



OUR FEES

Family law advice can be very complex. Complexity will have an impact on our pricing as will dealing with an unrepresented party. No two fees will ever be the same.

Examples of a typical fee are in this table, with examples of complicating factors below it.

Type of Case	Type of factors affecting the level of complexity*	Our estimated fees
Simplified Divorce Application	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Both parties residing in Scotland;</li> <li>Address of other party is known;</li> <li>Service by Sheriff Officers is not required.</li> </ol>	£350 plus VAT (£420) and court dues
Undefended divorce action	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Both parties residing in Scotland;</li> <li>Address of other party is known;</li> <li>Service by Sheriff officers is not required;</li> <li>Other party complies with returning form of consent (where required)</li> <li>Client has marriage and birth certificates</li> </ol>	£1,500 plus VAT (£1,800) and court dues
Initial meeting – up to 60 minutes	N/A	£250 plus VAT (£300)
Initial meeting – 60 to 90 minutes	N/A	£300 plus VAT (£360)
Mediation	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Only one mediator involved</li> <li>No more than 1 intake meeting and 6 mediation meetings</li> <li>Additional cost if written summary is requested</li> </ol>	£2,200 - £6,000 plus VAT (£2,640 - £7,200) (Shared between parties)
Collaborative case (from point collaborative process begins)	No more than 40 hours' time involved in total	£3,000 - £10,000 plus VAT (£3,600 - £12,000) and outlays
Cohabitation Agreement (drafting only where deal reached directly between parties)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No more than 1 lengthy call/client meeting;</li> <li>Straightforward terms reached by agreement directly between parties;</li> <li>No negotiation required with other party/their representation.</li> </ol>	£500 - £1,000 plus VAT (£600 - £1,200) and outlays

Type of Case	Type of factors affecting the level of complexity*	Our estimated fees
Pre-Nuptial/Post-Nuptial Agreement	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. No more than 3 lengthy calls/client meetings;</li> <li>2. Straightforward terms reached by agreement directly between parties;</li> <li>3. Minimal negotiation required with other party/their representation.</li> </ol>	£750 - £3,000 plus VAT (£900 - £3,600) and outlays
Undefended divorce action Negotiation – children only – simple case	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Only one solicitor involved;</li> <li>2. No more than two lengthy calls/client meetings;</li> <li>3. 3. Straightforward dispute over care arrangements;</li> <li>4. 4. Minimal negotiation with other party/their representation.</li> </ol>	£1,500 - £2,500 plus VAT (£1,800 - £3,000) and outlays
Negotiation – children only – medium complexity case	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Only one solicitor involved;</li> <li>2. No more than five lengthy calls/client meetings;</li> <li>3. More complicated dispute over care arrangements</li> <li>4. Negotiation required with other party/their representation</li> </ol>	£2,500 - £5,500 plus VAT (£3,000 - £6,600) and outlays
Negotiation – children only – high complexity case	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. More than one solicitor involved;</li> <li>2. More than five lengthy calls/client meetings;</li> <li>3. Very complex dispute over care arrangements/multiple disputes (i.e. care arrangements and schooling)</li> <li>4. Extensive negotiation with other party/their representation</li> </ol>	£5,500 - £10,000 plus VAT (£6,600 - £12,000) and outlays
Financial negotiation - simple complexity case	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Small number of documents;</li> <li>2. One solicitor involved;</li> <li>3. No complex arguments;</li> <li>4. No more than two lengthy calls/client meetings;</li> <li>5. Minimal negotiation with other party/their representation.</li> </ol>	£1,500 - £2,500 plus VAT (£1,800 - £3,000) and outlays (plus-drafting costs for Agreement)
Financial negotiation - medium complexity case	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Some documents</li> <li>2. One solicitor involved;</li> <li>3. Some complex arguments;</li> <li>4. No more than five lengthy calls/client meetings;</li> <li>5. Negotiation required with other party/their representation</li> </ol>	£2,500 - £6,000 plus VAT (£3,000 - £7,200) and outlays (plus drafting costs for Agreement)



Type of Case	Type of factors affecting the level of complexity*	Our estimated fees
Financial negotiation - high complexity case	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. No more than 3 lengthy calls/client meetings;</li> <li>2. Straightforward terms reached by agreement directly between parties;</li> <li>3. Minimal negotiation required with other party/their representation.</li> </ol>	£750 - £3,000 plus VAT (£900 - £3,600) and outlays
Negotiation – financial and children- simple complexity case	See separate children and financial sections above	
Negotiation – financial and children - medium complexity case	See separate children and financial sections above	
Negotiation – financial and children - high complexity case	See separate children and financial sections above	

## Factors Affecting the Level of Complexity and Cost

The complexity of a property purchase can be dictated by its value. We use a “scale fee” for the common elements of a conveyancing transaction for a house or flat, as follows:

Listed within the table above is a guide as to what might make a case more or less complex, but the factors listed cannot be viewed as a comprehensive guide. Each and every case is different, and there may be factors other than those above which might make a case more complex.

The estimates listed above have been calculated upon the average time we would estimate would be spent on a particular type of case, however they are very much estimates. For example, if a Pre-nuptial Agreement includes cross-border elements or jurisdictional complications, the likely fee could easily exceed the estimate range provided for above. Except in cases where we specifically offer a fixed fee (flyer attached) the amount which we fee will be directly based upon the time that we spend on a case.

Factors which can lead to additional cost can include those over which you (or we) may have not have had any influence but which could significantly affect the level of costs in your case. Some of these can be due to the actions of the other side, or the court. Listed below are some such factors, but again this cannot be considered exhaustive:-

### Additional Hearings

These can be ordered by the court for the purposes of case management, or to consider applications from the other side, or even us. These increase the cost depending on how much time they take and whether they take place in person or by telephone/electronic methods (in respect of which the court has a final say).

### Number/Complexity of Documents

You may think that the documentation supporting your case is simple but sometimes, it is the case that your situation, or the documents supporting it, are not as simple as you may believe it to be. We must read all of the documents provided by you and disclosed by the other side and, of course, the more numerous/complex the documents are, the more fees will be incurred.

### Number of Solicitors involved in the case

Depending on the complexity of your case, or the level of work involved, it may not be possible for one solicitor to conduct the entire case on their own. In cases where more than one solicitor is required to ensure the smooth running of your case, that will increase costs for you. If a more junior member of our team is conducting the case to save costs for you overall, the partner with ultimate responsibility for your case may require to review any correspondence or documentation.

### Negotiations

Settlement discussions may progress with the promise of resolution and we will always seek to resolve matters without a court action (or if a court action has already been raised, before a final hearing) as a first choice. However, negotiations take time and incur costs and sometimes those discussions do not lead to a conclusion but we must still charge for our time spent conducting them.

### The level of support that you require from us

In the type of work that family lawyers do, it is inevitable that clients will require both lengthy and proper explanation from us, and may wish to discuss with us matters which they feel are of importance to the conduct of their case. The more time we require to spend in communication with you (either written, by telephone, or in meetings) the more the fee will be.

### The conduct of the other side

The approach that is taken to the case by your partner and/or their legal representation can impact upon the amount of time which requires to be spent on your case. The more time which requires to be spent in negotiation and discussion with the other side, the more your costs will be. The other side may adopt strategies which lead to more cost or delay for you. All and any communication received from the other party or their representatives must be considered; and relayed to you for your instructions.

**The above are simply examples and are not intended to be an exhaustive list. There are other factors (like dealing with unrepresented parties) which can lead to additional costs but we will try and be as transparent with you as we can be should such issues arise.**