

Virgo Solicitors Limited Price Transparency Information for Private Immigration

Introduction

The document provides information about our costs for private immigration matters in accordance with the Solicitors Regulation Authority Price Transparency Rules. The prices quoted and set out in this document are for guidance in relation to our services. Each instruction received would be costed according to the specificity of the work that is required. Therefore, the estimated costs are outlined within a typical range that would correlate to the specific work that we may have to undertake for you.

VAT

VAT stands for Value Added Tax. VAT is a form of tax that is applied to purchases of goods or services. In the United Kingdom, the standard rate of VAT is currently 20%. Charging VAT in relation to immigration matters may depend on where you live and what immigration permission you have. We will confirm whether VAT (at a rate of 20%) is payable when you instruct us, and we can work out if VAT is properly chargeable.

This policy sets out our price information regarding private immigration matters pursuant to the SRA's Price Transparency Rules. However, the prices quoted below are for guidance only and are subject to change because each matter has to be conducted on its facts and specific circumstances. Additionally, our fees are also subject to:

- reviews and may change during the course of your matter. We will inform you of any changes to our hourly rates in writing before any changes are applied to your matter;
- value added tax ('VAT') costs. Fees that are subject to VAT will incur the prevailing VAT rate, currently 20%. We will inform you from the start if your matter would be subject VAT, and
- disbursements cost such as instructing an interpreter, counsel or requesting expert medical report. Some disbursements are subject to VAT at 20%. Consequently, any disbursement that is subject to VAT will be invoiced with the applicable VAT amount added to the disbursement.

A note about our hourly rates

Our fees are charged at an hourly basis. The hourly rates we charge will depend on the seniority and experience of your chosen lawyer, caseworker and the expediency of your matter. We will tell

Virgo Solicitors Limited

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Immigration & Asylum

Contracted with the Legal Aid Agency

you about who will be working on your matter in our Initial Assessment letter and their respective hourly rate. Our current hourly rates are within the ranges of:

| Virgo Solicitors Personnel Hourly Rates | |
|--|---------------------|
| Personnel | Hourly Rates |
| Partners | £300 - £400 |
| Senior Associate Solicitor | £200 - £300 |
| Associate Solicitors | £150 - £200 |
| Assistant Solicitors | £100 - £200 |
| Trainee Solicitors | £125 - £175 |
| Senior Caseworkers | £125 - £200 |
| Caseworkers | £100 - £150 |
| Assistant Caseworker | £80 - £125 |
| Solicitor Apprentice | £80 - £125 |

On average, most private immigration matters could be conducted between 5 to 20 hours. Therefore, the estimated cost for the typical immigration matter could cost:

- between £1,750 to £7,000 if the matter was conducted by a Partner, and
- about £875 to £3,500 if the matter was conducted by a Junior Solicitor.

The exact number of hours it will take depends on the circumstances in your case. Such as:

- The amount of supporting evidence that we need to consider
- Which language(s) you speak
- Whether you are applying with other dependents.

If you are able to provide sufficient evidence at our first meeting and clearly meet the applicable Immigration Rules, the cost is likely to be at the lower end of this range.

What services are included

The work will involve:

- taking instructions and discussing the immigration process and applicable timeline for completion.
- discussing your circumstances in detail and confirming whether this is the most appropriate application for you to make and what other options may be available to you;
- considering documents and providing advice based on the evidence, documents and information provided.
- giving you advice about the requirements of the Immigration Rules and whether you meet the criteria.
- if you do not fulfil certain criteria, whether this can be overcome and how, which on average takes two hours;

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- considering the supporting evidence you have provided, which we anticipate will take one to three hours;
- where necessary, helping you obtain further evidence (such as medical records and bank statements), including taking statements of any witnesses;
- preparing your application and submitting it on your behalf, which we anticipate will take about five hours;
- Attendance at a Home Office interview: if the Home Office ask you to attend an interview, we will give you clear advice (and discuss the possibility of us attending with you) at the appropriate time. This could be between one and six hours of work.
- giving you advice about the outcome of the application and any further steps you need to take.

The number of hours depends on the number of documents, whether they need to be translated; whether anything is missing and how long it will take to obtain the missing documents
Disbursements (not included in costs set out above):

Disbursements

Disbursements are costs related to your matter that are payable to third parties, such as visa fees. We handle the payment of the disbursements on your behalf to ensure a smoother process.

- Interpreters' fees at £30 per hour. Depending on specifics of the matter, we may require between up to 10 hours of interpretation. Additionally, we may also need to pay for the translation of relevant documents.
- Independent expert reports e.g. medical experts. These are not required in many cases: we will let you know as soon as possible if we consider an expert report is necessary.
- If there is an interview and we do attend with you, there will be additional disbursements in respect of our mileage/travel expenses.

Please note that disbursements are subject to rate and hour of each disbursement. For example, the cost for an interpreter will depend on the interpreting services used and for how long.

We estimate that most matters could cost within the following ranges:

| Virgo Solicitors Matter Cost Ranges | |
|--|---------------|
| Application | Cost Range |
| Naturalisation as a British Citizen non-complex case (Adult) | £2000 - £2500 |
| Registration as a British Citizen (by descent/double descent) non-complex case (Adult) | £2500 - £3000 |
| Naturalisation as a British Citizen complex case (Adult) | £3000 - £3500 |
| Registration as a British Citizen (by descent/double descent) complex case (Adult) | £4000 - £5000 |
| Registration of a Child as a British Citizen in the UK | £2000 - £3000 |
| Registration of a Child as a British Citizen from abroad | £3000 - £4000 |
| Application for a first British Passport from the UK or from abroad (Adult or Child-complex) | £3000 - £4000 |

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| Application for a first British Passport from the UK or from abroad (Adult or Child- non-complex) | £2000 - £3000 |
| Pre-Settled/settled status (not complex) | £1500 - £2000 |
| Pre-Settled/settled status (complex) | £2500 - £4000 |
| Surinder Singh Application, Pre-Settled Status/Settled Status | £3000 - £4000 |
| Application for a family permit for a spouse or dependant relatives, under the EU Settlement Scheme | £2500 - £3500 |
| Visit visa for tourism, medical, family | £1500 - £2500 |
| Visit visa (complex) | £3000 - £4000 |
| Visa as domestic servant | £1500 - £2500 |
| Ancestry visas | £2000 - £3000 |
| Other Categories, such as applications based on long residence (20 years), settling in the UK (10 years lawful residence), outside the Rules on Human Rights grounds | £4000 - £7000 |
| Leave to Enter or Remain with a partner (non-complex) | £3500 - £4000 |
| Leave to Enter or Remain with a partner (complex) | £4500 - £5500 |
| Settlement with a Partner | £3000 - £4000 |
| Settlement as a Victim of Domestic Violence (Non-Complex) | £3500 - £4000 |
| Settlement as a Victim of Domestic Violence (Complex) | £4500 - £6000 |
| Settlement application for a child (indefinite leave to enter) | £4000 - £5000 |
| Leave to Enter or Remain as a Parent of a Child in the UK | £4500 - £5500 |
| Adult Dependent Relative | £5000 - £7500 |
| Adoption (leave to enter "outside the Rules" where the adoption is not recognised in the UK) | £4500 - £5500 |
| De Facto Adoption entry clearance (not complex) | £4500 - £5500 |
| De Facto Adoption entry clearance (complex) | £6000 - £7000 |
| Investor (extension) | £3000 - £6000 |
| UK expansion worker (with sponsorship licence) | £7000 - £10000 |
| Entrepreneur Extension | £4000 - £8000 |
| Global talent (combined fee for endorsement and entry clearance/leave to remain) | £4000 - £5000 |
| Innovator with endorsement (new scheme) | £6000 - £8000 |
| Settlement for the above categories | £4000 - £4500 |
| Scale up visa (initial application) | £5000 - £6000 |
| Sponsorship licence | £4500 - £6000 |
| Senior or specialist worker | £3500 - £5000 |
| Skilled worker (leave to enter or remain / settlement for main applicant) | £3500 - £5000 |
| student visa – entry clearance application as a Tier 4 (General) Student | £2000 - £3000 |
| Application for Extension of Tier 4 (General) Visa | £2000 - £2500 |
| Parent of child in school (General) Visa | £2000 - £3000 |
| Graduate Visa | £2000 - £2500 |
| Religious worker / Youth Mobility Scheme | £2000 - £3000 |
| Application made with the main applicant (per applicant) | £1000 |
| Application made independently of the main applicant (per applicant) | £2500 |
| Replacement of your visa with BRP/lost BRP | £1000 - £1200 |
| British National (Overseas) visa applications | £2500 |

The costs quoted above do not include:

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- Any [Home Office fees](#) for making the application. You will pay this to the Home Office directly as part of the application process.
- Where the Home Office refuse your application, advice and assistance in relation to any appeal

Disbursements

Disbursements are costs that we may have to pay to in order conduct your matter. The following are most likely disbursements:

1. Home Office visa application fee
2. Interpreters related cost.
3. Counsel fees.
4. Expert (medical and/or subject expert) report.
5. Biometric fee (in applying from inside the UK).
6. Life in the UK test fee (if required).

Please note that the above is a general list of disbursements associated with UK visa applications. There may be additional disbursements such as court appeal fees that might relate to your matter. Additionally, the disbursements costs are subject to hourly rates and VAT charges.

How long will my application take?

We cannot guarantee how long the Home Office will take to process your application. [Read the current processing times](#). We will normally be able to submit this type of application within four weeks of you instructing us, but we will let you know at the earliest opportunity if it is likely to take longer than this.

Please note that the anticipated number of hours and fees are an estimate based on the facts above. All applications are likely to vary and of course, we can give you a more accurate estimate once we have more information about your specific case.

During your initial assessment, we will set out a realistic timeline for the conclusion of your matter. However, we cannot guarantee that your matter will be concluded by a specified date.

Any timeline that is discussed will be subject to your specific matter instructions; the availability and priority of the service that you have requested and other factors that are outside of our influence and control.

If your case is urgent with a deadline for submission within one week for instance, we will discuss this with you and advise on the practicalities of meeting the deadline and if we are able to do so agree an appropriate plan or course of action.

With regards to advice and representation at the First-tier Tribunal (Immigration and Asylum Chamber) in relation to appeals against Home Office visa or immigration decisions (excluding asylum), we will charge the same hourly rates as above.

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The time taken to prepare an appeal varies depending on the issues of the appeal. However, it is likely to be in the range of 20 - 40 hours preparation time. It will be rare that we would be able to thoroughly prepare your appeal in less than 20 hours. This means that on average costs are between £3,500 and £7,000 where the work is undertaken by a junior Assistant Solicitor and between £6,000 and £12,000 where an experienced partner undertakes the work. These figures exclude VAT which is charged at 20%.

If you reside outside of the European Union no VAT is chargeable.

Regarding representation at appeal hearings, it is our usual practice to instruct high experienced counsels to represent you. We will collaborate closely with counsel and in most cases, we will arrange a meeting with you your counsel prior to the hearing (known as a “conference”).

We will discuss with you the options and offer you a range of experience and price. Costs for the barrister are likely to be in the range of £1,000 to £5,000 plus VAT depending on the seniority of the counsel and the complexities of the case.

Key Stages

On average we think your matter will have the following stages:

1. Initial consultation and instruction.
2. Case preparation and/or application.
3. Interview and/or relevant application submitted.
4. Outcome of application and/or interview.
5. Consultation after decision review.
6. Appeal and/or reapplication depending on your circumstances.

At every stage of your matter, we will inform you about the next stage and steps so that all expectations are managed.

The Team

Dr. Abess Taqi

Abess is a practising solicitor in England and Wales, specialising in Property/Conveyancing, Immigration Law and Housing Law. He is also an accredited Asylum and Immigration Senior caseworker with Supervisor status under the Law Society’s Immigration and Asylum Law Accreditation scheme. Dr. Taqi is also a Notary Public - www.abesstaqi.com - and a Commissioner for Oaths. Abess has been practising immigration law for over 20 years.

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Glenn Corney

Glenn is a Legal Executive with over 20 years legal experience. He is an Asylum and Immigration Senior caseworker with Supervisor status and accredited by The Law Society under its Immigration and Asylum Law Accreditation scheme. Glenn holds a master's degree in Near and Middle Eastern Studies from SOAS. His work involves detained fast-track casework and training and supervising the firm's new immigration staff.

Shen Turgut

Shen is a qualified Paralegal. She is fluent in Turkish and has practised Immigration Law for over 20 years with an impressive track record of securing favourable outcomes for our private immigration clients.

Lorraine Babeki

Lorraine is a trainee solicitor. She supports our caseworkers and solicitors in their work and is responsible for dealing with the firm's external suppliers.

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