

Mortgage of a freehold or leasehold residential property – a house or flat

Our fees are based on the amount of time it takes us to complete your mortgage efficiently and the seniority and experience of the lawyers and other fee earners working on your transaction. Our fees will be specifically agreed with you at the outset of your mortgage and will cover the work required to complete your mortgage, including dealing with registration at the Land Registry. Where the mortgage does not proceed to completion a reduction of 25% to 50% is usually applied to the agreed fees depending on how far advanced the mortgage is.

Our current hourly charge rates range from £250 for a recently qualified solicitor to £455 for a senior partner/consultant.

Occasionally a mortgage becomes unexpectedly more complex e.g. there might be an issue with the property that does not comply with the lender's requirements e.g. works carried out to the property without the necessary consents. We would notify you of this as soon as reasonably practicable, so that you can decide whether you wish to continue with the mortgage with the additional expense of us dealing with the unexpected extra work.

Our fees

| <u>Mortgage advance</u> | <u>Fee range</u> |
|-------------------------|-------------------|
| Less than £350,000 | £1,300 - £1,500 |
| £350,000 - £500,000 | £1,500 - £1,800 |
| £500,000 - £750,000 | £1,800 - £2,900 |
| £750,000 - £1,000,000 | £2,900 - £4,500 |
| £1,000,000 - £2,000,000 | £4,500 - £7,000 |
| £2,000,000 - £3,000,000 | £7,000 - £8,500 |
| £3,000,000 - £4,000,000 | £8,500 - £10,000 |
| £4,000,000 - £5,000,000 | £10,000 - £12,500 |
| £5,000,000 + | £12,500 + |

Our fee ranges assume that:

- This is a standard mortgage and that no unforeseen matters arise including for example (but not limited to) a defect in title or lease which requires remedying prior to completion of the mortgage
- We are also acting for your lender and it has not instructed separate lawyers to act for it
- The mortgage is concluded in a timely manner and no unforeseen complications arise
- All parties to the mortgage are co-operative and there is no unreasonable delay in third parties providing documentation

- No indemnity policies are required to cover problems - additional disbursements will apply if indemnity policies are required.

Disbursements

Disbursements are costs related to your transaction that are payable to third parties, such as search fees. We handle the payment of the disbursements on your behalf to ensure a smoother process. Disbursements are not included in our fee ranges, however, these typically include:

- HM Land Registry fee: £20 - £250 (depending on the size of the mortgage advance and whether online registration can be used)
- Search fees: £350 - £500 plus VAT
- Electronic money transfer fee: 50p - £15 plus VAT.

Other possible disbursements under the lease

If you are mortgaging a leasehold property, there are other possible disbursements which may be payable under the terms of your lease. These are set out separately below. This list is not exhaustive and other disbursements may apply depending on the terms of the lease. We will inform you if any such fee is payable upon receipt and review of the lease.

- Notice of Charge fee – This fee (if chargeable) is paid to the landlord. Often the fee is between £25 and £50
- A landlord's management pack containing service charge and insurance information etc. will also be needed for a leasehold property. These usually cost in the region of £150 to £400 plus VAT.

Any photocopying that is required will be charged at a commercial rate. This would usually be no more than £100 plus VAT where relevant.

VAT

VAT is payable at 20% on all legal fees and taxable disbursements.

Example transaction

Example mortgage of a freehold property borrowing £300,000:

| | |
|---|------------------|
| Legal fee | £1,400.00 |
| Search fees | £350.00 |
| Land Registry fee | £40.00 |
| Electronic money transfer fees | <u>£15.00</u> |
| Subtotal | £1,805.00 |
| VAT | <u>£353.00</u> |
| Total legal fees, disbursements and VAT | <u>£2,158.00</u> |

How long will my mortgage take?

How long it will take from your mortgage offer being received until completion of your mortgage will on average be between 4-8 weeks.

Stages of your re-mortgage

The precise stages involved in the mortgage of a residential property vary according to the circumstances. However, below we set out some key stages that are relevant to most transactions:

- Take your instructions and give you initial advice
- Check the title documents (and lease)
- Request the sale management pack from the managing agents (where leasehold)
- Carry out searches
- Obtain planning and Building Regulations documentation (if relevant)
- Request further necessary information from you
- Report to you on the conditions of your mortgage offer
- Report on title to your lender
- Send mortgage deed to you for signature
- Arrange for the mortgage advance to be received from your lender to complete your mortgage
- Obtain pre-completion searches
- Complete your mortgage
- Deal with the application for registration of your mortgage at the Land Registry
- Serve notice of charge on your landlord and other post completion steps required by your lease (where relevant) and your lender.
- Send the balance of the mortgage advance to you by bank transfer

Our team

You may review the experience and qualifications of our Residential Property Team [here](#)