

## Our Business Immigration Team

Offering first class global mobility support, our business immigration team can support you with the many immigration challenges and decisions you face.

Our business immigration solicitors are known for their practical, strategic and commercial advice and can assist with sponsor licence and visa applications, whilst navigating you through the relevant immigration process.

### Price transparency

In order to deliver price transparency, we have detailed our estimated fees when handling routine, straightforward applications in the table below. If the circumstances of your case are more complex, we will let you know and provide you with a separate quote.

| Services/Application                           | Examples   | Fee estimate                    |
|--|--|---------------------------------|
| Visitor Visa                                   | Standard, Marriage, Permitted Paid Engagement, Parent of a Child Student, Chinese Tour Group, UK Transit                           | £1,000 – £5,000                 |
| Family Visa                                    | Spouse, fiancée or proposed civil partner child, parent, relative who will provide long-term care                                  | £1,000 – £5,000                 |
| Long Term Visa                                 | Skilled Worker, Health and Care Worker, Intra-Company, Minister of Religion, Sports person   | £2,000 – £5,000                 |
| Short Term Visa                                | Temporary Worker, Youth Mobility Scheme  | £1,500 – £3,000                 |
| Investor, business development and talent Visa | Innovator, Start-Up, Global Talent, Entrepreneur, Investor   | £2,000 – £6,000                 |
| Other Visas                                    | Ancestry, Study, Frontier Worker, Turkish Business Person or Worker, Overseas Domestic   | £1,500 – £4,000                 |
| Other Applications                             | Naturalisation (becoming a British Citizen), Register as British National, renounce/resume British citizenship/nationality         | £1,500 – £6,000                 |
| Sponsor Licence Application                    |  | £3,000 – £5,000                 |
| Indefinite Leave to remain Application         |  | £2,000 – £7,000                 |
| General Immigration Advice/Support             |  | <b>Hourly Rates</b> shall apply |
| “Review Only”                                  | Where you have prepared your own application and collated all the relevant documents for us to review and provide initial feedback | £750 – £2,500                   |

Circumstances relating to any application, individual and/or business will be unique and that is why we have provided our estimated fees (above) in ranges. These estimates will also be subject to any **“Influencing Factors”** noted below, which may also increase our estimated fees.

We will at all times look to provide you with a fixed cost where we can. If that is not possible, we shall use our standard hourly rates which will also be applied to any advice and support for general immigration queries

|                                  |               |
|----------------------------------|---------------|
| <b>Partner/Legal Director</b>    | £350 per hour |
| <b>Principal Associate</b>       | £300 per hour |
| <b>Associate</b>                 | £260 per hour |
| <b>Solicitor/Legal Executive</b> | £230 per hour |
| <b>Trainee/Paralegal</b>         | £175 per hour |

All rates and fee estimates noted shall be subject to VAT and charged at the rate of 20%.

## Influencing Factors

Though we look to provide cost certainty where possible, there are a number of factors that may increase our estimated fee ranges. To understand that better, we have detailed the following examples of **Influencing Factors** that will impact where our fees may sit within the estimated fee range and/or result in an increase beyond our estimated fee range:

- Where you are making the application (i.e. from within or out with the UK)
- The number of documents (supporting or otherwise) to be reviewed and/or required for your application
- Your responsiveness and compliance to our advice, instructions and/or intimated deadlines
- Any additional procedure or applications required (e.g. appeals, judicial review)
- The urgency of your application and/or advice required
- Any previous history of non-compliance with immigration laws or rules (within or out with the UK)
- Whether you are switching from an existing Visa to another type of Visa or leave to remain
- Any issues relating to your past conduct (e.g. criminal conviction) that the Home Office would take into consideration
- Any unexpected or unusual circumstances
- The seniority of the solicitor handling your matter

## What work is included?

The fee estimate ranges reflect the work that we would expect to carry out for a typical, straightforward application, which would ordinarily include:

- **Initial Consultation/Scope of Work** – liaising with you and confirming instructions in relation to the type of work, application and level of support required.
- **Documentation** – liaising with you to confirm what documents are required for your application/relevant immigration process.
- **Review and Advice** – review of relevant documentation and advising if any further process, documentation and/or amendments are required and any relevant [deadlines/time limits]
- **Application** – assisting and advising you in relation to completing and submitting your application
- **Update/Outcome** – monitoring progress of your application/relevant immigration process, providing updates and confirming outcome (including whether any further applications/process is required)

To clarify, the work and advice we provide does not include any application for asylum or entry to the UK on the basis that your rights may have been violated.

## Other costs

You may have to pay certain expenses and other costs to third parties. You will be responsible for any costs charged by a third party, and such sums shall be paid directly by you.

The costs and expenses most likely to arise are Home Office fees for making your application, which you must pay directly to the Home Office as part of the application process.

A note of these fees can be found here: [Home Office – Fees](#)

## Timescale and key stages of the process

Timescales for advising on and processing an immigration application depend on a variety of factors although with some applications, there is scope to apply for an expedited service.

We will advise you on the expected timescales for your application however, the following factors will also influence the length of time for advising on and processing an application:

- Whether the application is made within or out with the UK
- The type of visa applied for and relevant period requested
- Whether an expedited service is offered and is paid for by you
- How busy the Home Office is

If you are applying for indefinite leave to remain in the UK (ILR), this can take up to six months from submission, in addition to the preparation time and in some cases, it may be longer.

## Our Team – Who will you be working with?

Your application will typically be handled by a solicitor in our Employment, Pensions and Immigration (EPI) team, supported as necessary by our trainees/paralegals. Our trainees/paralegals are not (yet) solicitors and usually have no other formal legal qualification.

The solicitor handling your matter will have the requisite level of experience and will be supervised by a Partner throughout the process.

Once you know who is allocated to your matter, feel free to review their profile here:

- [Mandy Higgins](#)
- [Ingrid McGhee](#)
- [Ross Hutchison](#)
- [Rebecca Cairney](#)
- [Carolyn Bowie](#)
- [Steven Harte](#)

For any further information, please go to our [Business Immigration Webpage](#) and/or contact Mandy Higgins on 0151 243 9894 or [mandy.higgins@weightmans.com](mailto:mandy.higgins@weightmans.com) or Ingrid McGhee on 0141 404 9300 or [ingrid.mcgee@weightmans.com](mailto:ingrid.mcgee@weightmans.com)