



Information on Costs

Our costs

In every case before we commence substantive work on your matter, we will provide you with an estimate of our costs which are charged primarily by our hourly rates.

Such estimates are just that and are not meant to be a quotation for costs as invariably, as the matter progresses and becomes clearer, so does the costs situation.

As a client of Chafes Hague Lambert Solicitors you remain primarily responsible for the payment of your costs. We aim to issue an invoice each month detailing the work conducted over the preceding month. Payment of those costs should take place within 30 days, after which interest may accrue on any unpaid balance.

Disbursement's

In addition to our costs, there may be disbursements which are further costs that we have to pay on your behalf, such as Court fees, enquiry agent's fees, valuers' fees, other experts' fees etc. We will endeavour to let you know in advance as to what any such disbursements will be before actually incurring them on your behalf.

Funding

We may be able to refer you to completely separate financial institutions who may lend money on favourable terms to assist you in funding your case although, generally speaking, such funding arrangements are not available for proceedings concerning children. We do not provide any advice to you as to the terms and conditions of such funding

Costs between parties

The General Civil Costs Rule that the unsuccessful party will be ordered to pay the costs of the successful party does not apply in Family Proceedings. The starting point in all family proceedings is that each party should pay their own costs.

Where the Court believes there has been 'Litigation Misconduct' it may penalise that party with an adverse costs order.

New Mills
21-23 Union Road
New Mills
High Peak
SK22 3EL
01663 743 344

Urmston
2 – 4 Primrose Avenue
Urmston
Manchester
M41 0TY
0161 747 7321

Wilmslow
22 Church Street
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 1AU
01625 531 676

Children proceedings

In relation to children proceedings, it is unusual for Costs Orders to be made although it would be appropriate to order costs when a party goes beyond the limit of what is reasonable to pursue the application before the Court. There may be other family proceedings such as injunction proceedings where the Court considers it appropriate to order costs.

Other family proceedings

Where proceedings are issued under the Trusts of Land and Appointment of Trustees Act (Cohabitation Matters) the Civil Procedure Rules concerning costs will apply and the general rule is costs follow the event so the unsuccessful party may be ordered to pay the costs of the successful party. What those costs will be depends upon complicated rules but the costs consequences can be severe.

The Court can make a wide variety of Costs Orders including an Order that one party must pay a proportion of the other party's costs, a stated amount, costs from or until a certain date, costs incurred before the proceedings began, costs related to a particular step, costs related to a particular Court Hearing, together with interest on costs from or until a specified date.

Where the other party in the proceedings has the benefit of Public Funding then it is far less likely that the Court will make an Order that that party should be responsible for paying the costs. It is very important that the costs consequences are considered in Family Proceedings.

Our family Lawyers here at Chafes Hague Lambert can guide you through what requirements you will need, to discuss your situation, please contact us on:

Michelle Simpson: Associate

01663 743 344 (New Mills)

michelle.simpson@chlsolicitors.co.uk

Kate Wright: Solicitor Apprentice

01663 743 344 (New Mills)

kate.wright@chlsolicitors.co.uk

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