

**Motoring offences** 

# **Motoring offences**

Our Regulatory Team regularly advise and represent individuals at the Magistrates Court in relation to motoring offences. Our fees for cases that are dealt with in a single hearing can vary depending on its complexities.

A straight forward case with a guilty plea can typically range from £750 (plus VAT £150) - £1,500 (plus VAT £300) if dealt with in a court local to one of our offices. For more complex cases or cases with a not guilty plea, we provide a cost based around the complexities of the case. Cases can become complex when the facts are in dispute or if legal argument is necessary.

We ensure that the level of lawyer undertaking the work matches the experience needed and the complexities of the case. The table below shows our hourly rates:

Partners £250 (plus VAT £50)

Paralegals £110 (plus VAT £22)

### The above range of fees includes the following key stages for a typical straight forward case

- An initial meeting to discuss the circumstances surrounding your case.
- Reviewing all evidence, considering if the prosecution has enough evidence to prosecute.
- Providing advice in relation to how you should plead.
- Explaining the court procedure to you so you know what to expect on the day of your hearing, and the sentencing options available to the court.
- We cannot provide a timescale of when your hearing will take place, as this depends on the court listing.
- Attending court and meeting with you before going before the court.
- We will discuss the outcome with you. If advice is required on appeal, this will carry an additional cost.

## What is not included:

- Instruction of any expert witnesses.
- Taking statements from any witnesses.
- Advice or assistance in relation to any appeal.
- Attending any additional hearings.

## **Disbursements (Expenses)**

In order to attend court travel expenses will be charged and travelling by car will be at the HMRC approved rate. Travel costs will range depending on the distance travelled. The requirement of overnight accommodation will depend on the location of a Hearing and costs will vary depending on this.

#### Timescales

We can't give precise timescales as this will depend on Court listing. However, if you plead guilty then your matter will be dealt with either administratively, and within a matter of weeks, or if you are required to attend Court on the date that appears on your Summons. If you plead not guilty and your matter is listed for a trial then a realistic timescale would be that your hearing (at which the matter will be concluded) will be listed by the Court within 4 months of you entering your plea. Occasionally, trials don't go ahead when listed if, for instance, Police Officers become unavailable or if the Crown Prosecution Service isn't in a position to proceed. In such circumstances, the Court will then list your hearing for the next available date, which could be a couple of weeks later or several months thereafter.

# Who will undertake the work

Work will be undertaken by our Regulatory specialists and their experience can be found <u>here</u>. All work is supervised by our Head of Unit, Richard Arnot.