

Probate and Administration of Estates – cost and service information for uncontested estates in the UK

Our Services

As one of the leading UK private client firms, Boodle Hatfield has a wealth of experience in helping clients with the collection and distribution of money, property and other assets belonging to a person following their death.

Our advice and assistance generally includes the following actions:

- Advice on the valuation of the estate and obtaining valuations of the estate assets and liabilities when required to do so;
- Completion and submission of the papers required to obtain the Grant of Probate or Letters of Administration (the ‘Grant’) including the inheritance tax account and executors’ or administrators’ statement of truth;
- Collecting in the estate assets and paying liabilities and administration expenses;
- Advice on carrying out the terms of the Will and distribution of the residuary estate; and
- Completion of estate accounts if required.

Please see our [Overview](#) for a fuller summary of the key stages involved and the likely timescales.

Our Team

We have an experienced team of lawyers available to help with the administration of estates.

A Partner in our Private Client team will have overall responsibility for each matter and will supervise the work of the team. The day to day work will usually be handled by a Senior Associate or an Associate with support from Legal Assistants or Trainee solicitors as required. All Partners and Associates of the firm are fully qualified solicitors.

We will provide you with details of the experience and qualifications of the team dealing with your probate matter when confirming our appointment.

The details of the full Private Client team can be viewed on our website [here](#).

- Costs of: preparing final lifetime income tax returns; preparing self-assessment trust and estate tax returns during the administration period; and arranging payment of any associated tax liabilities
- Costs of tracing missing beneficiaries
- Costs of assisting with any more personal issues, for example assisting with the registration of the death.

Typical costs

We do not charge fixed fees for this type of work. The costs (and length of time it will take) will depend upon how complex the deceased's affairs are. The following ranges are given as a guide for budgeting purposes only:

Up to (and including) obtaining the Grant:

- For a straight-forward estate (with, say, a single UK property, a modest number of standard investments, bank accounts and other personal assets) our fees range from around £9,000 to £13,500 + VAT and disbursements;
- For a more complex estate with an extensive range of assets including, for example, business interests our fees would range from £13,500 to £28,000 + VAT and disbursements.
- Once the Grant is issued, the cost of the work to complete the estate administration, will range from:
 - Around £9,000 to £13,500 + VAT and disbursements if the Will is straightforward and uncontested;
 - For a more complex uncontested estate fees might range from between £13,500 and £65,000 + VAT and disbursements.

These figures may however vary according to the circumstances of each matter and are not fixed. That is why we always provide an individual cost estimate at the start of each matter taking into account the features of the case. If complications arise, we will endeavour, where possible, to advise on the potential impact on costs before any additional charges are incurred.

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