

## Fees guidance

Sampson Bailey Solicitors LTD are committed to the highest level of Client care and transparency. As part of this We understand that there is a requirement for our Clients' to be aware of the estimated costs incurred for Our services.

We offer both Fixed Fees and Hourly Rates as part of Our services. The precise cost of your case will be dependent on the complexity, nature and seriousness of your case. For a case which is relatively straight forward a Fixed Fee price package would be most appropriate. If you have any queries in relation to Our fees please call our Directors Hannah Sampson or Kaddy Bojang on 0207 411 9822.

**Please be aware that at this present time Our fees are not subject to VAT. We regularly review our polices and if the position changes relevant updates will be made.**

For further guidance our fees are broken down as follows:

### Motoring Offences: Fixed Fee

<u>Type of service</u>	<u>Estimated fees ranging from</u>
Pre-Court assistance- guilty plea - Reviewing case papers and advice on plea <b>not</b> including letter of mitigation or court attendance.	<b>From £500</b>
Speeding offences whether or not there is a risk of disqualification ( <b>guilty plea</b> ) attendance at the Magistrates' Court	<b>From £1,200</b>
Accumulation of 12 or more penalty points. ( <b>guilty plea</b> ) and preparation of exceptional hardship argument.	<b>From £1,800</b>
Drink or drug driving ( <b>guilty plea</b> ).	<b>From £800</b>
Drink or drug driving ( <b>not guilty plea</b> )	<b>From £1,800</b>
Failing to provide a specimen ( <b>guilty plea</b> )	<b>From £800</b>
Failing to provide a specimen ( <b>not guilty plea</b> ).	<b>From £1,800</b>

In the event that you are ineligible for Legal Aid, you will be advised on Our professional fees. Could be either on a fixed fee basis or hourly rate.

We have provided the following estimate for your consideration:

**General Criminal Offences: Fixed Fee**

<b><u>Type of service</u></b>	<b><u>Estimated fees ranging from</u></b>
Pre-Court assistance- guilty plea - Reviewing case papers and advice on plea including letter of mitigation / written representations but no attendance at court.	<b>From £500</b>
Guilty plea – court attendance	<b>From £800</b>
Contested trials	<b>From £1,200</b>
Crown Court guilty plea	<b>From £2,500</b>
Crown Court contested trials	<b>From £4,500</b>
Crown Court Appeals	<b>From £3,500</b>

NB- For all matters Our fixed fees are based on travelling to court within a 15 miles radius from our office. For attending courts outside of this radius We will agree our travel disbursements with you in advance.

**Non-contested cases (guilty plea)**

For Clients who intend to plead guilty to any offences, We have provided an estimated Fixed Fee based on the matter concluding after one hearing at court. We try where possible to keep costs to a minimum, however, there are certain circumstances where your case might not conclude on the day and there will be a further hearing(s) required. We will charge you an uplift to cover the costs of this hearing (s) and you will be notified in writing.

**What do our fees include?**

Unless stated as a specific exclusion, the price displayed should include:

- Attendance/taking instructions (whether in person or via a virtual platform)
- Considering evidence
- Providing advice in relation to plea and likely sentence

- Representation at a single hearing
- Drafting mitigation or representations to the Crown Prosecution Service
- Routine correspondence

### **What is not including?**

- Instruction of any experts
- Taking witness statements
- Advice in relation to special reasons or exceptional hardship
- Advice in relation to an appeal against sentence

The key stages of your matter are based on the presumption that you have entered a guilty plea and have a date for your hearing.

- Meet with your solicitor to provide instructions on what happened.
- We will consider initial disclosure, and any other evidence and provide advice.
- Arranging to take any witness statements if necessary (this will have an additional cost).
- We will explain the court procedure to you so you know what to expect on the day of your hearing, and the sentencing options available to the court.
- We will conduct any further preparatory work, obtain further instructions from you if necessary and answer any follow up queries you have.
- We cannot provide a timescale of when your hearing will take place, as this depends on the court listing for that day.
- We will attend court on the day and meet with you before going before the court.
- We will discuss the outcome with you. If advice is required on appeal, this will carry an additional cost.

### **Contested cases (not guilty pleas/trials/special reasons or exceptional hardship cases)**

Our estimate is based on representation at court where the matter is listed for a one-day trial and concludes on the same day.

**If you are convicted of any offences and the matter is re-listed for sentence an additional fee will be payable to cover the cost of any additional hearing (s).**

### **What do our fees include?**

Unless stated as a specific exclusion, the price displayed should include:

- Attendance/taking instructions (whether in person or via a virtual platform)
- Considering evidence
- Taking witness statements and examination of witnesses
- Providing advice in relation to plea and likely sentence

- Where appropriate, advice on whether an exceptional hardship, or special reasons argument should be made
- Representation at a single hearing
- Advising on an appeal or sourcing expert witnesses.
- If applicable, drafting mitigation or representations to the Crown Prosecution Service
- Routine correspondence

### **Disbursements**

Disbursements represent any costs incurred as a result of your case. These are usually costs payable to a third party which **are separate from and in addition to our fees**. Disbursements are usually incurred when instructing Counsel, paying court fees, instructing experts and requesting medical reports.

You will be notified in writing in the event that a disbursement becomes necessary in your case.

Usually for the costs of any disbursement the current rate of 20% VAT is chargeable.

### **Abortive fees**

If you instruct us we will require money on account of costs. Therefore, in event that the matter becomes abortive We retain the right to charge you for the work that we have undertaken.

### **Non- Fixed fee cases**

In some cases fixed fee might not be appropriate. This will be assessed on a case-by-case basis. In all non-fixed fee cases, We will charge our professional fees at an hourly rate for the time spent dealing with your case.

All Solicitors and Legal staff members time record for the time spent engaged in your case. You will be provided with the outline as to costs on an itemised invoice. The charge rates for a Partner, Solicitor, Trainee or Paralegal of the firm are as follows:

### **Directors/Partners/Senior Solicitors/Trainee and Paralegal:**

<b>With over 8 years' experience</b>	<b>between £350.00 - £450.00 per hour</b>
<b>Solicitors with over 4 years experience</b>	<b>between £250.00- £ 300.00 per hour</b>
<b>Solicitors with under 4 years experience</b>	<b>between £180.00- £240.00 per hour</b>
<b>Trainees/Paralegals</b>	<b>between £120.00- £150.00 per hour</b>

Should you require any further information, please contact us on either 0207 411 9822 or [helpme@sampsonbaileysolicitors.co.uk](mailto:helpme@sampsonbaileysolicitors.co.uk).