

## COSTS INFORMATION ON MOTORING MATTERS

We offer advice and representation at competitive rates- this is an important consideration as public funding is rarely available for minor motoring offences. We are flexible in the service we provide to fit your needs; for example we can give you advice prior to a court appearance, represent you in court on a fixed fee basis or take formal instructions for handling the whole case. The fees detailed below relate only to minor road traffic offences - these are cases that will only be heard in the Magistrates court. The fees do not include advice on more serious offences which are tried in the Crown Court and for which legal aid can often be available. Ms Todner is an experienced Solicitor with more than 30 years' experience. Mr Jobling is an experienced Barrister with more than 35 years' experience.

### Considering a driving summons – fixed fee.

We offer a fixed fee up to one hour of advice to consider whether a driving summons has been properly issued and provide advice in relation to plea. The fixed fee differs upon the type of summons and fees range from £350 per hour plus VAT to £450 per hour plus VAT.

The fixed fee is applicable to minor offences such as speeding offences, driving using a mobile phone, failing to observe a road sign, receipt of a notice of intended prosecution.

The fixed fee does not apply to more complex driving offences.

### Guilty pleas in court – fixed fee.

If you were charged with a minor motoring offence and intend to plead guilty we can offer a fixed fee to represent you in court in some instances.

If you were to attend a Magistrates court within 25 miles of GL7 postcode we can offer a fixed fee to include up to four hours work. The fixed fee differs depending on the lawyer advising and fees range from £720 plus VAT to £1400 plus VAT. The fixed fee will include taking your instructions preparing a plea in mitigation to present before the court and presentation of that mitigation.

Please note that a fixed fee includes attending court for a single sentence hearing only - if for some reason the sentence does not go ahead and is adjourned to another date that is not included within the fixed fee.

Courts that are further afield will require more specific estimates to take travel requirements into account. There are of course always some sentences which are more complex and require further preparation such cases will fall outside of the above time estimate and a separate fee estimate can be provided in writing.

### Not guilty pleas in court – hourly fees.

Trials where you plead not guilty are more complex - even in minor road traffic cases there are a number of variables that need to be considered. However if the matter is straightforward then the usual estimate of time in preparing for and representing you at trial is somewhere in region of 10 to 15 hours work.

Ms Todner and Mr Jobling's rate is £450 per hour plus VAT at the prevailing rate of 20%.

Our work would include.

- advising on the evidence
- taking your instructions
- preparing for trial taking statements from potential defence witnesses
- conferences with counsel
- the instruction of experts that may be required.

These fees do not include counsel's fees for representing you at the trial hearing and any preliminary hearings or the fees of any expert witness instructed.

No disbursements, such as counsel's fees or expert witness fees, would be instructed or incurred without your prior consent. VAT would be charged on counsel's fees and expert witnesses at the prevailing rate which is presently 20%.

These estimates and hourly fees are based upon you attending a Magistrates court within 25 miles of GL7 postcode. If you are to attend a court that is further afield we will provide a specific estimate to take travel requirements into account.

There are of course always cases that are more complex such cases will fall outside the above estimate and a specific fee estimate will be required.

#### Special reasons arguments – hourly fees.

There are occasions where under circumstances you may be guilty of a road traffic offence but the court may be persuaded not to impose a period of disqualification or to impose a shorter period of disqualification or penalty points. The usual estimate of time involved in preparing for a special reasons hearing is in the region of 5 to 10 hours. Ms Todner and Mr Jobling's hourly rate is £450 per hour plus VAT at the prevailing rate of 20%.

Our work would include the instruction of experts, taking of defence witness statements, conference with counsel and preparing for the court hearing.

These fees will not include external counsel's fees for representing you at the court hearing where special reasons are considered or any preliminary hearings or any expert witnesses fees.

There are always cases which are more complex such cases will fall outside of the above time estimates. In such cases a separate fee estimate will be provided. If you would like to speak to any member of the team you can contact them by email at [karentodner@karentodner.com](mailto:karentodner@karentodner.com).

Disbursements can be incurred on a case by case basis and are not incurred without your prior consent. It is difficult to provide details of the disbursements as they vary from case to case but the range of costs of disbursements could range between £500 to £2000 plus VAT. VAT is charged at the prevailing rate of 20%.