Road Traffic Offences: Fees

What are our fees?

At Freemans, we aim to provide you with the highest quality representation in relation to road traffic offences, while recognising that you want the certainty of clear costs. Like most lawyers we have chargeable hourly rates for the work that we do. These are as follows: -

Status	**Hourly rate (VAT charged at 20%)**
Partners and Senior Associate/ Senior Litigator (over 8 years' experience)	£422 plus VAT
Associate (over 4 years' experience)	£327 plus VAT
Solicitor/Legal Executive	£276 plus VAT
Trainees, Paralegals and other fee earners	£157 plus VAT

If your matter is charged at an hourly rate, the fee will depend upon how many chargeable hours or part of an hour we spend dealing with your case. This can vary depending on complexity, where the court is located, and other factors, such as what we need to do to fully prepare and advise you on your matter.

For a motoring case dealt with at a single hearing in London, we would normally estimate the number of chargeable hours to range from 5-10 hours. If the case is outside London, we would add any additional chargeable time to travel to and from the court, as opposed to a London court.

In some cases, we may be able to agree to a fixed fee, as we appreciate that this provides a degree of certainty to you as a client regarding cost.

If we can agree on a fixed fee for a hearing that concludes with a guilty plea at one hearing, and your case is in a court in London, we would expect that fee to be £900 to £1250 + VAT, depending upon the exact location. If your case is in one of the home counties, we would expect the fee to be about £1,250 to £1,750 + VAT, again, depending on the exact location.

What do our fixed fees include?

If we can agree a fixed fee on a guilty plea, this fee would include: -

- Attendance and preparation
- Considering evidence
- Taking your instructions at a single meeting before the hearing (maximum 1 hour meeting)
- Obtaining a statement from any witness
- Providing advice on likely sentence
- Attendance and representation at a single hearing at the Magistrates' Court
- General advice about any appeal

A fixed fee would **not** include the following: -

- instruction of any expert witness*
- travel costs over £25*
- advice and representation concerning a Special Reasons hearing***
- advice and representation concerning an Exceptional Hardship hearing***
- advice and representation concerning a Newton Hearing.

How will my matter progress?

The key stages of your matter are based on the presumption that you have entered a guilty plea and have a hearing date.

They will be as follows: -

- Meet or speak over the phone with your lawyer to explain what happened.
- We will consider initial disclosure and any other evidence and provide advice.
- Arrange to take any witness statements if necessary.
- We will conduct any further preparatory work, obtain further instructions from you if needed and answer any follow-up queries you have.
- We cannot provide a timescale for how long your hearing will take place as this depends on the court listing for that day.
- We will attend court on the day and meet with you before the hearing.
- We will explain the court procedure to you, so you know what to expect and the sentencing options available to the court.
- We anticipate being at court for this type of case for 1 hour to half a day.
- We will discuss the outcome with you.
- If advice is required on appeal, this will be provided at no additional cost.

We have a team of experienced lawyers who will handle your case. You can read about their experience by clicking on the name below, which will take you to their profile page.

Michael Field
Kishoree Kotecha-Pau
Deborah Hogg
Karol Hart
Peter Bedingfield
Leo Martin

*This would attract additional costs of the fee charged to us by the expert
**This would attract additional costs of the total cost of the travel ticket
***This would normally be charged on an hourly rate, according to the amount of chargeable work undertaken if a fixed fee is not agreed