



Carr & Co Solicitors
Criminal Defence Specialists

Carr and Co (Yorkshire Ltd) Solicitors

Information for clients: Motoring Offences

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.

Motoring offence, summary onlyⁱ Guilty Plea

Our Fees - Depending on the locality of the court.

Kirklees Magistrates Court - Single Hearing - Fixed Fee: £400 + VAT

If the case is adjourned to another date for any other reason, a further Fixed fee of £200 + VAT will need to be paid in advance of the hearing

Single Hearing at another West Yorkshire court - Fixed Fee £600 + vat + Disbursement namely Mileage to the relevant court.

If the case is adjourned to another date for any other reason, a further Fixed Fee of £200 + VAT + Mileage.

All fees will need to be paid in advance of any hearing.

For other locations please call us for a quote.

What is included?

- Attendance and/or preparation;
- Considering evidence;
- Taking your instructions;
- Providing advice on likely sentence;
- 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;
- Advice and assistance in relation to a Special Reasons/Exceptional Hardshipⁱⁱ hearings;
- Advice or assistance in relation to any appeal.

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, if necessary (this will have an additional cost, of £200 per hour plus vat).
- 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 on average half a day.
- Discuss the outcome with you. If advice is required on appeal, this will carry an additional cost.

Please note we cannot provide a timescale of when your hearing will take place, as this depends on the court listing for that day.

Fixed Fee Appointment

We can also offer a Fixed Fee appointment for advice only, on a road traffic case and this will include attending the appointment, considering documentation and advice in relation to the offence in question on the day of the appointment.

1 Hour appointment - £200 + vat

Additional follow up work - £200 + vat per hour.

All fees will need to be paid in advance of any attendance.

Exceptional Hardship/Special Reasons

Kirklees Magistrates - Single Hearing £500 + vat

Kirklees Magistrates - Each and every subsequent hearing - £200 + vat

Single hearing at another West Yorkshire Court - £700 + vat + Mileage

Each and every subsequent hearing - £200 + vat + Mileage

All fees will need to be paid in advance of any hearing.

Expert Reports

Expert reports may be required in certain cases and these costs would be in addition to our costs. We will seek your approval before any expert is instructed. Full payment of any expert report is required before an expert is instructed.

Motoring offence, summary only Trial

We can offer a fixed fee for a trial or an hourly rate of £200 + vat and this would depend on the type of case and the complexity of the issues that arise within the trial.

Kirklees Magistrates

Our fixed fees range from £600 + vat for a half day trial up to £1,500 + vat for a full day trial. The fees are dependant on the type of case before the court.

The fixed fee would not cover any expert fees/disbursements and these would be at an additional cost.

Other courts in West Yorkshire - The same fees apply with the addition of travel time to and from the court and Mileage. This information can be provided on request.

For all other locations please contact our office for a quote.

All fees will need to be paid in advance of any hearing.

Our Motoring Offences Team

Jonathan Slawinski, Sonia Kidd and Erica Topham

Please see Motoring Offences section for the services we offer and Meet the Team section of our website for details of the above.

Last update: December 2018

i A summary only offence is an offence which can only be tried in the magistrates' court. There are exceptions. Under the Criminal Justice Act 1988 (CJA 1988) offences specified in the Act can be tried on indictment by a jury if they are linked to an offence triable only in the Crown Court. The principal summary only offences are:

- driving whilst disqualified
- careless and inconsiderate driving
- failing to give information as to the identity of the driver
- failing to stop or report, and
- speeding.

ii Special Reasons/Exceptional Hardship pertain exclusively to situations where the accused has been found or has pled guilty and now faces disqualification unless he/she can persuade the Court that the circumstances of the offence are such that it would be unjust to impose a ban.