

## Road Traffic Offences Information Sheet

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### Introduction

As part of our professional rules, we aim to ensure that anyone wishing to use our services has the information they need to make an informed choice of legal services provider, including understanding what the costs may be.

### What is included?

- Attendance and/or preparation;
- Considering evidence;
- Taking your instructions;
- Providing advice on likely sentence;
- Where stated in the table below, attendance and representation at a single hearing at the Magistrates Court.

### What is not included?

- Instruction of any expert witnesses;
- Taking statements from any witnesses (see comments in 'key stages' section);
- Advice or assistance in relation to any appeal.

### Our Fees

Type of matter	Fixed fee	Fixed fee (incl. VAT)
Interview, advice and written representation to the Court Fees to be paid before the appointment	<b>£250</b>	<b>£300</b>
Speeding/careless driving: advice and representation at Court (Guilty Plea at local Court*)	<b>£450</b>	<b>£540</b>
OPL (over the permitted limit): advice and representation at Court (Guilty Plea at local Court*)	<b>£450</b>	<b>£540</b>
Exceptional Hardship matters: Interview, advice and representation at local Court* on a guilty plea but where you are liable to disqualification as a "totter" and wish to retain your licence (resulting from single conviction).	<b>£750</b>	<b>£900</b>
Special reasons matters: interview, advice and representation at local Court* on a guilty plea, but where you are liable to argue special reasons for not disqualifying Where there are expert reports to be obtained, the costs will be added to the fee	<b>£750</b>	<b>£900</b>

Travel & Mileage: Matters outside Sheffield, Rotherham, Doncaster and Barnsley (local Courts\*) will incur additional travel and mileage costs which will be added to the fee

*VAT is currently 20%*

## Key stages involved

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

- Meet with you to provide instructions on what happened;
- Consider initial disclosure, and any other evidence and provide advice;
- Arranging to take any witness statements. This would be charged on an hourly rates basis at the charging rates set out in the table below;
- Explain the court procedure to you so you know what to expect on the day of your hearing, and the sentencing options available to the Court;
- Conduct any further preparatory work, obtain further instructions from you, if necessary, and answer any follow up queries you have;
- Attend court on the day, meet with you before going before the court. We anticipate being at court for half a day.
- Discuss the outcome with you. If advice is required on appeal, this will carry an additional cost.

<b>Lawyer</b>	<b>Hourly rate</b>	<b>Hourly rate (incl. VAT)</b>
Partners	£250.00	£300.00
Other Solicitors and Legal Executives (FCILEx)	£200.00	£240.00
Trainee Solicitors	£150.00	£180.00
Paralegals	£125.00	£150.00

VAT is currently 20%

## Timescales

For guilty plea cases, this will depend the court date for the final hearing. For not guilty pleas the average timespan is 3 to 6 months. Again, each case is individual and we can give you an indication of this during an initial consultation.

## Payment of fees

It is the Policy of GWBHarthills LLP to be in receipt of payments in advance of any hearing and prior to undertaking substantive work. Cash and card payments can be made on the day. Any cheque payments must be received within 5 days of a hearing date.

# Magistrates Court Work Information Sheet

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Type of matter	Fixed fee	Fixed fee (incl. VAT)
Trials anticipated to last up to 3 hours (Half day) Fee includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consideration of the evidence</li> <li>• Taking instructions</li> <li>• Interviewing witnesses</li> <li>• Representation at trial</li> </ul> Where there are expert reports to be obtained, the costs will be added to the fee	<b>£750</b>	<b>£900</b>
Trials anticipated to last up to 6 hours (Full day) Fee includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consideration of the evidence</li> <li>• Taking instructions</li> <li>• Interviewing witnesses</li> <li>• Representation at trial</li> </ul> Where there are expert reports to be obtained, the costs will be added to the fee	<b>£1200</b>	<b>£1440</b>
Restoration of Driving Licence	<b>£850</b>	<b>£1020</b>
Extra days will be charged at the above rates for Half or Full days		
Travel & Mileage: Matters outside Sheffield, Rotherham and Doncaster will incur additional travel and mileage costs which will be added to the fee		

# Crown Court Work Information Sheet

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Type of matter	Fees	Fees (incl. VAT)
Appeals against Sentence from Magistrates' Court	<b>£850</b>	<b>£1020</b>
Appeals against Conviction from Magistrates' Court	<b>£1000 per day</b>	<b>£1200 per day</b>
Crown Court: guilty plea	<b>£850</b>	<b>£1020</b>
Crown Court: trial	<b>£1250 per day plus preparation on an hourly rate (see above)</b>	<b>£1500 per day plus preparation on an hourly rate (see above)</b>