify the legally appointed executors or administrators and beneficiaries
- There are no more than 5 bank or building society accounts
- There are no other intangible assets
- There are 1 - 5 beneficiaries
- There are no disputes between beneficiaries on the 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
- Accurately identify the type of Probate application you will require
- Obtain the relevant documents required to make the Probate application
- Make the application to the Probate Court on your behalf
- Obtain the Probate and securely send copies to you (if required)

How long will this take?

We anticipate that obtaining the Grant of Probate will take between 4 - 5 hours of work. The Probate Registry will take 8 - 12 weeks to deal with applications, if the matter becomes complex then this can take longer, for example, if we need to refer the matter to the HMRC. If your matter becomes complex, there will be extra costs involved. It is assumed that the executors/administrators of the estate will deal with all the administration of the estate.

How much does this service cost?

TOTAL: fixed fee of £1,000.00 (no VAT)

Breakdown of costs:

Legal fees £1,000.00 (no VAT)

Disbursements (From £155.00 in total):

- Probate court fee of £155.00
- Office copies of the Grant of Probate - £1.50 per copy

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