

# Conditional Fee Agreements

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At Bird & Lovibond we have a reputation for our down to earth and pragmatic approach. We have always been transparent about our fees and always ensure that you know from the first meeting with a lawyer what our advice will cost. As the matter progresses with us we also keep you updated should our original estimate of the cost change.

Across the whole profession there has been a push towards greater price transparency for Clients and this has led to our regulator, the SRA, to issue “transparency rules” which require all firms that they regulate to publish information about their prices.

The following information is provided to you to comply with this regulation. It does not replace the personal quote that you will receive before you instruct us to act for you.

## **Personal Injury Claims**

We routinely do personal injury Claims on a Conditional Fee Agreement (ie no win no fee) basis. This means that we will not charge you anything if you lose the case. If you lose the case you will not be responsible to pay the other side’s costs because you will have the benefit of “qualified one way cost shifting”. You would only lose this protection if your Claim was fundamentally dishonest or if the Claim was struck out.

If you win the case, then we will make a charge to you. Our charging rates are between £200-£300 an hour depending upon the complexity of the case and the level of experience of the person dealing with the case at this firm. However, we would expect to recover our basic costs back from the other side. We will however, deduct from your damages a “success fee” which is the extra charge we make to you for the risk we take in doing the case on a no win no fee basis. Please note however, the success fee will never exceed 25% of the damages.

Please note, that we will not charge you anything for the initial meeting you have with us in a personal injury case.

## **Litigation**

Occasionally we are prepared to consider doing other types of Litigation, particularly professional negligence cases, on a Conditional Fee Agreement (no win no fee agreement) type basis. In the case of non Personal Injury cases, we would make a charge of £100 plus VAT for the initial meeting to assess if your case is strong enough to do on a Conditional Fee Agreement basis.

Please note that you will not receive the benefit of “qualified one way cost shifting” protection in non Personal Injury cases. Therefore, you would have to consider whether it is appropriate to take out insurance to cover the other side’s costs should you lose the case.