

transparency
in pricing

immigration /
nationality

Leathes Prior is committed to providing transparency
in pricing in line with the SRA Transparency Rules.



IMMIGRATION/NATIONALITY/VISA

Fixed Fee Interview

The Immigration and Nationality Team at Leathes Prior offers a fix fee consultation service where new clients can spend up to 90 minutes with one of our advisers at our office in Norwich or remotely via Microsoft Teams for an initial overview about their proposed application and/or immigration status in the United Kingdom.

This service is available world-wide via Microsoft Teams.

This includes applications by friends, relatives or partners and can cover a wide range of topics including:

1. All European Settlement Scheme (EUSS) applications involving citizens of the European Economic Area and their family members including applications for a family permit, settled and pre-settled status. This includes those claiming or wishing to claim a derivative right of residence such as a Zambrano right of residence;
2. Applying to become British including naturalisation and registration applications both for adults and children;
3. Applications to work in the United Kingdom as a Highly Skilled Worker, a Senior or Specialist Worker or as a carer or medical professional;
4. Applications to study in the United Kingdom as a Tier 4 (Student) Migrant and the available routes to work or set up in business on completion of studies including Graduate visa's;
5. Applications under the Tier 5 (Temporary Worker) category including Religious Workers, Creative and Sporting Workers, Charity Workers and those applying on a Government Authorised Exchange or under an International Agreement;
6. Applications for permission to come to the United Kingdom or stay here by family members including applications by or on behalf of a partner, husband, wife, civil partner, fiancée/fiancé and child (including adoption and Special Guardianship) and including those who wish to visit as well as those who wish to live in the United Kingdom permanently;
7. Applications by Adult Dependent Relatives;
8. Applications for permission to remain by members of visiting forces and civilian contractors;
9. Sponsor Licensing for employers;
10. All other applications for permission to come to the United Kingdom or stay here under the Immigration Rules to include ancestry and long residence;
11. Human Rights applications including medical (Article 3), family (Article 8) and private life (Article 8);
12. International Protection including asylum and humanitarian protection;
13. Deportation and administrative removal; and

14. Appeals to the First Tier Tribunal (Immigration and Asylum Chamber), the Upper Tribunal and other courts.

The service includes applications to be made within the United Kingdom and applications to be made abroad.

The current fixed fee for this consultation at our office in Norwich is £300 plus VAT payable on arrival on the day of your appointment in cash or by credit or debit card. If the meeting is remote payment can be made via our “Make a payment” link on the Home page of this web site. If you are non-resident VAT may not be payable.

If any further work is required and you wish to instruct us to undertake that work we will normally be able to give you a cost estimate at our meeting. You should note that this fee only covers one initial meeting that meeting and any further work will be charged at our normal hourly rate. Some clients find the advice they receive in the initial meeting is sufficient to enable them to process their application without any further input from us. Other clients ask us to deal with their application for them.

If you cannot call and see us or deal with a remote meeting, we may be able to advise and assist you over the telephone or by email. Please contact us on tcary@leathesprior.co.uk or telephone us on 01603 610911 to discuss fee options.

Our Fees – Specific Applications

Our standard hourly rate for all work done to assist clients with the preparation and submission of the following types of immigration applications is £300 plus VAT per hour:

1. Applications for naturalisation or registration under the British Nationality Act 1981
2. Applications on behalf of European Economic Area (EEA) nationals and others under the EU Settlement Scheme, including applications for family permits, settled and pre-settled status
3. Applications under the Immigration Rules, including:
 - 3.1 student and work experience visas
 - 3.2 visit visas (for tourism, or visiting friends / family)
 - 3.3 spouse and partners applications, including fiancé(e)s or proposed civil partners
 - 3.4 applications for work, business or study
 - 3.5 dependent relative and family reunion applications
 - 3.6 ancestry visas
 - 3.7 other categories, such as applications on the basis of long residence

Please ask for details of our rates for dealing with other types of applications or other work including appeals to the High Court.

It is difficult to estimate what our fees will be for dealing with the specific types of immigration application listed in this section. The more we have to do the more we charge so some clients like to do as much of the work as they can in order to keep their outlay on our fees as low as possible. On average, this type of work takes between 4 to 15 hours to complete. This means that on average costs could be between £1200 plus VAT and £4500 plus VAT although this

figure is only a guide rather than an estimate. The exact number of hours it will take depends on the circumstances in your case and could be lower than or exceed these figures. Factors likely to impact on the cost could include:

1. The amount of supporting evidence that we need to consider
2. Any relevant immigration history
3. Which language(s) you speak
4. Whether the application involves dependants
5. The nature and extent of any submissions we need to make on your behalf. 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.

The work we need to do is likely to involve:

1. Discussing the circumstances in detail and confirming whether what is the most appropriate application to be made and what other options may be available;
2. Giving you advice about the requirements of the Immigration Rules and whether you or the applicant meet the criteria.
3. If you or the applicant do not fulfil certain criteria, whether this can be lawfully overcome and how.
4. Considering the supporting evidence you have provided. The amount of time we spend may depend 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
5. Where necessary, helping you obtain further evidence (such as medical records and bank statements), including taking statements of any witnesses;
6. Giving you advice about the outcome of the application and any further steps you need to take.

In our experience most applicants who are making one of the specific types of application listed are not required to attend an interview with the Home Office or an Immigration Officer. If you are required to attend an interview in the United Kingdom and wish us to be present our fees for doing so will be in addition to the amount quoted above. Our travelling time will be charged at the rate of £150 plus VAT per hour. In addition we will charge plus 45p plus VAT for each mile travelled by car unless public transport is used when that actual cost will be charged. Any time spent waiting or in interview will be charged at £240 plus VAT per hour.

Disbursements (not included in costs set out above):

Disbursements are costs related to your matter that are payable to third parties, such as visa fees. We can handle the payment of the disbursements on your behalf to ensure a smoother process if requested although we will require cleared funds payable in advance to do so. Possible disbursements include:-

1. Interpreter's fees. Many clients provide their own interpreter. If you need an interpreter we will try and organise this and will let you know the additional cost. The same applies if any documents require translation.

2. Independent expert reports e.g. medical and country 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.
3. If there is an interview and we do attend with you, there will be additional disbursements in respect of our mileage/travel expenses as outlined above.

The costs quoted here do not include:

1. Any Home Office, other official fees (such as the Immigration Health Surcharge) or fees charged by a UK Visas and Immigration partner for making the application. You will pay this to the Home Office etc directly as part of the application process.
2. Where the Home Office or Entry Clearance Officer refuses the application, advice and assistance in relation to any appeal
3. Any copying charges

How long will your application take?

We cannot guarantee how long the Home Office or Entry Clearance Officer will take to process the application. Visa processing times can usually be found online. We will normally be able to submit this type of application as soon as possible of you instructing us and providing us with the required supporting evidence, but we will let you know at the earliest opportunity if it is likely to take longer than this. This applies only to applications made from within the United Kingdom to the Home Office here.

If the application is to be made outside the United Kingdom for entry clearance and involves one of the official partners of UK Visas and Immigration it is likely that the applicant will need to deal with registration and submission with our assistance as appropriate. We are able to complete application on behalf of clients who are based outside the United Kingdom via Microsoft Teams.

Please note 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.

If you need advice and representation at the First-tier Tribunal (Immigration and Asylum Chamber) in relation to appeals against Home Office visa or immigration decisions we can assist. Again our hourly rate is £300 plus VAT. The factors which are likely to impact on the amount of our fees are similar to those set out above in relation to specific applications. We are likely to spend anywhere between 6 to 20 hours preparing the case for hearing so our costs for dealing with all stages up to and excluding the hearing could be between £1880 plus VAT to £6,000 plus VAT although you should regard these figures as no more than a rough guide. The cost of the actual hearing will vary depending on whether you wish to retain a Barrister to represent you on the day, whether you wish us to attend as your advocate or to accompany the barrister and where the appeal hearing takes place.

This estimate does not cover asylum applications.

The work we need to do is likely to be similar to that needed for an initial application although in addition we may need to:

1. Consider any documents filed by the Home Office

2. Liaise with the First Tier Tribunal including applying for direction were appropriate and dealing with any Case Management Review Hearing Review
3. Preparing an Appellant's bundle.
4. Liaising with the Home Office Presenting Officers Unit and making further submissions.
5. Preparing legal and factual submissions including the Appellant's skeleton argument
6. Lodging any documents via My HMCTS

If a barrister is retained to deal with the final hearing we will discuss the likely cost of dealing with that in advance of the hearing. If you wish us to attend the hearing either to present your case or to accompany the barrister the cost of doing that is likely to vary depending on the venue.

Please note we do not offer legal aid.

Which lawyers will handle my case?

The profiles of the lawyers in our Immigration and Nationality team (together with details of when they qualified and their areas of expertise) can be found on our website.