

St Albans Chambers Price Transparency Information

The following services are subject to price transparency requirements as directed by the Bar Standards Board:

The highlighted text indicates some of the areas of law we cover. We do provide other areas of legal expertise which are not listed below. Quotations can be obtained from the clerks for any potential piece of work. We have provided a pricing structure for the following highlighted areas to provide a basis for making the decision to instruct counsel.

- Employment Tribunal cases.
- Financial disputes arising out of divorce (pricing information only provided for matters with joint assets less than £300,000).
- Immigration appeals (First-tier Tribunal).
- Inheritance Act advices.
- Licensing applications in relation to business premises.
- Personal injury claims.
- Summary only motoring offences.
- Winding-up petitions.

The clerks will provide more information about the services offered by those who are incorporated and the fee structures that apply to those barristers.

Contact Us

The following are invited to contact the clerks on 01727 843383 for a quote for our barristers' services or email clerks@stalbanschambers.com

- Solicitors or other practising lawyers.
- Licensed Access clients, who may either hold a licence issued by the Bar Standards Board, or be a member of a professional body that has been recognised by the Bar Standards Board.
- Members of the public who wish to instruct a barrister under the Direct Access Scheme.

We will provide you with a quotation as soon as possible. We always aim to set out quotes clearly, but if you receive your quote and there is something you do not understand, please contact us.

Fees

Barristers in chambers can charge hourly rates or fixed fees. We can also accept instructions under conditional fee agreements ('no win, no fee' agreements). For information, please contact the clerks on 01727 843383.

Timescales

Timescales for a case may vary depending on factors such as barristers' availability, the type and complexity of the case, the other side's approach and court waiting times.

Direct Access

If you are a member of the public, the Bar Standards Board's Direct Access Guidance for Lay Clients can be viewed at: <https://www.barstandardsboard.org.uk/uploads/assets/20f0db2a-a40c-4af9-95b1b9557ad748e9/Public-Access-Guidance-for-Lay-Clients.pdf> A hard copy of this can be sent to you if required. This will help you to understand how the Direct Access Scheme works, and explains how you can use it to instruct barristers directly.

Regulatory and Complaints Information

The Bar Standards Board regulates barristers in Chambers. You can search the Barristers' register on the Bar Standards Board's website:

<https://www.barstandardsboard.org.uk/regulatory-requirements/the-barristers'-register/>.

This shows:

- (1) Whether a barrister has a current practising certificate; and
- (2) Whether a barrister has any disciplinary findings, which are published on the Bar Standards Board's website in accordance with their policy.

Alternatively, you can contact the Bar Standards Board on 020 7611 1444 to ask about this or email contactus@barstandardsboard.org.uk.

A separate sheet is enclosed which provides information about:

- Our complaints procedure.
- Any right you may have to complain to the Legal Ombudsman (LeO) – the independent body that can help you if you have complained to your lawyer and are not happy with their response.
- How to complain to the LeO.
- Any time limits for making a complaint.

You can also search the decision data on LeO's website:

<http://www.legalombudsman.org.uk/raising-standards/data-and-decisions/ombudsman-decision-data>

This shows providers which received an Ombudsman's decision in the previous 12 months, and whether LeO required the provider to give the consumer a remedy. Alternatively, you can contact LeO on 0300 555 0333 to ask about this or email enquiries@legalombudsman.org.uk.

Examples of our Pricing Structures

Bringing of a claim for ordinary Unfair Dismissal and / or Wrongful Dismissal before the Employment Tribunal

Stage of Case	Range of Fixed Fees
Reading Fee for hearings	£500 - plus VAT
1 st Day of a Tribunal fee	£750 plus VAT
2 nd and subsequent days	£500 plus VAT
Stage of Case	Range of Hourly Rates (Estimates)
Initial Advice and or meeting	£150 - £275 plus VAT

Brief fees for multiple day hearings are calculated on the following basis:

Days Listed	Prep	1 st Day	Uplift	Total Fees	Extra Days	Total:
1	£500	£750	0%	£1250	0	£1250 – plus vat
2	£500	£750	20%	£1500	£500	£2000 – plus vat
3	£500	£750	30%	£1625	£1000	£2625 – plus vat
4	£500	£750	40%	£1750	£1500	£3250 – plus vat
5	£500	£750	50%	£1875	£2000	£3875 – plus vat

Note that if a case is listed for multiple days but concludes in less than that originally listed, all dates will still be deemed payable.

Travel will also be charged for non-local courts to chambers.

Financial disputes arising out of divorce (for assets less than £300,000)

By 'financial disputes arising out of divorce' we mean where parties cannot agree on financial matters during the process of obtaining, or following, a divorce. For example:

- How assets should be divided.
- Whether to sell the matrimonial home or other assets.
- Maintenance payments.
- Pension sharing.

We may charge fixed fees, which means that we will charge you a set amount of money for the work. Below we provide estimates based on the ranges of fixed fees for barristers in St Albans Chambers. All fees are subject to VAT being added on.

Stage of Case	Range of Fixed Fees
Written advice	£500 - £1000 plus VAT
Conference preparation and time	£150 - £275 plus VAT
First appointment hearing (FDA)	£750 - £2000 plus VAT
Financial Dispute Resolution (FDR)	£1200 - £3000 plus VAT
First day of final hearing (if no settlement reached at FDR)	£2500 - £5000 plus VAT
Court appearance per day, after the first day of the final hearing	£750 - £1500 plus VAT
Stage of Case	Range of Hourly Rates (Estimates)
All of the above stages	£150 - £275 plus VAT

All information is correct as at November 2019, but fees are estimates only. For a quotation, please contact the clerks on 01727 843383. Please also make contact with the clerks if you and your former partner have joint assets which are worth more than £300,000.

Inheritance Act Advices

Pricing structures only apply where the deceased person’s estate is worth less than £300,000. An example of the required price and service transparency can be found below.

The Inheritance Act 1975 protects spouses (including former spouses), cohabitants, children and other dependents when a person dies without leaving sufficient money for the dependent’s continued wellbeing. Our barristers can provide you with written advice on whether you can make a claim under the Act. Our barristers can also provide you with written advice when a person dies and you are a beneficiary of the estate, but someone else makes a claim under the Act.

Timescales for Providing a Written Opinion

Timescales for a written opinion may vary depending on such factors such as barristers’ availability, the value and complexity of the deceased person’s estate. Claims made under the Act must be made within six months of the grant of probate, so as a guide, the written advice will be completed within two weeks where possible.

Written Advice	Range of Fixed Fees (Estimate)
Written advice on making or defending a claim	£500 - £1500 plus VAT

All information is correct as of November 2019. For a quotation, please contact the clerks on 01727 843383. Please also contact the clerks if the deceased person’s estate is worth more than £300,000.

Written Advice	Range of Hourly Rates (Estimates)
Written advice on making or defending a claim	£150 - £275 plus VAT

Licensing Applications in Relation to Business Premises

Our pricing information is exclusive to local authority hearings and appeals to the Magistrates' Court and Licensing applications for:

- The sale or supply of alcohol.
- Change of opening hours.
- Entertainment purposes.

Our barristers can advise you on the above licensing applications for your business. Our barristers can also represent you when your application is heard by the local authority licensing committee, and in any appeal to the magistrates' Court.

Timescales

Timescales for our services may vary depending on factors such as barristers' availability, the complexity of your application and the need for additional documents. As a price guide, written advice on your application will be available within 2 – 4 weeks where possible. Hearing dates for local authority licensing committees are set in advance, and our barristers will aim to represent you on your preferred hearing date where possible. If the local authority licensing committee refuses your application, appeals must be made to the Magistrates' Court within 21 days.

Fees

We may charge fixed fees, which means that we will charge you a set amount of money for work. We provide estimates below based on the average of our fixed fees. All fees are subject to VAT being added (where applicable).

If we charge fixed fees, these may vary depending on your needs – for example, your fees may be towards the higher end of the range if you need a more experienced barrister and/or you have a more complex application. If you have a particularly complex application, your fees may also be higher than the estimates below.

Stage of Case	Range of Fixed Fees (Estimates)
Written advice on your application	£500 - £750 plus VAT
Preparation, including meetings (conferences) with you and assistance with drafting of application	£750 - £1000 plus VAT
Local authority licensing committee hearing	£1000 - £1500 plus VAT
Appeal to the Magistrates' Court – initial hearing	£500 – £1250 plus VAT
Appeal to the Magistrates' Court – full hearing	£1500 - £2000 plus VAT

Stage of Case	Range of Hourly Rates (Estimates)
All of the above stages	£150 - £275 plus VAT

Contact Us

All information is correct as of November 2019, but fees are estimates only. For a quotation, please contact the clerks on 01727 843383.

Personal Injury Claims

If you have had an accident which was not your fault and you wish to make a personal injury claim, our barristers can advise and represent you.

The pricing model that we provide only applies to cases allocated to the fast track (generally, claims which are not worth more than £25,000).

It should be noted that under the Direct Access Scheme, unless accredited to do so, Barristers are not authorised to conduct litigation, direct access clients will need to conduct litigation themselves where necessary.

It is our policy not to offer the option of conditional fee agreements (CFA) Otherwise known as 'no-win, no-fee' under the public access scheme. CFAs will only be offered to clients who have instructed a solicitor. We will only accept instructions under the direct access scheme on a privately funded basis.

Timescales

Timescales will vary depending on factors such as barristers' availability, the complexity of your claim, the need for additional documents and the other side's approach. Straightforward cases will ideally settle within six months of a claim being made. If a trial is required, the courts tend to have a hearing date within two years of a claim being made.

Fees

Claim – not more than £3,000	Fixed Fee Applies
Meeting with you (conference)	£350 - £500 plus VAT
Written advice on your claim	£150 - £750 plus VAT
Drafting a statement of case	£150 - £350 plus VAT
Trial (if required)	£500 plus VAT
Claim – more than £3,000 but not more than £9,999	
Meeting with you (conference)	£350 - £500 plus VAT
Written advice on your claim	£150 - £750 plus VAT
Drafting a statement of case	£150 - £350 plus VAT
Trial (if required)	£710 plus VAT
Claim – more than £10,000 but not more than £14,999	
Meeting with you (conference)	£500 - £750 plus VAT
Written advice on your claim	£150 - £750 plus VAT
Drafting a statement of case	£150 - £350 plus VAT
Trial (if required)	£1070 plus VAT
Claim – more than £15,000 (generally, no more than £25,000)	

Meeting with you (conference)	£500 - £1000 plus VAT
Written advice on your claim	£750 - £1500 plus VAT
Drafting a statement of case	£500 - £1000 plus VAT
Trial (if required)	£1705 plus VAT
Hourly rates	£150 - £275 plus VAT

Contact Us

All information is correct as of November 2019, but fees are estimates only. For a quotation please contact the clerks on 01727 843383. Please also contact the clerks if your claim is for more than £25,000.

Summary Only Motoring Offences (Advice and Representation for Defendants)

We provide details of our fee spectrum for summary only motoring offences under Part 1 of the Road Traffic Act 1988 and/or S89 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984.

Our barristers can advise and represent you in court if you are charged with a ‘summary only’ motoring offence. This is a motoring offence which can only be heard in the Magistrates’ Court; for example, driving whilst disqualified, driving without insurance, careless driving, failing to stop or report, and speeding.

Timescales

Timescales may vary depending on factors such as barristers’ availability, the complexity of your case and the need for additional documents. As a guide, written advice on your case will be available within 2 weeks where possible.

Stage of Case	Range of Fixed Fees (Estimates)
Written advice on your case	£500 - £750 plus VAT
Preparation and meetings with you and assistance in drafting court documents	£750 - £1000 plus VAT
First appearance (pre-trial appearance)	£350 - £750 plus VAT
First day of trial	Minimum of £500 plus VAT
Court appearance per day, after the first day of trial	Minimum of £350 plus VAT
Hourly rates	£150 - £275 plus VAT

Contact Us

All information is correct as of November 2019, but fees are estimates only. For a quotation, please contact the clerks on 01727 843383.

Winding-up Petitions

If you are owed £750 or more by a company and are able to prove that the company cannot pay you, you may be able to apply to a court to close or 'wind-up' the company. Our barristers can advise you on the process of issuing a winding up petition and represent you at the court hearing. If you are company with a winding-up petition issued against you, our barristers can also advise you on the process of defending it and represent you a the court hearing.

Timescales

Timescales may vary depending on factors such as barristers' availability, the need for additional documents and court waiting times. As a guide, the courts tend to have a hearing date eight to ten weeks after a winding-up petition is issued. Fees will be subject to the value and complexity of the petition.

Stage of Case	Range of Fixed Fees (Estimates)
Advice on issuing or defending a winding-up petition	£150 - £500 plus VAT
Assistance with completion of forms and all necessary steps to be taken.	£150 plus VAT - £250 plus VAT
Preparation for and attendance at the court hearing	Minimum £350 plus VAT
Hourly rates	£150 - £275 plus VAT

Contact Us

All information is correct as of November 2019.

All fees listed in this document are provided as an estimate and for guidance purposes only. It is advised that you make contact with the clerks to discuss your specific needs.

Call: 01727 843383

Email: clerks@stalbanschambers.com

Write to: St Albans Chambers, 2-4 St Peters Street, St Albans AL1 3LF