Level of Fees in Family Cases

Publicly funded work

Fees charged for hearings, conferences and paperwork in Legally Funded cases will be in accordance with the Legal Aid Agency regulations for Counsel's fees. Where a non-standard fee publicly funded fee is claimed, the basis for the claim will be set out in a case report. We will provide, on request, a likely fee level where a non-standard fee is going to be charged to enable you to obtain appropriate funding from the Legal Aid Agency.

Privately funded work

Hearing Fees

The level of fees in privately funded family cases in respect of hearings will be, wherever possible, agreed with you after delivery of the brief and prior to the hearing based upon the following criteria:

i. Seniority/expertise of Counsel instructed;
ii. Complexity of the case;
iii. Value of the assets;
iv. The seriousness of the allegations;
v. Preparation time;
vi. Length of hearing;
vii. Any expenses such as hotel or travel.

Conference Fees

Conference fees can be agreed as inclusive fee, within the brief fee for a hearing; or you may wish to agree with us an hourly rate for preparation time and length of conference in advance of the conference. The hourly rate will be based upon criteria above, as applicable. Otherwise, fees for conferences will be assessed after the conference has taken place based upon criteria above, as applicable.

Paperwork Fees

Paperwork fees can be agreed as inclusive fee, within the brief fee for a hearing; or you may wish to agree with us an hourly rate for preparation time in advance. The hourly rate will be based upon criteria above, as applicable. Otherwise, fees for paperwork will be assessed after the paperwork has been completed and based upon criteria above, as applicable.

Public Access – Financial Disputes in Divorce

Our barristers can advise you if you and your former partner cannot agree on financial matters during, or after, a divorce. For example, you may not be able to agree on how assets should be divided, whether to sell your home or other assets, maintenance payments, or pension sharing.

Timescales

Timescales for your case may vary depending on factors such as barristers' availability, the value and complexity of your assets, weather you have children, how much you have already agreed with your former partner, and their approach. As a guide, court hearing for a financial order tend to take six to twelve months. This does not include possible appeals.

Fees

We 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 Philips Chambers, where the **parties have joint assets which are worth less than £300,000**.

The level of fees will be based upon the following criteria:

i. Seniority/expertise of Counsel instructed;
ii. Complexity of the case;
iii. Value of the assets;
iv. The seriousness of the allegations;
v. Preparation time;
vi. Length of hearing;
vii. Any expenses such as hotel or travel.

Stage of Case	Ranges of fixed fees (estimates)
Initial advice/drafting	£450 + VAT - £2000 + VAT
Conference	£450 + VAT - £2000 + VAT
First Directions Appointment Hearing (FDA)	£750 + VAT - £3000 + VAT
Financial Dispute Resolution Hearing (FDR)	£1250 + VAT - £7000 + VAT
Final Hearing Day 1 (including preparation)	£2000 + VAT - £8000 + VAT
Court appearances per day, after the first day of the final hearing	£1000 + VAT - £4000 + VAT
Hourly Rate for additional, none advocacy work	£150 + VAT - £400 + VAT

All information is correct as of 20/10/2026, but fees are **estimates only**. For a quotation, please contact the clerks on 0121 246 7000 or email on family@st-philips.com. Please also contact the clerks if you and your former partner have joint assets which are worth more than £300,000.