

Inheritance Act Advice – Public Access

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.

Fees

We may charge fixed fees, which means that we will charge you a set amount of money for the written advice. Below we provide estimates based on the ranges of fixed fees for barristers in Unity Street Chambers, where the deceased person's estate is worth less than £300,000. All fees exclude VAT (where applicable).

If we charge fixed fees, these may be towards the higher end of the range if you need a more experienced barrister and/or the deceased person's estate is more complex. If the deceased person's estate is particularly complex, your fees may also be higher than the estimate below. There are also likely to be additional costs for any further work such as further written advices or representation at court. Such further work will be charged at a fixed fee, based on the barrister's hourly rate. Our barristers' hourly rates range between £125 + VAT and £250 + VAT.

By way of example, representation at a hearing lasting less than 2 hours is typically charged in a sum between £600+ VAT and £1,200 + VAT. Representation at a hearing lasting one day is typically charged in a sum between approximately £2,000 + VAT and £3,000 + VAT.

Written advice

Range of fixed fees

Written advice on making or defending a claim	£750 - £1200 + VAT
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Contact Us

All information is correct as of February 2021, but fees are estimates only. For a quotation, please contact the clerks on 0117 906 9789 or by e-mail clerks@unitystreetchambers.com.