

MERCERS

Solicitors

Pricing information for unfair and wrongful dismissal claims

Claims:

Wrongful Dismissal (dismissal in breach of contract)

Unfair dismissal (dismissal in breach of statutory right not to be unfairly dismissed)

Our fees for these types of claims are charged at the rate of £250 plus VAT per hour and usually the fees will amount to a figure of between £10,000 and £12,000 plus VAT.

However, you will appreciate that no claim is precisely the same as another and that is why we always try to give you an individual cost estimate at the start based on the hourly rate. If there are unexpected complications, such as allegations of discrimination or new evidence arising, we will inform you of that and discuss the potential consequences and additional charges likely to be incurred.

There may be funding options available to you, such as cover under a pre-existing legal expenses insurance policy (either stand alone or attached to your house policy). We can check that with you at the outset. Also, we may be able to offer you a fixed fee, rather than work on an hourly rate, but we can only put forward such an offer once we are in possession of sufficient information.

In addition to Mercers' fees, there may be a court or tribunal fee to pay, as well as a barrister's fee for attendance at any hearing. These fees will depend on the complexity and size of the claim, the length of the hearing, and the seniority of the barrister. Barristers' fees range from £1500 to £2500 plus VAT per day.

The fees set out above cover our work in relation to the following key stages of the claim:

- Taking your initial instructions, reviewing the papers and advising you on merits and likely compensation (this is likely to be revisited throughout the matter and subject to change)
- Entering into pre-claim conciliation where this is mandatory to explore whether a settlement can be reached
- Preparing a claim or response to a claim
- Reviewing and advising on claim or response from other party
- Exploring settlement and negotiating settlement throughout the process
- Preparing and considering a schedule of loss
- Preparing for and attending any preliminary hearing, if one takes place
- Exchanging documents with the other party and agreeing a bundle of documents

- Taking witness statements, drafting statements and agreeing their content
- Preparing bundles of documents
- Reviewing and advising on the other party's witness statement
- Agreeing a list of issues, a chronology and a case list
- Preparation and attendance at final hearing, including instructions to counsel
- Deciding how long my matter will take

The time that it takes from taking your initial instructions to the final resolution of the matter depends largely on the stage at which your case is resolved. If a settlement is reached during your pre-claim conciliation, your case is likely to take a few weeks. If your claim proceeds to a final hearing, your case is likely to take between 24 and 28 weeks. This is just an estimate and we will, of course, be able to give you a more accurate timescale once we have more information and as the matter progresses.