

Costs information on Motoring Offence Matters

Introduction

All motoring matters are dealt with by Michael Batty, an experienced solicitor in our Dispute Resolution team. Michael has been dealing with motoring matters for 30 years, and you can find more information about Michael's experience on [this page](#).

We do not carry out work on a fixed fee basis. We will charge for work based on the time spent working for you and the hourly rate of the person(s) carrying out the work. Michael's hourly rate is currently £410, plus VAT at 20%.

Before we start work for you, we will provide a tailored estimate based on your needs and the exact circumstances of your case. We do this because all cases are different, and our costs vary from case-to-case, depending on the exact circumstances.

What will we do?

We can provide a number of different levels of advice:

- **Option 1: Initial Advice only**

We will review any charge sheet, summons or single justice procedural notice and provide advice at an appointment lasting up to an hour.

- **Option 2: Initial advice and written guidance for use at a Magistrates' Court guilty plea hearing**

In addition to option 1, we will provide written guidance for use at a guilty plea hearing. We will not attend or arrange for representation at that hearing.

- **Option 3: Initial advice and representation at a Magistrates' Court guilty plea hearing**

In addition to option 1, we will prepare for the hearing and represent you (or arrange for you to be represented*) at Court. Where possible, we will use local agents or barristers from near the Court location to reduce costs.

- **Option 4 – Initial advice and representing you in relation to a not guilty plea leading to a contested Magistrates' Court trial**

In addition to the work in option 1, we will advise and represent you at preliminary hearings, review the prosecution evidence, prepare your evidence including witness statements and a defence case statement, and represent you (or arrange for you to be represented*) at the final trial.

*As the nearest Magistrates Court to Bury St Edmunds is in Ipswich it is generally far more cost effective for us to arrange for you to be represented by either local agents or a barrister.

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What will it cost?

Typically, our fees for the different options are as follows:

- Option 1: in the region of £1,350 (plus VAT at 20% of £270).
- Option 2: in the region of £1,900 (plus VAT of £380).
- Option 3: in the region of £2,450-£3,550 (plus VAT of £490-£710). This includes our estimate of the fees for any barrister or agent representing you at Court.
- Option 4: in the region of £4,900-£7,100 (plus VAT of £980-£1,420). This includes our estimate of the fees for any barrister or agent representing you at Court. This does not include the cost of instructing an expert witness, and the expert witness's fees (which can vary significantly depending on what the expert is required for).

The above costs are estimates only, and only relate to Magistrates' Court cases. Costs for Crown Court cases are likely to be higher.

Additionally, **Client due diligence**: identifying you is a legal and regulatory obligation we must discharge when we accept you as a client. Before we start work for you, we will provide you with details of the possible options we can use to establish your identity and the potential costs included in the tailored fees estimate referred to above. The minimum charge will be £30 + VAT per person.

We will tell you in advance if you are likely to incur any other costs.

How long will this take?

Typically, at present from the commencement of Court proceedings to a first hearing can take several months but if a trial is required depending upon the availability of witnesses and Court time up to 12 months and sometimes longer may elapse before the trial can take place. It should also be borne in mind that in many cases the prosecution has up to 6 months from the date of the alleged offence to commence the Court process.

We will be able to give you a better idea of how long it will take once we have more details, and as your case starts to progress.

Further information

If you would like more information about our services, our costs and the timescales involved, please contact Michael Batty (michaelbatty@greene-greene.com or 01284 717414) to discuss your matter further.