

Inheritance Act Advice

The Inheritance Act 1975 protects spouses (including former spouses), cohabitants, children and other dependants 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

Timescales for your written advice may vary depending on factors such as barristers' availability, the value and complexity of the deceased person's estate, your financial needs and those of any beneficiary of the estate. However, claims under the Act must be made within six months of the grant of probate, so as a guide your written advice will be available within two to four weeks where possible.

Overview of Fee Calculations

Contained in our service standards, including quotes for legal services is a section on pricing and how we approach calculation of fees. These vary from case to case dependant upon a number of factors which are set out. Below are the typical range of fees we charge for Inheritance Act Advices although they should only be used as a guide as cases can vary significantly.

All fees exclude VAT which is added to the services of the barrister instructed. If we quote fixed fees we will try and ensure this is the fee charged although these may vary depending on the ongoing needs of your case and estimated amount of work required if the requirements to represent you effectively change. A wide bracket of possible fees are quoted as your fees may be towards the higher end of the range if you need or want a more experienced barrister and/or you have a complex or valuable case. If following an initial review of your case it was considered your case was exceptional and required a significantly increased amount of work than normal which would increase the costs beyond the fees below this would be explained in detail to you.

There might be additional costs for cases that proceed to Court following the advice provided. Some cases can be document heavy and might need numerous bundles producing for the court which might involve both barristers time but also staff who work in Chambers. We would find the most cost effective method of undertaking administrative tasks for you but this would be discussed and agreed with your barrister.

Some Clients might simply want an initial advice in writing and if the prospects of success are unfavourable the Client may decide they do not want to pursue their claim. We recognise that cost is an important factor when deciding whether or not to seek advice and what happens once that is received. The advice may provide you with sufficient information and you do not need any further help from us. If you decided further assistance is required to resolve issues please let us know and following receipt of more information about your case we can provide estimated figures for what might happen if your case needed to proceed to Court to be resolved. That might be a last resort and there are other remedies such as mediation and negotiation with other parties to try and resolve issues but again we would be able to provide you with your options and potential costs so you can make an informed choice. But the various options open to you can be discussed with your barrister if you engage their services.

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If your case progresses to court in order to try and achieve a favourable outcome to your claim there are court fees that need to be paid. These vary depending on the area of law or jurisdiction. Some court fees are dictated by the value of a claim. A link to the website that details these for your perusal as is follows:

[Fees in the Civil and Family Courts - main fees \(EX50\) - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

Frequently courts are using electronic bundles which your barrister will assist in organising with you. If a court requires bundles to be delivered in a paper format this would usually incur additional charges. These would vary dependant on the case but as a guide these charges are as follows:

Bundle up to 500 pages - £50 per bundle
Bundle up to 2000 pages - £100 per bundle.

Written Advice	Range of fixed fees (estimates)
Written advice on making or defending a claim and providing your options	£750- £1500 Depending on the advice provided, additional costs may be incurred such as cost of counsel at hearings if a case proceeded to Court. Fees can also vary on year of call as stated above but work can also incur addition costs such as a handwriting expert (if a will is contested), an interpreter and how much documentation counsel will need to go through.

Contact us

Fees are estimates only. For a more detailed quotation that is tailored to your case, please contact the clerks on civilclerks@deanscourt.co.uk or 0161 214 6000. Please also contact the clerks if the deceased person's estate is worth more than £300,000.

Easy access to our public access enquiry form to obtain a quote for providing you with legal services can be found [here](#).