

Sample Fee estimate for a Solicitor

Background

This is a sample of the type of response I usually issue to a solicitor when they request a fee estimate.

Fees

My fixed fee for all PODE reports is £1,900 + VAT, which equates to £1140 for each party. That is invoiced in stages, a fee note for half of each staged payment will be sent to the solicitor's representing the divorcing parties. If either is a Litigant in Person, I can issue the invoices directly to them.

- 25% of each individual's share of the fee is due at outset (£237.50 + VAT) and
- a further 25% (£237.50+VAT each) once all information has been obtained.
At both stages, I will not commence work until payment has been received.
- The final 50% (£475+VAT each) will be invoiced on completion.
I require payment prior to issuing the report.

Calculations Required

All of the following calculations are included in my fixed fee:

- Parity of Income
- Equality of Capital Value
- Offsetting Values for both

I suggest they are based on the relevant Normal Retirement Age i.e., that for each pension scheme and their two State Pension Ages. No doubt, you will have an age in mind, which you will confirm.

Timescales

Once appointed, and the Initial Fee is paid, the data gathering stage may take weeks or months, depending on the schemes, insurers, and clients. I will extract what I can from the scheme information which you provide and obtain the remaining details from the schemes.

My timescales are six weeks from receipt of all the required information and the second fee instalment.

CV

I attach my CV and confirm I am not aware of any conflict of interest issues, which would prevent me acting.

Next Steps

I look forward to receiving the Letter of Instruction.

Please also send me:

- State Pension Forecasts, from <https://www.gov.uk/check-state-pension>
- Pension Documents

- Letters of Authority (Blank attached)

These must be fully completed, printed, and then signed by hand.

Please pass the attached Notes re Documents on to your clients.

Many thanks