

# Remuneration of Defence Representation in the Crown Court Consultation Document

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## Document Details

<b>Date issued:</b>	September 2010
<b>Closing Date</b>	19 November 2010
<b>Document Authors:</b>	Public Legal Services Division

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## 1.0 Introduction

1.1 Where a person is charged with a criminal offence(s) he will initially be brought before a magistrates' court to face the charge(s). If his financial means are insufficient for him to pay for his own legal representation and the court considers that it is in the interests of justice that he should be legally represented he will be granted criminal legal aid and his legal costs will be met out of public funds. Less serious offences are dealt with in the magistrates' court, whilst more serious offences are committed for trial in the Crown Court. A person appearing before the Crown Court may also be granted legal aid and again the costs of his legal representation will be met out of public funds.

1.2 Payments to solicitors and counsel working on legally aided cases in the Crown Court are governed by the Legal Aid for Crown Court Proceedings (Costs) Rules (Northern Ireland) 2005 (the 2005 Rules)<sup>1</sup>. The 2005 Rules provide for remuneration to be based on a range of standard fees with the exception of cases certified by the Northern Ireland Legal Services Commission (the Commission) as being "very high cost cases" (VHCCs). In VHCC cases, solicitors' and counsels' remuneration includes payment for preparatory work on the basis of hourly rates. A case will be certified as a VHCC where the trial is likely to exceed, or does exceed, 25 days. A decision in this respect is made by the Commission following application by members of the legally aided person's legal team.

1.3 Under the 2005 Rules, the Northern Ireland Courts and Tribunals Service (the NICTS) is required to keep the general operation of the Rules under review and to conduct a formal review of the levels of the prescribed fees and rates of payment at least once every two years. The NICTS commenced a formal review of the 2005 Rules at the beginning of April 2007. The review process was carried out in two parts, looking at VHCCs and standard fees separately.

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<sup>1</sup> <http://www.opsi.gov.uk/sr/sr2005/20050112.htm>

## **2.0 VHCCs background**

2.1 The NICTS identified three flaws in the scheme for VHCCs. First, more VHCCs were being certified than expected (an average of 55 a year rather than the 5 anticipated) which meant that the higher rates of remuneration were being paid in many more cases than forecast, rather than only in truly exceptional cases. Secondly, it appeared that claims were being submitted and paid without the supporting records to validate the number of hours claimed for preparatory work and in some cases counsels' claims were based on submission of a brief fee only and, thirdly, the system did not provide a good basis for understanding, forecasting and managing costs.

2.2 In June 2008, the NICTS issued a consultation document on VHCCs, proposing the introduction of a system of contracts between the Commission and solicitors and counsel, and lower rates of remuneration for preparatory work in VHCCs, reflecting the rates paid for equivalent cases in England and Wales. The reduction in rates was to be achieved either as an integral part of the contract or as a transitional arrangement in advance of contracting and implemented by making rules to amend the 2005 Rules. The latter approach was chosen and amended rules came into operation in September 2009. Both the Solicitors' Criminal Bar association and the Bar Council passed resolutions that the new rates did not provide reasonable remuneration and that, respectively, solicitors should not take on work, whilst counsel may decline to accept work, at those rates.

## **3.0 Standard fees - background**

3.1 As part of the review of the standard fee element of the 2005 Rules, the NICTS considered the graduated fee schemes (GFSs) which operate in England and Wales. The GFSs operate by providing solicitors and counsel with a small basic fee (varied to reflect different classes of offence) enhanced by additional variable fees reflecting the number of pages of served prosecution evidence, the number of prosecution witnesses (counsel only) and, where appropriate, the duration of the trial. By way of comparison the existing 2005 Rules provide a significantly higher basic fee (again varied to reflect different classes of offence) with other add-on fees. Comparison of remuneration levels indicated that standard fees paid in Northern Ireland under the 2005 Rules could be as much as 50% higher than the corresponding fees paid for a similar case under the GFSs in England and Wales.

3.2 The NICTS concluded that the GFSs could be operated successfully in Northern Ireland, with a number of modifications.

3.3 The Law Society and the Bar are opposed to the introduction of GFSs in Northern Ireland. They argue that the differences between the two jurisdictions are such that, even with modifications, the GFSs would not provide fair remuneration. Amongst other things, they contend that the Public Prosecution Service of Northern Ireland (PPSNI) adopt a different position on the service of prosecution evidence to the Crown Prosecution Service in England and Wales. It is their view that the PPSNI serves less evidence in Northern Ireland which places a greater responsibility on the defence team to seek additional evidence that may not always be served. Moreover, the Law Society and the Bar argue that it is inappropriate that the standard fee element of the 2005 Rules should be considered for replacement by GFSs in isolation. They have argued that it would be more appropriate to create a bespoke scheme for Northern Ireland based on the 2005 Rules that covers all Crown Court cases. Both have given evidence to the Assembly's Committee for Justice that the VHCC element of the existing scheme is flawed and should be replaced in any new scheme.

#### **4.0 Financial pressures**

4.1 During the review of the 2005 Rules it became clear that legal aid expenditure in Northern Ireland required wider examination. The level of expenditure here had more than doubled in 10 years and was more than 20% per capita higher than England and Wales. Discussions with the Treasury, as part of the process of devolving policing and justice powers to the Northern Ireland Assembly, resulted in an increase in the legal aid budget to £85m per annum, reducing to £79m from 2013/14. Contingency funding of £39m was provided to cover budgetary pressures while efficiency savings were made to reduce the level of legal aid expenditure to £79m per annum.

#### **5.0 Dialogue with the legal profession**

5.1 In light of the Law Society's and the Bar Council's opposition to the lower rates of VHCC remuneration introduced in 2009 and the (potential) introduction of the GFSs, the NICTS entered into dialogue with both bodies from December 2009 to seek an agreed approach to the required reduction in the legal aid budget. As a result of this dialogue, the NICTS has decided to publish this further consultation document setting out an alternative approach based principally on the structure of the 2005 Rules. While the proposal set out in this paper has not been agreed by the Law Society or the Bar Council, the NICTS welcomes the assistance of both branches of the legal profession in developing this proposal.

## **6.0 Purpose of this Document**

6.1 The purpose of this document is to obtain the views of consultees on the proposed remuneration schemes.

## **7.0 How to respond**

7.1 When responding to this consultation document, please state whether you are responding as an individual or representing the views of an organisation. If responding on behalf of an organisation, please make it clear whom the organisation represents and, where appropriate, how the views of the members were assembled.

7.2 Please submit your response to this consultation by post, fax or email to:

Patricia Quinn  
Consultation Coordinator  
Northern Ireland Courts and Tribunals Service  
Communications Group  
Laganside House  
23-27 Oxford Street  
BELFAST BT1 3LA

Tel: 028 9041 2387

Textphone: 028 9041 2920

Fax: 02890 728942

Email: [communicationsgroup@courtsni.gov.uk](mailto:communicationsgroup@courtsni.gov.uk)

### **Closing date**

7.3 Responses must be received by 16.00 on Friday 19 November 2010.

### **Miscellaneous**

7.4 Additional copies of this consultation document may be made without seeking permission from the NICTS. Printed copies may be obtained by post by contacting the Consultation Co-ordinator at the address below. An electronic version is available for viewing on the NICTS's website at <http://www.courtsni.gov.uk>. This document will also be made available in a wide range of alternative formats on request. Requests for alternative formats should again be made to the Consultation Co-ordinator.

7.5 Please tell us if you know of others who would be interested in receiving this consultation document.

## **Confidentiality and complaints**

7.6 Information provided in response to this consultation, including personal information, may be subject to publication or disclosure in accordance with the information access legislation (that is, the Freedom of Information Act 2000 [FOI] and the Data Protection Act 1998 [DPA]). If you want information that you provide to be treated as confidential, please be aware that, under FOI, there is a statutory Code of Practice with which public authorities must comply and which deals with, amongst other things, obligations of confidence.

7.7 In view of this, it would be helpful if you would explain to us why you regard the information you have provided as confidential. If we receive a request for disclosure of the information, we will take full account of your explanation, but we cannot give an assurance that confidentiality can be maintained in all circumstances. An automatic confidentiality disclaimer generated by your IT system, or included as a general statement in your fax cover sheet will not, of itself, be regarded as binding on the NICTS and will be taken to apply, therefore, only to information in your response for which confidentiality has been requested.

7.8 The NICTS will process your personal data in accordance with the DPA and in the majority of circumstances this will mean that your personal data will not be disclosed to third parties.

7.9 If you have comments or complaints about the way this consultation has been conducted, these should be sent to:

Patricia Quinn  
Consultation Coordinator  
Northern Ireland Courts and Tribunals Service  
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23-27 Oxford Street  
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Fax: 02890 728942  
Email: [communicationsgroup@courtsni.gov.uk](mailto:communicationsgroup@courtsni.gov.uk)

## **8.0 Structure of current remuneration schemes prescribed by the 2005 Rules**

8.1 The 2005 Rules prescribe the fees to be paid to solicitors and counsel and the circumstances in which each of those fees is to be paid. The amounts of the fees in respect of standard cases are set out in Schedule 1 to the Rules. Offences are categorised into one of nine classes and different fee rates apply to each class. The classes of offences are set out in Schedule 3 to the Rules.

8.2 There are separate fees for guilty pleas and trials for both solicitors and counsel. For guilty pleas there are two levels of fees and the level of the fee depends on the timing of the entering of a guilty plea. The first guilty plea fee, a “GP1”, is payable where a plea of guilty is entered at the first arraignment and the case did not proceed to trial. The second guilty plea fee, a “GP2”, is payable where certain conditions are fulfilled where the assisted person pleaded guilty after the first arraignment but before the end of the first full day of trial and the trial did not proceed further. The fees for “GP1” and “GP2” are set out in **Annex A**.

8.3 Where a “GP1” fee is payable the fee is deemed to be all-inclusive. However, where a “GP2” is payable a representative may be entitled to additional fees.

8.4 The amount of the standard fee for a trial is calculated in accordance with a formula using fee rates for each class of case. The formula consists of a basic trial fee and, where applicable, a daily refresher allowance, certain additional fees and an allowance for travelling. The amount of the rates payable for the basic fee and daily allowance for each class of case are determined by the length of the trial. A “Trial 1” Fee is payable for trials lasting from 1 to 8 days; a “Trial 2” Fee is payable for trials that last between 9 and 16 days; and a “Trial 3” Fee is payable where a trial lasts from 17 to 25 days. Separate daily refresher fees are payable for each of these trial length categories. The basic trial fees and daily allowance fees (refresher fees) are set out in **Annex B**.

8.5 The supplementary fees payable in addition to a “GP2” or a basic trial fee represent additional work and appearances at court and are a mixture of fixed and time-based fees. The fees for solicitors and counsel are set out separately in **Annex C**.

8.6 There are two mechanisms in the 2005 Rules for cases that are deemed to require more work than a normal standard case. Firstly, where a representative considers that owing to the exceptional circumstances of a case, or part of a case, the amount payable by way of standard fees would not provide reasonable remuneration for some or all of the work involved, upon application by the applicant, the Commission may grant a “Certificate of Exceptionality” under which the representative would become entitled to enhanced fees. In these cases solicitors become entitled to additional hours (£90 per hour) while counsel become entitled to percentage uplifts depending on the class of case. There are also provisions by which the additional hours and uplifts can be further increased on application to the Taxing Master. Secondly, where a representative considers that a case is likely to go to trial and if it goes to trial that trial is likely to last more than 25 days then, upon application by the representative, the case may be certified as a VHCC. In these circumstances, a representative becomes entitled to claim hourly rates for preparation work as set out in **Annex D**.

## **9.0 Proposed new remuneration Scheme**

9.1 At the outset it should be said that the proposals make no changes whatsoever in respect of the eligibility of Crown Court defendants for criminal legal aid. The proposals merely make changes as to how members of the legal profession are remunerated for their services in the Crown Court.

9.2 The proposed new remuneration scheme is based on the structure of the 2005 Rules with two proposed substantive amendments to the current scheme. The first is a reduction of 30% in the fees payable to solicitors and a reduction of 20% in the fees payable to counsel. The second is the removal of all provisions for enhancements associated with the difficulty of the case. There is no longer a separate category for VHCCs. To replace this, the new scheme includes an extension of the tables of standard fees to cover all trials lasting beyond 25 days and up to and including 80 days.

9.3 It is expected that few trials will run beyond 80 days. For those that do, it is proposed that the costs (including disbursements) will be assessed by the Commission and, on an exceptional basis, may be submitted for approval by the Minister of Justice. In assessing the costs, the Commission shall have regard to –

- The Basic Trial Fee and the Refresher Fee payable for trials lasting between 72 and 80 days
- Any Additional Fees which would otherwise be payable under Part 4 of Schedule 1 to the Rules
- Any records provided by the legal representatives in support of any additional work claimed

9.4 It is also proposed to modify “GP2” Fees by adding an element referring to the number of pages of prosecution evidence (PPE). It is recognised that there will be a limited number of cases where the PPE would render the current structure of “GP2” Fees inappropriate and it is proposed to make provision for this. It is proposed that there will be three specified page ranges for each class of offence. All the proposed standard and fixed and time-based fee rates are set out in **Annex E**. An amended version of the 2005 Rules showing how they will stand after the necessary amendment rules have been made and come into operation is also attached at **Annex F**.

9.5 The NICTS believes that these proposals should deal with the most serious flaws in the current system, particularly in relation to VHCCs. There will no longer be separate certification for VHCCs, and admission to the enhanced fee scale will be determined on objective criteria rather than requiring assessment by the Commission. As the calculation of remuneration is to be based on standard fees determined by the length of trial and the volume of evidence served, there will no longer be any need for subjective assessment of cases by the Taxing Master. Overall, the NICTS believes that these proposals will limit admission to the new enhanced scale to the small number of cases that actually justify higher levels of remuneration. Expenditure on these cases under the new enhanced scale is estimated to cost approximately £6m per annum, a significant reduction from the £18.5m per annum forecast for VHCCs. The reductions in standard fee rates will produce a saving of 25% in all other cases.

## **10.0 Consultation questions**

10.1 The NICTS is eager to obtain the views of as many consultees as possible on the proposals and the draft Impact Assessment. It is important that the provisions are appropriate for this jurisdiction and they cover all circumstances that can arise in the Crown Court in Northern Ireland. The NICTS is, however, particularly interested to receive views in certain areas and would specifically ask for responses to the questions set out below in this section.

### **Consultation Questions**

Q1. Do these proposals provide fair remuneration for defence teams in Crown Court cases?

Q2. Is it appropriate to remunerate trials that last more than 25 days under a standard fee regime?

Q3. What are your views on the page ranges in “GP2” Fees?

Q4. Can you identify anything that should be changed in the proposals to enable them to be adjusted, on a cost neutral basis, to produce fairer remuneration?

Q5. Do you have any proposals on a redistribution of fees, on a cost neutral basis, that would produce fairer remuneration?

Q6. Are you content that the new rules should be brought into effect for all defence certificates granted on or after 1 January 2011?

10.2 All comments in relation to the introduction of this scheme and the draft Impact Assessments are welcome.

Note: These questions should be considered in accordance with the remuneration test provided under Article 37 of the Legal aid, Advice and Assistance (Northern Ireland) Order 1981 which provides:

“37. The [Department of Justice] in exercising any power to make rules as to the amounts payable under this Part to counsel or a solicitor assigned to give legal aid, and any person by whom any amount so payable is determined in a particular case, shall have regard, among the matters which are relevant, to—

- (a) the time and skill which work of the description to which the rules relate requires;
- (b) the number and general level of competence of persons undertaking work of that description;
- (c) the cost to public funds of any provision made by the rules; and
- (d) the need to secure value for money, but nothing in this Article shall require him to have regard to any fees payable to solicitors and counsel otherwise than under this Part.”

## ANNEX A

### Existing Guilty Plea Fees Paid Under the Legal Aid for Crown Court Proceedings (Costs) Rules (NI) 2005

(a) Guilty Plea 1 Fees

#### SOLICITOR

Offence falling within	Fee
Class A	£7,750
Class B	£1,860
Class C	£1,235
Class D	£3,840
Class E	£1,235
Class F	£1,320
Class G	£2,160
Class H	£1,235
Class I	£1,235

#### COUNSEL

Offence falling within	Queen's Counsel Fee	Leading Junior Counsel Fee	Led Junior Counsel Fee	Sole Junior Counsel Fee
Class A	£3,575	£2,681	£1,788	£2,324
Class B	£2,275	£1,706	£1,138	£1,479
Class C	£1,950	£1,463	£975	£1,268
Class D	£2,470	£1,853	£1,235	£1,606
Class E	£1,950	£1,463	£975	£1,268
Class F	£1,950	£1,463	£975	£1,268
Class G	£2,470	£1,853	£1,235	£1,606
Class H	£1,950	£1,463	£975	£1,268
Class I	£1,950	£1,463	£975	£1,268

**SOLICITOR ADVOCATE**

<b>Offence falling within</b>	<b>Certified Solicitor Advocate Fee</b>	<b>Uncertified Solicitor Advocate Fee</b>
Class A	£2,324	£1,162
Class B	£1,479	£740
Class C	£1,268	£634
Class D	£1,606	£803
Class E	£1,268	£634
Class F	£1,268	£634
Class G	£1,606	£803
Class H	£1,268	£634
Class I	£1,268	£634

(a) Guilty Plea 2 Fees

**SOLICITOR**

<b>Offence falling within</b>	<b>Fee</b>
Class A	£8,620
Class B	£2,170
Class C	£1,425
Class D	£4,320
Class E	£1,425
Class F	£1,540
Class G	£2,520
Class H	£1,425
Class I	£1,425

**COUNSEL**

<b>Offence falling within</b>	<b>Queen's Counsel Fee</b>	<b>Leading Junior Counsel Fee</b>	<b>Led Junior Counsel Fee</b>	<b>Sole Junior Counsel Fee</b>
Class A	£5,625	£4,219	£2,813	£3,656
Class B	£3,000	£2,250	£1,500	£1,950
Class C	£2,625	£1,969	£1,313	£1,706
Class D	£3,750	£2,813	£1,875	£2,438
Class E	£2,625	£1,969	£1,313	£1,706
Class F	£2,625	£1,969	£1,313	£1,706
Class G	£3,750	£2,813	£1,875	£2,438
Class H	£2,625	£1,969	£1,313	£1,706
Class I	£2,625	£1,969	£1,313	£1,706

**SOLICITOR ADVOCATE**

<b>Offence falling within</b>	<b>Certified Solicitor Advocate Fee</b>	<b>Uncertified Solicitor Advocate Fee</b>
Class A	£3,656	£1,828
Class B	£1,950	£975
Class C	£1,706	£853
Class D	£2,438	£1,219
Class E	£1,706	£853
Class F	£1,706	£853
Class G	£2,438	£1,219
Class H	£1,706	£853
Class I	£1,706	£853

**ANNEX B**

**Existing Basic Trial Fees and Refresher Fees Paid Under the Legal Aid for Crown Court Proceedings (Costs) Rules (NI) 2005**

(a) Basic Trial Fees

**SOLICITOR**

	Actual Duration of Trial		
Offence falling within	Trial Fee 1	Trial Fee 2	Trial Fee 3
	1 to 8 days	9 to 16 days	17 to 25 days
Class A	£8,620	£11,465	£17,157
Class B	£3,100	£4,464	£6,517
Class C	£1,900	£2,717	£3,940
Class D	£4,800	£7,200	£9,576
Class E	£1,900	£2,717	£3,940
Class F	£2,200	£3,146	£4,562
Class G	£3,600	£5,400	£7,182
Class H	£1,900	£2,717	£3,940
Class I	£1,900	£2,717	£3,940

**COUNSEL**

	Queen's Counsel			Leading Junior Counsel		
	Actual Duration of Trial			Actual Duration of Trial		
Offence falling within	Trial Fee 1	Trial Fee 2	Trial Fee 3	Trial Fee 1	Trial Fee 2	Trial Fee 3
	1 to 8 days	9 to 16 days	17 to 25 days	1 to 8 days	9 to 16 days	17 to 25 days
Class A	£7,500	£10,000	£15,000	£5,625	£7,500	£11,250
Class B	£4,000	£5,750	£8,375	£3,000	£4,313	£6,821
Class C	£3,500	£5,000	£7,250	£2,625	£3,750	£5,438
Class D	£5,000	£7,500	£10,000	£3,750	£5,625	£7,500
Class E	£3,500	£5,000	£7,250	£2,625	£3,750	£5,438
Class F	£3,500	£5,000	£7,250	£2,625	£3,750	£5,438
Class G	£5,000	£7,500	£10,000	£3,750	£5,625	£7,500
Class H	£3,500	£5,000	£7,250	£2,625	£3,750	£5,438
Class I	£3,500	£5,000	£7,250	£2,625	£3,750	£5,438

NORTHERN IRELAND COURTS AND TRIBUNALS SERVICE

	Led Junior Counsel			Sole Junior Counsel		
	Actual Duration of Trial			Actual Duration of Trial		
Offence falling within	Trial Fee 1	Trial Fee 2	Trial Fee 3	Trial Fee 1	Trial Fee 2	Trial Fee 3
	1 to 8 days	9 to 16 days	17 to 25 days	1 to 8 days	9 to 16 days	17 to 25 days
Class A	£4,500	£6,000	£9,000	£4,875	£6,500	£9,750
Class B	£2,400	£3,450	£5,025	£2,600	£3,738	£5,444
Class C	£1,750	£2,500	£3,625	£2,275	£3,250	£4,713
Class D	£2,500	£3,750	£5,000	£3,250	£4,875	£6,500
Class E	£1,750	£2,500	£3,625	£2,275	£3,250	£4,713
Class F	£1,750	£2,500	£3,625	£2,275	£3,250	£4,713
Class G	£2,500	£3,750	£5,000	£3,250	£4,875	£6,500
Class H	£1,750	£2,500	£3,625	£2,275	£3,250	£4,713
Class I	£1,750	£2,500	£3,625	£2,275	£3,250	£4,713

**SOLICITOR ADVOCATE**

	Certified Solicitor Advocate			Uncertified Solicitor Advocate		
	Actual Duration of Trial			Actual Duration of Trial		
Offence falling within	Trial Fee 1	Trial Fee 2	Trial Fee 3	Trial Fee 1	Trial Fee 2	Trial Fee 3
	1 to 8 days	9 to 16 days	17 to 25 days	1 to 8 days	9 to 16 days	17 to 25 days
Class A	£4,875	£6,500	£9,750	£2,438	£3,250	£4,875
Class B	£2,600	£3,738	£5,444	£1,300	£1,869	£2,722
Class C	£2,275	£3,250	£4,713	£1,138	£1,625	£2,357
Class D	£3,250	£4,875	£6,500	£1,625	£2,438	£3,250
Class E	£2,275	£3,250	£4,713	£1,138	£1,625	£2,357
Class F	£2,275	£3,250	£4,713	£1,138	£1,625	£2,357
Class G	£3,250	£4,875	£6,500	£1,625	£2,438	£3,250
Class H	£2,275	£3,250	£4,713	£1,138	£1,625	£2,357
Class I	£2,275	£3,250	£4,713	£1,138	£1,625	£2,357

(b) Refresher Fees

**SOLICITOR**

	Actual Duration of Trial		
Offence falling within Classes A to I	Refresher Fee 1	Refresher Fee 2	Refresher Fee 3
	2 to 8 days	9 to 16 days	17 to 25 days
Full Day	£500	£600	£700
Half Day	£250	£300	£350

**COUNSEL**

	Queen's Counsel			Leading Junior Counsel		
	Actual Duration of Trial			Actual Duration of Trial		
Offence falling within Classes A to I	Refresher Fee 1	Refresher Fee 2	Refresher Fee 3	Refresher Fee 1	Refresher Fee 2	Refresher Fee 3
	2 to 8 days	9 to 16 days	17 to 25 days	2 to 8 days	9 to 16 days	17 to 25 days
Full Day	£500	£600	£700	£375	£450	£525
Half Day	£250	£300	£350	£188	£225	£263

NORTHERN IRELAND COURTS AND TRIBUNALS SERVICE

	<b>Led Junior Counsel</b>			<b>Sole Junior Counsel</b>		
	<b>Actual Duration of Trial</b>			<b>Actual Duration of Trial</b>		
<b>Offence falling within Classes A to I</b>	<b>Refresher Fee 1</b>	<b>Refresher Fee 2</b>	<b>Refresher Fee 3</b>	<b>Refresher Fee 1</b>	<b>Refresher Fee 2</b>	<b>Refresher Fee 3</b>
	2 to 8 days	9 to 16 days	17 to 25 days	2 to 8 days	9 to 16 days	17 to 25 days
Full Day	£250	£300	£350	£325	£390	£455
Half Day	£125	£150	£175	£163	£195	£228

**SOLICITOR ADVOCATE**

	<b>Certified Solicitor Advocate</b>			<b>Uncertified Solicitor Advocate</b>		
	<b>Actual Duration of Trial</b>			<b>Actual Duration of Trial</b>		
<b>Offence falling within Classes A to I</b>	<b>Refresher Fee 1</b>	<b>Refresher Fee 2</b>	<b>Refresher Fee 3</b>	<b>Refresher Fee 1</b>	<b>Refresher Fee 2</b>	<b>Refresher Fee 3</b>
	2 to 8 days	9 to 16 days	17 to 25 days	2 to 8 days	9 to 16 days	17 to 25 days
Full Day	£325	£390	£455	£163	£195	£228
Half Day	£163	£195	£228	£82	£98	£114

**ANNEX C****Tables of Fixed and Time-Based Fees Paid Under the Legal Aid for Crown Court Proceedings (Costs) Rules (NI) 2005****SOLICITOR**

<b>Type of work</b>	<b>Fee</b>
Arraignment not guilty	£90
Standby Fee	£500
Appearing at deferred sentencing hearing	£250
Appearing at other sentencing hearing	£100
Late sitting fee	£250
Cases within paragraph 2	£750
Application Fee 1 (hearing not exceeding 1.5 hours)	£150
Application Fee 2 (hearing exceeding 1.5 hours but not exceeding 3 hours)	£250
Application Fee 3 (hearing exceeding 3 hours)	£500

**Counsel and Solicitor Advocate**

<b>Type of work</b>	<b>Queen's Counsel Fee</b>	<b>Leading Junior Counsel Fee</b>	<b>Led Junior Counsel Fee</b>	<b>Sole Junior Counsel and Solicitor Advocate (Certified or uncertified) Fee</b>
Trial Status Report Form	£250	£188	£125	£163
Arraignment not guilty	£150	£113	£75	£98
Standby Fee	£500	£375	£250	£325
Appearing at deferred sentencing hearing	£400	£300	£200	£260
Appearing at other sentencing hearing	£300	£225	£150	£195
Late sitting fee	£250	£188	£125	£163
Cases within paragraph 2	£750	£563	£375	£488
Application Fee 1 (hearing not exceeding 1.5 hours)	£125	£94	£63	£82
Application Fee 2 (hearing exceeding 1.5 hours but not exceeding 3 hours)	£250	£188	£125	£163
Application Fee 3 (hearing exceeding 3 hours)	£500	£375	£250	£325
Consultations/views	£63 per hour	£47 per hour	£31 per hour	£41 per hour
Listening to or viewing tapes etc.	£27 per 10 minutes	£20 per 10 minutes	£14 per 10 minutes	£18 per 10 minutes

**ANNEX D****Schedule 2****Very High Cost Cases****Table 1 - Hourly rates for preparation**

<b>Solicitor or other fee earner</b>	<b>Range per hour</b>
Senior Solicitor	£110 to £180
Solicitor	£90 to £140
An apprentice or fee-earner of equivalent experience	£70 to £100
<b>Counsel</b>	
Queen's Counsel	£110 to £180
Leading Junior	£90 to £140
Led Junior	£70 to £100
Sole Junior	£80 to £110
<b>Solicitor Advocate</b>	
Certified	£80 to £110
Uncertified	£40 to £55

**Table 2 - Hourly rates for non-preparatory work**

<b>Attendance at Court</b>	<b>Range per hour</b>
Senior Solicitor	£45 to £90
Solicitor	
An apprentice or fee-earner of equivalent experience	
<b>Travel and waiting</b>	<b>Rate</b>
Senior Solicitor	£24.75
Solicitor	
An apprentice or fee-earner of equivalent experience	

**Table 3 - Daily rates for advocacy**

<b>Counsel</b>	<b>Range per Day</b>
Queen's Counsel	£500 to £700
Leading Junior	£375 to £525
Led Junior	£250 to £350
Sole Junior	£325 to £455
<b>Solicitor Advocate</b>	
Certified	£325 to £455

Uncertified	£163 to £228
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**3.1** A full daily rate from the range set out in Table 3 of this Schedule will be allowed if the advocate was in court for more than 3.5 hours; half that rate will be allowed if he was in court for 3.5 hours or less.

**Table 4 - Preliminary hearings**

	<b>Amount payable for hearing</b>
Queen's Counsel	£140
Leading Junior	£100
Led Junior	£70
Sole Junior	£80
<b>Solicitor Advocate</b>	
Certified	£80
Uncertified	£40

**4.1** The rates in Table 4 of this Schedule will only apply where the hearing lasted 2 hours or less; otherwise the daily or half daily rate payable under Table 3 of this Schedule and paragraph 3.1 will apply.

## ANNEX E

### Proposed New Basic Trial Fees and Refresher Fees

#### (a) Basic Trial Fees

#### SOLICITOR

Offence falling within	Actual Duration of Trial									
	Trial Fee 1	Trial Fee 2	Trial Fee 3	Trial Fee 4	Trial Fee 5	Trial Fee 6	Trial Fee 7	Trial Fee 8	Trial Fee 9	Trial Fee 10
	1 to 8 days	9 to 16 days	17 to 24 days	25 to 32 days	33 to 40 days	41 to 48 days	49 to 56 days	57 to 64 days	65 to 72 days	73 to 80 days
Class A	£6,034	£8,026	£12,010	£16,052	£20,065	£28,091	£36,117	£48,155	£60,194	£72,233
Class B	£2,170	£3,125	£4,562	£6,563	£8,203	£11,484	£14,765	£19,687	£24,609	£29,531
Class C	£1,330	£1,902	£2,758	£3,994	£4,993	£6,990	£8,987	£11,982	£14,978	£17,974
Class D	£3,360	£5,040	£6,703	£10,080	£12,600	£17,640	£22,680	£30,240	£37,800	£45,359
Class E	£1,330	£1,902	£2,758	£3,994	£4,993	£6,990	£8,987	£11,982	£14,978	£17,974
Class F	£1,540	£2,202	£3,193	£4,624	£5,780	£8,092	£10,404	£13,872	£17,341	£20,809
Class G	£2,520	£3,780	£5,027	£7,560	£9,450	£13,230	£17,010	£22,680	£28,350	£34,020
Class H	£1,330	£1,902	£2,758	£3,994	£4,993	£6,990	£8,987	£11,982	£14,978	£17,974
Class I	£1,330	£1,902	£2,758	£3,994	£4,993	£6,990	£8,987	£11,982	£14,978	£17,974

**COUNSEL**

<b>Queen's Counsel</b>										
<b>Actual Duration of Trial</b>										
<b>Offence falling within</b>	<b>Trial Fee 1</b>	<b>Trial Fee 2</b>	<b>Trial Fee 3</b>	<b>Trial Fee 4</b>	<b>Trial Fee 5</b>	<b>Trial Fee 6</b>	<b>Trial Fee 7</b>	<b>Trial Fee 8</b>	<b>Trial Fee 9</b>	<b>Trial Fee 10</b>
	1 to 8 days	9 to 16 days	17 to 24 days	25 to 32 days	33 to 40 days	41 to 48 days	49 to 56 days	57 to 64 days	65 to 72 days	73 to 80 days
Class A	£6,000	£8,000	£12,000	£16,000	£20,000	£28,000	£36,000	£48,000	£60,000	£72,000
Class B	£3,200	£4,600	£6,700	£9,660	£12,075	£16,905	£21,735	£28,980	£36,225	£43,470
Class C	£2,800	£4,000	£5,800	£8,400	£10,500	£14,700	£18,900	£25,200	£31,500	£37,800
Class D	£4,000	£6,000	£8,000	£12,000	£15,000	£21,000	£27,000	£36,000	£44,999	£53,999
Class E	£2,800	£4,000	£5,800	£8,400	£10,500	£14,700	£18,900	£25,200	£31,500	£37,800
Class F	£2,800	£4,000	£5,800	£8,400	£10,500	£14,700	£18,900	£25,200	£31,500	£37,800
Class G	£4,000	£6,000	£8,000	£12,000	£15,000	£21,000	£27,000	£36,000	£44,999	£53,999
Class H	£2,800	£4,000	£5,800	£8,400	£10,500	£14,700	£18,900	£25,200	£31,500	£37,800
Class I	£2,800	£4,000	£5,800	£8,400	£10,500	£14,700	£18,900	£25,200	£31,500	£37,800

NORTHERN IRELAND COURTS AND TRIBUNALS SERVICE

<b>Leading Junior Counsel</b>										
<b>Actual Duration of Trial</b>										
<b>Offence falling within</b>	<b>Trial Fee 1</b>	<b>Trial Fee 2</b>	<b>Trial Fee 3</b>	<b>Trial Fee 4</b>	<b>Trial Fee 5</b>	<b>Trial Fee 6</b>	<b>Trial Fee 7</b>	<b>Trial Fee 8</b>	<b>Trial Fee 9</b>	<b>Trial Fee 10</b>
	1 to 8 days	9 to 16 days	17 to 24 days	25 to 32 days	33 to 40 days	41 to 48 days	49 to 56 days	57 to 64 days	65 to 72 days	73 to 80 days
Class A	£4,500	£6,000	£9,000	£12,000	£15,000	£21,000	£27,000	£36,000	£45,000	£54,000
Class B	£2,400	£3,450	£5,025	£7,245	£9,056	£12,679	£16,301	£21,735	£27,168	£32,602
Class C	£2,100	£3,000	£4,350	£6,300	£7,875	£11,025	£14,175	£18,900	£23,625	£28,350
Class D	£3,000	£4,500	£6,000	£9,000	£11,250	£15,750	£20,250	£27,000	£33,750	£40,500
Class E	£2,100	£3,000	£4,350	£6,300	£7,875	£11,025	£14,175	£18,900	£23,625	£28,350
Class F	£2,100	£3,000	£4,350	£6,300	£7,875	£11,025	£14,175	£18,900	£23,625	£28,350
Class G	£3,000	£4,500	£6,000	£9,000	£11,250	£15,750	£20,250	£27,000	£33,750	£40,500
Class H	£2,100	£3,000	£4,350	£6,300	£7,875	£11,025	£14,175	£18,900	£23,625	£28,350
Class I	£2,100	£3,000	£4,350	£6,300	£7,875	£11,025	£14,175	£18,900	£23,625	£28,350
<b>Led Junior Counsel</b>										
<b>Actual Duration of Trial</b>										
<b>Offence falling within</b>	<b>Trial Fee 1</b>	<b>Trial Fee 2</b>	<b>Trial Fee 3</b>	<b>Trial Fee 4</b>	<b>Trial Fee 5</b>	<b>Trial Fee 6</b>	<b>Trial Fee 7</b>	<b>Trial Fee 8</b>	<b>Trial Fee 9</b>	<b>Trial Fee 10</b>
	1 to 8 days	9 to 16 days	17 to 24 days	25 to 32 days	33 to 40 days	41 to 48 days	49 to 56 days	57 to 64 days	65 to 72 days	73 to 80 days
Class A	£3,600	£4,800	£7,200	£9,600	£12,000	£16,800	£21,600	£28,800	£36,000	£43,200
Class B	£1,920	£2,760	£4,020	£5,796	£7,245	£10,143	£13,041	£17,388	£21,735	£26,082
Class C	£1,400	£2,000	£2,900	£4,200	£5,250	£7,350	£9,450	£12,600	£15,750	£18,900
Class D	£2,000	£3,000	£4,000	£6,000	£7,500	£10,500	£13,500	£18,000	£22,500	£27,000
Class E	£1,400	£2,000	£2,900	£4,200	£5,250	£7,350	£9,450	£12,600	£15,750	£18,900
Class F	£1,400	£2,000	£2,900	£4,200	£5,250	£7,350	£9,450	£12,600	£15,750	£18,900
Class G	£2,000	£3,000	£4,000	£6,000	£7,500	£10,500	£13,500	£18,000	£22,500	£27,000

NORTHERN IRELAND COURTS AND TRIBUNALS SERVICE

Class H	£1,400	£2,000	£2,900	£4,200	£5,250	£7,350	£9,450	£12,600	£15,750	£18,900
Class I	£1,400	£2,000	£2,900	£4,200	£5,250	£7,350	£9,450	£12,600	£15,750	£18,900

<b>Sole Junior Counsel</b>										
<b>Actual Duration of Trial</b>										
<b>Offence falling within</b>	<b>Trial Fee 1</b>	<b>Trial Fee 2</b>	<b>Trial Fee 3</b>	<b>Trial Fee 4</b>	<b>Trial Fee 5</b>	<b>Trial Fee 6</b>	<b>Trial Fee 7</b>	<b>Trial Fee 8</b>	<b>Trial Fee 9</b>	<b>Trial Fee 10</b>
	1 to 8 days	9 to 16 days	17 to 24 days	25 to 32 days	33 to 40 days	41 to 48 days	49 to 56 days	57 to 64 days	65 to 72 days	73 to 80 days
Class A	£3,900	£5,200	£7,800	£10,400	£13,000	£18,200	£23,400	£31,200	£39,000	£46,800
Class B	£2,080	£2,990	£4,355	£6,279	£7,849	£10,988	£14,128	£18,837	£23,546	£28,255
Class C	£1,820	£2,600	£3,770	£5,460	£6,825	£9,555	£12,285	£16,380	£20,475	£24,570
Class D	£2,600	£3,900	£5,200	£7,800	£9,750	£13,650	£17,550	£23,400	£29,250	£35,100
Class E	£1,820	£2,600	£3,770	£5,460	£6,825	£9,555	£12,285	£16,380	£20,475	£24,570
Class F	£1,820	£2,600	£3,770	£5,460	£6,825	£9,555	£12,285	£16,380	£20,475	£24,570
Class G	£2,600	£3,900	£5,200	£7,800	£9,750	£13,650	£17,550	£23,400	£29,250	£35,100
Class H	£1,820	£2,600	£3,770	£5,460	£6,825	£9,555	£12,285	£16,380	£20,475	£24,570
Class I	£1,820	£2,600	£3,770	£5,460	£6,825	£9,555	£12,285	£16,380	£20,475	£24,570

NORTHERN IRELAND COURTS AND TRIBUNALS SERVICE

<b>Certified Solicitor Advocate</b>										
<b>Actual Duration of Trial</b>										
<b>Offence falling within</b>	<b>Trial Fee 1</b>	<b>Trial Fee 2</b>	<b>Trial Fee 3</b>	<b>Trial Fee 4</b>	<b>Trial Fee 5</b>	<b>Trial Fee 6</b>	<b>Trial Fee 7</b>	<b>Trial Fee 8</b>	<b>Trial Fee 9</b>	<b>Trial Fee 10</b>
	1 to 8 days	9 to 16 days	17 to 24 days	25 to 32 days	33 to 40 days	41 to 48 days	49 to 56 days	57 to 64 days	65 to 72 days	73 to 80 days
Class A	£3,900	£5,200	£7,800	£10,400	£13,000	£18,200	£23,400	£31,200	£39,000	£46,800
Class B	£2,080	£2,990	£4,355	£6,279	£7,849	£10,988	£14,128	£18,837	£23,546	£28,255
Class C	£1,820	£2,600	£3,770	£5,460	£6,825	£9,555	£12,285	£16,380	£20,475	£24,570
Class D	£2,600	£3,900	£5,200	£7,800	£9,750	£13,650	£17,550	£23,400	£29,250	£35,100
Class E	£1,820	£2,600	£3,770	£5,460	£6,825	£9,555	£12,285	£16,380	£20,475	£24,570
Class F	£1,820	£2,600	£3,770	£5,460	£6,825	£9,555	£12,285	£16,380	£20,475	£24,570
Class G	£2,600	£3,900	£5,200	£7,800	£9,750	£13,650	£17,550	£23,400	£29,250	£35,100
Class H	£1,820	£2,600	£3,770	£5,460	£6,825	£9,555	£12,285	£16,380	£20,475	£24,570
Class I	£1,820	£2,600	£3,770	£5,460	£6,825	£9,555	£12,285	£16,380	£20,475	£24,570

NORTHERN IRELAND COURTS AND TRIBUNALS SERVICE

<b>Uncertified Solicitor Advocate</b>										
<b>Actual Duration of Trial</b>										
<b>Offence falling within</b>	<b>Trial Fee 1</b>	<b>Trial Fee 2</b>	<b>Trial Fee 3</b>	<b>Trial Fee 4</b>	<b>Trial Fee 5</b>	<b>Trial Fee 6</b>	<b>Trial Fee 7</b>	<b>Trial Fee 8</b>	<b>Trial Fee 9</b>	<b>Trial Fee 10</b>
	1 to 8 days	9 to 16 days	17 to 24 days	25 to 32 days	33 to 40 days	41 to 48 days	49 to 56 days	57 to 64 days	65 to 72 days	73 to 80 days
Class A	£1,950	£2,600	£3,900	£5,200	£6,500	£9,100	£11,700	£15,600	£19,500	£23,400
Class B	£1,040	£1,495	£2,178	£3,140	£3,924	£5,494	£7,064	£9,418	£11,773	£14,128
Class C	£910	£1,300	£1,886	£2,730	£3,413	£4,778	£6,142	£8,190	£10,237	£12,285
Class D	£1,300	£1,950	£2,600	£3,900	£4,875	£6,825	£8,775	£11,700	£14,625	£17,550
Class E	£910	£1,300	£1,886	£2,730	£3,413	£4,778	£6,142	£8,190	£10,237	£12,285
Class F	£910	£1,300	£1,886	£2,730	£3,413	£4,778	£6,142	£8,190	£10,237	£12,285
Class G	£1,300	£1,950	£2,600	£3,900	£4,875	£6,825	£8,775	£11,700	£14,625	£17,550
Class H	£910	£1,300	£1,886	£2,730	£3,413	£4,778	£6,142	£8,190	£10,237	£12,285
Class I	£910	£1,300	£1,886	£2,730	£3,413	£4,778	£6,142	£8,190	£10,237	£12,285

NORTHERN IRELAND COURTS AND TRIBUNALS SERVICE

(b) Refresher Fees

**SOLICITOR**

	Actual Duration of Trial									
Offence falling within Classes A to I	Refresher Fee 1	Refresher Fee 2	Refresher Fee 3	Refresher Fee 4	Refresher Fee 5	Refresher Fee 6	Refresher Fee 7	Refresher Fee 8	Refresher Fee 9	Refresher Fee 10
	2 to 8 days	9 to 16 days	17 to 24 days	25 to 32 days	33 to 40 days	41 to 48 days	49 to 56 days	57 to 64 days	65 to 72 days	73 to 80 days
Full Day	£350	£420	£490	£560	£630	£700	£700	£700	£700	£700
Half Day	£175	£210	£245	£280	£315	£350	£350	£350	£350	£350

**COUNSEL**

<b>Queen's Counsel</b>										
<b>Actual Duration of Trial</b>										
<b>Offence falling within Classes A to I</b>	<b>Refresher Fee 1</b>	<b>Refresher Fee 2</b>	<b>Refresher Fee 3</b>	<b>Refresher Fee 4</b>	<b>Refresher Fee 5</b>	<b>Refresher Fee 6</b>	<b>Refresher Fee 7</b>	<b>Refresher Fee 8</b>	<b>Refresher Fee 9</b>	<b>Refresher Fee 10</b>
	2 to 8 days	9 to 16 days	17 to 24 days	25 to 32 days	33 to 40 days	41 to 48 days	49 to 56 days	57 to 64 days	65 to 72 days	73 to 80 days
Full Day	£400	£480	£560	£640	£720	£800	£800	£800	£800	£800
Half Day	£200	£240	£280	£320	£360	£400	£400	£400	£400	£400

<b>Leading Junior Counsel</b>										
<b>Actual Duration of Trial</b>										
<b>Offence falling within Classes A to I</b>	<b>Refresher Fee 1</b>	<b>Refresher Fee 2</b>	<b>Refresher Fee 3</b>	<b>Refresher Fee 4</b>	<b>Refresher Fee 5</b>	<b>Refresher Fee 6</b>	<b>Refresher Fee 7</b>	<b>Refresher Fee 8</b>	<b>Refresher Fee 9</b>	<b>Refresher Fee 10</b>
	2 to 8 days	9 to 16 days	17 to 24 days	25 to 32 days	33 to 40 days	41 to 48 days	49 to 56 days	57 to 64 days	65 to 72 days	73 to 80 days
Full Day	£300	£360	£420	£480	£540	£600	£600	£600	£600	£600
Half Day	£150	£180	£210	£240	£270	£300	£300	£300	£300	£300

NORTHERN IRELAND COURTS AND TRIBUNALS SERVICE

<b>Led Junior Counsel</b>										
<b>Actual Duration of Trial</b>										
<b>Offence falling within Classes A to I</b>	<b>Refresher Fee 1</b>	<b>Refresher Fee 2</b>	<b>Refresher Fee 3</b>	<b>Refresher Fee 4</b>	<b>Refresher Fee 5</b>	<b>Refresher Fee 6</b>	<b>Refresher Fee 7</b>	<b>Refresher Fee 8</b>	<b>Refresher Fee 9</b>	<b>Refresher Fee 10</b>
	2 to 8 days	9 to 16 days	17 to 24 days	25 to 32 days	33 to 40 days	41 to 48 days	49 to 56 days	57 to 64 days	65 to 72 days	73 to 80 days
Full Day	£200	£240	£280	£320	£360	£400	£400	£400	£400	£400
Half Day	£100	£120	£140	£160	£180	£200	£200	£200	£200	£200

<b>Sole Junior Counsel</b>										
<b>Actual Duration of Trial</b>										
<b>Offence falling within Classes A to I</b>	<b>Refresher Fee 1</b>	<b>Refresher Fee 2</b>	<b>Refresher Fee 3</b>	<b>Refresher Fee 4</b>	<b>Refresher Fee 5</b>	<b>Refresher Fee 6</b>	<b>Refresher Fee 7</b>	<b>Refresher Fee 8</b>	<b>Refresher Fee 9</b>	<b>Refresher Fee 10</b>
	2 to 8 days	9 to 16 days	17 to 24 days	25 to 32 days	33 to 40 days	41 to 48 days	49 to 56 days	57 to 64 days	65 to 72 days	73 to 80 days
Full Day	£260	£312	£364	£416	£468	£520	£520	£520	£520	£520
Half Day	£130	£156	£182	£208	£234	£260	£260	£260	£260	£260

NORTHERN IRELAND COURTS AND TRIBUNALS SERVICE

<b>Certified Solicitor Advocate</b>										
<b>Actual Duration of Trial</b>										
<b>Offence falling within Classes A to I</b>	<b>Refresher Fee 1</b>	<b>Refresher Fee 2</b>	<b>Refresher Fee 3</b>	<b>Refresher Fee 4</b>	<b>Refresher Fee 5</b>	<b>Refresher Fee 6</b>	<b>Refresher Fee 7</b>	<b>Refresher Fee 8</b>	<b>Refresher Fee 9</b>	<b>Refresher Fee 10</b>
	2 to 8 days	9 to 16 days	17 to 24 days	25 to 32 days	33 to 40 days	41 to 48 days	49 to 56 days	57 to 64 days	65 to 72 days	73 to 80 days
Full Day	£260	£312	£364	£416	£468	£520	£520	£520	£520	£520
Half Day	£130	£156	£182	£208	£234	£260	£260	£260	£260	£260

NORTHERN IRELAND COURTS AND TRIBUNALS SERVICE

<b>Uncertified Solicitor Advocate</b>										
<b>Actual Duration of Trial</b>										
<b>Offence falling within Classes A to I</b>	<b>Refresher Fee 1</b>	<b>Refresher Fee 2</b>	<b>Refresher Fee 3</b>	<b>Refresher Fee 4</b>	<b>Refresher Fee 5</b>	<b>Refresher Fee 6</b>	<b>Refresher Fee 7</b>	<b>Refresher Fee 8</b>	<b>Refresher Fee 9</b>	<b>Refresher Fee 10</b>
	2 to 8 days	9 to 16 days	17 to 24 days	25 to 32 days	33 to 40 days	41 to 48 days	49 to 56 days	57 to 64 days	65 to 72 days	73 to 80 days
Full Day	£130	£156	£182	£208	£234	£260	£260	£260	£260	£260
Half Day	£65	£78	£91	£104	£117	£130	£130	£130	£130	£130

**PROPOSED NEW GUILTY PLEA FEES**

(a) Guilty Plea 1 Fees

**SOLICITOR**

<b>Offence falling within</b>	<b>Fee</b>
Class A	£5,425
Class B	£1,302
Class C	£865
Class D	£2,688
Class E	£865
Class F	£924
Class G	£1,512
Class H	£865
Class I	£865

**COUNSEL**

<b>Offence falling within</b>	<b>Queen's Counsel Fee</b>	<b>Leading Junior Counsel Fee</b>	<b>Led Junior Counsel Fee</b>	<b>Sole Junior Counsel Fee</b>
Class A	£2,860	£2,145	£1,430	£1,859
Class B	£1,820	£1,365	£910	£1,183
Class C	£1,560	£1,170	£780	£1,014
Class D	£1,976	£1,482	£988	£1,285
Class E	£1,560	£1,170	£780	£1,014
Class F	£1,560	£1,170	£780	£1,014
Class G	£1,976	£1,482	£988	£1,285
Class H	£1,560	£1,170	£780	£1,014
Class I	£1,560	£1,170	£780	£1,014

**SOLICITOR ADVOCATE**

<b>Offence falling within</b>	<b>Certified Solicitor Advocate Fee</b>	<b>Uncertified Solicitor Advocate Fee</b>
Class A	£1,859	£930
Class B	£1,183	£592
Class C	£1,014	£507
Class D	£1,285	£642
Class E	£1,014	£507
Class F	£1,014	£507
Class G	£1,285	£642
Class H	£1,014	£507
Class I	£1,014	£507

(b) Guilty Plea 2 Fees

**SOLICITOR**

<b>Offence falling within</b>	<b>PPE Range</b>	<b>Fee</b>
Class A	0 - 2,476	£6,034
Class A	2,477 - 4,887	£11,236
Class A	4,888 +	£25,282
Class B	0 – 859	£1,519
Class B	860 – 1,828	£11,236
Class B	1,829 +	£25,282
Class C	0 – 893	£998
Class C	894 – 1,577	£11,236
Class C	1,578 +	£25,282
Class D	0 – 916	£3,024
Class D	917 – 2,039	£11,236
Class D	2,040 +	£25,282
Class E	0 – 947	£998
Class E	948 – 2,045	£11,236
Class E	2,046 +	£25,282
Class F	0 – 847	£1,078
Class F	848 – 1,531	£11,236
Class F	1,532 +	£25,282
Class G	0 – 1,450	£1,764
Class G	1,451 – 2,695	£11,236
Class G	2,696 +	£25,282
Class H	0 – 987	£998
Class H	988 – 1,804	£11,236
Class H	1,805 +	£25,282
Class I	0 – 1,087	£998
Class I	1,088 – 2,008	£11,236
Class I	2,009 +	£25,282

**COUNSEL**

<b>Offence falling within</b>	<b>PPE Range</b>	<b>Queen's Counsel Fee</b>	<b>Leading Junior Counsel Fee</b>	<b>Led Junior Counsel Fee</b>	<b>Sole Junior Counsel Fee</b>
Class A	0 - 2,476	£4,500	£3,375	£2,250	£2,925
Class A	2,477 - 4,887	£8,400	£6,300	£4,200	£5,460
Class A	4,888 +	£18,900	£14,175	£9,450	£12,285
Class B	0 – 859	£2,400	£1,800	£1,200	£1,560
Class B	860 – 1,828	£8,400	£6,300	£4,200	£5,460
Class B	1,829 +	£18,900	£14,175	£9,450	£12,285
Class C	0 – 893	£2,100	£1,575	£1,050	£1,365
Class C	894 – 1,577	£8,400	£6,300	£4,200	£5,460
Class C	1,578 +	£18,900	£14,175	£9,450	£12,285
Class D	0 – 916	£3,000	£2,250	£1,500	£1,950
Class D	917 – 2,039	£8,400	£6,300	£4,200	£5,460
Class D	2,040 +	£18,900	£14,175	£9,450	£12,285
Class E	0 – 947	£2,100	£1,575	£1,050	£1,365
Class E	948 – 2,045	£8,400	£6,300	£4,200	£5,460
Class E	2,046 +	£18,900	£14,175	£9,450	£12,285
Class F	0 – 847	£2,100	£1,575	£1,050	£1,365
Class F	848 – 1,531	£8,400	£6,300	£4,200	£5,460
Class F	1,532 +	£18,900	£14,175	£9,450	£12,285
Class G	0 – 1,450	£3,000	£2,250	£1,500	£1,950

NORTHERN IRELAND COURTS AND TRIBUNALS SERVICE

Class G	1,451 – 2,695	£8,400	£6,300	£4,200	£5,460
Class G	2,696 +	£18,900	£14,175	£9,450	£12,285
Class H	0 – 987	£2,100	£1,575	£1,050	£1,365
Class H	988 – 1,804	£8,400	£6,300	£4,200	£5,460
Class H	1,805 +	£18,900	£14,175	£9,450	£12,285
Class I	0 – 1,087	£2,100	£1,575	£1,050	£1,365
Class I	1,088 – 2,008	£8,400	£6,300	£4,200	£5,460
Class I	2,009 +	£18,900	£14,175	£9,450	£12,285

**SOLICITOR ADVOCATE**

<b>Offence falling within</b>	<b>PPE Range</b>	<b>Certified Solicitor Advocate Fee</b>	<b>Un-certified Solicitor Advocate Fee</b>
Class A	0 - 2,476	£2,925	£1,463
Class A	2,477 - 4,887	£5,460	£2,730
Class A	4,888 +	£12,285	£6,143
Class B	0 – 859	£1,560	£780
Class B	860 – 1,828	£5,460	£2,730
Class B	1,829 +	£12,285	£6,143
Class C	0 – 893	£1,365	£683
Class C	894 – 1,577	£5,460	£2,730
Class C	1,578 +	£12,285	£6,143
Class D	0 – 916	£1,950	£975
Class D	917 – 2,039	£5,460	£2,730
Class D	2,040 +	£12,285	£6,143
Class E	0 – 947	£1,365	£683
Class E	948 – 2,045	£5,460	£2,730
Class E	2,046 +	£12,285	£6,143
Class F	0 – 847	£1,365	£683
Class F	848 – 1,531	£5,460	£2,730
Class F	1,532 +	£12,285	£6,143
Class G	0 – 1,450	£1,950	£975
Class G	1,451 – 2,695	£5,460	£2,730
Class G	2,696 +	£12,285	£6,143
Class H	0 – 987	£1,365	£683
Class H	988 – 1,804	£5,460	£2,730
Class H	1,805 +	£12,285	£6,143
Class I	0 – 1,087	£1,365	£683
Class I	1,088 – 2,008	£5,460	£2,730
Class I	2,009 +	£12,285	£6,143

**PROPOSED NEW FIXED AND TIME-BASED FEES  
SOLICITOR**

<b>Type of work</b>	<b>Paragraph providing for fee</b>	<b>Fee</b>
Arraignment not guilty	11	£63
Standby Fee	12(1)	£350
Appearing at deferred sentencing hearing	15(1)(a)	£175
Appearing at other sentencing hearing	15(1)(b)	£70
Late sitting fee	17	£175
Cases within paragraph 2	19	£525
Application Fee 1 (hearing not exceeding 1.5 hours)	12(2), 13, 14 and 16	£105
Application Fee 2 (hearing exceeding 1.5 hours but not exceeding 3 hours)	12(2), 13, 14 and 16	£175
Application Fee 3 (hearing exceeding 3 hours)	12(2), 13, 14 and 16	£350

**COUNSEL**

<b>Type of work</b>	<b>Paragraph providing for fee</b>	<b>Queen's Counsel Fee</b>	<b>Leading Junior Counsel Fee</b>	<b>Led Junior Counsel Fee</b>	<b>Sole Junior Counsel and Solicitor Advocate (Certified or uncertified) Fee</b>
Arraignment not guilty	11	£120	£90	£60	£78
Standby Fee	12(1)	£400	£300	£200	£260
Appearing at deferred sentencing hearing	15(1)(a)	£320	£240	£160	£208
Appearing at other sentencing hearing	15(1)(b)	£240	£180	£120	£156
Late sitting fee	17	£200	£150	£100	£130
Cases within paragraph 2	19	£600	£450	£300	£390
Application Fee 1 (hearing not exceeding 1.5 hours)	12(2), 13, 14 and 16	£100	£75	£50	£66
Application Fee 2 (hearing exceeding 1.5 hours but not exceeding 3 hours)	12(2), 13, 14 and 16	£200	£150	£100	£130
Application Fee 3 (hearing exceeding 3 hours)	12(2), 13, 14 and 16	£400	£300	£200	£260
Consultations/viewings	18(1)	£50 per hour	£38 per hour	£25 per hour	£33 per hour
Listening to or viewing tapes etc.	18(2)	£22 per 10 minutes	£16 per 10 minutes	£11 per 10 minutes	£14 per 10 minutes

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