

Fees policy

At Chris & Co Solicitors our relationship with our existing and potential clients has always been based on trust and transparency. With experience spanning over 19 years delivering quality legal advice and representation, we understand the importance of value for money. That is why we provide clear information about our fees right from the start of your relationship with us. What is more, we offer flexible payment terms depending on what you require us to do for you.

Initial Consultation

At Chris & Co Solicitors, we charge consultation fee to cover our time which is usually a minimum of one hour. The time we spend with you during the consultation allows you to know about our skills, experience and services we offer. You will be able to tell us all about you and a brief background of your case. The Initial Consultation is strictly confidential. The Initial Consultation is an important part of the relationship which we hope to build with you. At the end of the consultation, you should be able to decide if you want to engage us to assist you with your case. We will let you know if we are able to assist you with your case. More than 90% of those who had the initial consultations with us became satisfied clients. The Consultation fee is Non-Refundable.

Our initial consultation fees are as follows:

Immigration law	£120
Civil litigation	£250
Family law	£150
Housing Law / Disrepair	£150
Probate	£180
Will writing	£75 (free for Pensioners in receipt of Pension Credit)

Our Team

We originally started as Immigration advisors and Police Station Accredited Representatives assisting clients facing Criminal and Immigration matters. The firm was established in 2004 by Christopher Aigbokhan who qualified as a solicitor in 2007. We have a team of barristers, solicitors and paralegals with years of quality experience giving legal advice and case handling in Immigration, Civil Litigation, Family, Housing Disrepair, Landlord & Tenant and Dispute Resolution. The team is supervised by Christopher Aigbokhan who has over 15 years' hands-on experience giving legal advice and assistance and managing the practice.

At Chris & Co Solicitors we do not offer services on Legal Aid basis. For Legal Aid assistance, please contact The Law Society on 020 7320 5650 – Monday-Friday – 09.00 am to 5.00pm.

VAT (Value Added Tax)

If you are legally in the UK you will be liable for VAT on top of our fee.

Home Office's fees and Immigration Health Surcharge (I.H.S)

You are responsible for paying the Home Office's fee and Immigration Health Surcharge. These must be paid online with your bank or credit card.

Immigration law fees

Type of application/case	Our fee (Excluding vat)
Application to register as a British citizen by a child born in the UK and has lived the first 10 years in the UK	From £650
First application by parent(s) who are illegal in the UK but has British child or children	Single applicant: From £850 Joint applicants: From £1200
Application for further leave to remain as the spouse of a British citizen or a settled person	From £650
Application based on Long Residence -10 years	From £1250
Application based on 20 years residence	From £1350
Application for a No Time Limit Biometric Residence Permit	From £450
Application for Leave to Remain based on change of circumstances (previous unsuccessful Home Office applications)	From £1250
Victims of domestic violence	
Application for Leave to Remain based on change of circumstances	From £550
CURTAILMENT OF LEAVE TO REMAIN AS A SPOUSE	From £650
Section 120 Notice – Refusal of application / Notice of liability for removal / deportation	From £550
Judicial review application	
To issue the initial Pre-Action Protocol (PAP) Letter	From £950
Full Judicial Review Application (subject to Counsel's Opinion on the merits of case)	From £2500

Immigration appeal

Refusal of application with a right of appeal – To lodge Notice of Appeal	From £850
Notice of Hearing received – To prepare case including appeal bundles for hearing before First-tier Tribunal	From £2500

Case management review hearing

To attend at Case Management Review Hearing (within London)	From £450
Appeal dismissed by First-tier Tribunal – Application to First-tier Tribunal for permission to appeal to Upper Tribunal	From £850
Permission refused by First-tier Tribunal – Appeal directly to Upper Tribunal	From £650
Permission refused by Upper Tribunal – Appeal directly to the Court of Appeal (Subject to Counsel's Opinion on the merits of case)	From £750

Deportation cases – due to criminal conviction by uk court

EEA Nationals who entered the UK as a child - Representations in Response to s.120 Notice of Decision to Deport based on criminal conviction of at least 12 months but no more than 4 years	From £1250
EEA Nationals who entered the UK as a teenager - Representations in Response to s.120 Notice of Decision to Deport based on criminal conviction of at least 12 months but no more than 4 years	From £1250
EEA Nationals who entered the UK as an adult - Representations in Response to s.120 Notice of Decision to Deport based on criminal conviction of at least 12 months but no more than 4 years	From £1350
Non-EEA nationals who entered the UK as a child or born and raised in the UK, has strong family ties in the UK - Representations in Response to s.120 Notice of Decision to Deport based on criminal conviction of at least 12 months but no more than 4 years	From £1250
Non-EEA nationals who entered the UK as a child or born and raised in the UK, has strong family ties in the UK and evidence of ongoing health problem - Representations in Response to s.120 Notice of Decision to Deport based on criminal conviction of at least 12 months but no more than 4 years	From £1250

Deportation cases

Representations based on evidence of Procedural Unfairness in Decisions by the Secretary of State – (Home Office) From £750

Immigration bail / detention

Request to vary reporting conditions based on changed of circumstances From £550

Representation to challenge Immigration Decision in which Home Office has failed to consider all available evidence before reaching its decision From £650

Representation to challenge Home Office based on evidence of Procedural Unfairness – Enforcement Action against the Applicant including the requirements to report to an Immigration Officer From £650

Application for Temporary Release From £550

Application for Secretary of State Bail From £550

First-tier Tribunal Immigration Bail From £950

First-tier Tribunal Bail (where there is criminal conviction and ongoing Immigration Enforcement) From £1250

Nationality

Naturalisation / Registration as a British Citizen From £850

Application for a British passport for a child who has been registered as a British citizen From £600

Ancestry application From £850

Entry Clearance Visa Application as a Fiance From £1250

Spouse /Civil partner visa From £1250

Entry Clearance Visa for Private Medical Treatment From £2250

Fees explained:

Our fees are fixed – that means you know from the beginning what it will cost you to pursue your case. It also means it will not increase unless there is a change in your instructions to us. Any change that would result in an increase in your fee will be discussed with you in advance. The fee we agreed will remain the same throughout the conduct of your case.

What our fees cover

- Our fee does not cover any Home Office fee including the Immigration Health Surcharge (IHS).
- We take your initial instructions and advise you of the law relating to your case.
- We assess your case and advise you as to its strengths and weaknesses advising you as to your expectation.
- Confirm your instructions (what you ask us to do for you) in writing
- Explain to you what documents you need and how to go about getting them
- Check that the documents you have provided to us to support your application are the current documents and that they are all originals.
- We will provide you with a copy of the list of documents as stated by the Home Office in their application forms
- Contact third parties (schools, colleges, GP, hospitals, Home Office and local authorities' departments such as Social Services (where necessary) to obtain information to support your application
- Go over all the documents with you to make sure that you are clear their purpose and usefulness to your case
- Take you through the application form and assist you to complete them as fully as possible to make sure that all information required is provided
- Advise of the time limit with your application must be submitted to the Home Office or the Court, depending on your case
- Once your application has been submitted and we have received a letter from the Home Office confirming they have received your application, we will provide you a copy of Home Office letter for your information and record
- Write to your employer (where necessary) to update them of the progress of your application
- Write to third party (where necessary) that you have application pending with the Home Office
- If we receive a request from Home Office for more information to support your application, we will contact you immediately to provide the requested information
- Write to the Home Office to request more time to enable you to provide the information requested
- Keep you up to date with the progress of your case

Frequently Ask Questions

How long will it take for the Home Office to decide my case?

If you have applied for further leave to remain in the UK, provided your application was submitted before your current residence permit expired, it could take up to 6 months. If you are making application for the first time and you have been illegal in the UK or you have history of unsuccessful applications before, it could take considerably longer due to enquiries being carried out by the Home Office.

We will forward you a copy of any letter we receive from the Home Office advising us of the progress of your case.

What factors could delay my application?

- Force of nature – where the postal service could not deliver mail due to severe weather conditions. We send all applications to the Home Office by Royal Mail Recorded Delivery or Special Delivery service and records are kept in case of eventualities.
- Home Office is unable to collect payment for the application
- Sometimes Home Office may write to your home address and you are away or letter delivered to the wrong address by Royal Mail
- Application form not completed correctly
- Missing documents
- Delay in providing Home Office with requested additional information
- Home Office workload

Can I travel out of the UK while my application is under consideration?

It is not advisable that you attempt to leave the UK whilst your application is under consideration by the Home Office. The Home Office would treat your application as withdrawn. In cases of bereavement, applicants must contact the Home Office. You should contact us if you find yourself in this situation.

Can my employer stop me from working whilst my application is with the Home Office?

Provided you submitted your application before your current residence permit expired, your employer should not stop you from working. If you lodged your application AFTER your visa had expired, it is likely that your employer would stop you from working because you were already an overstayer in the UK when you lodged your application. Provided you submitted your application for further leave to remain before your current residence permit expired, all rights attaching to your residence permit including the right to take employment, remains ongoing until your application is decided by the Home Office. You should contact us if you find yourself in this situation.

Complaints Policy

At Chris & Co Solicitors, we are approachable and yet professional in our service delivery. We listen and pay attention to our clients' needs. We remind ourselves of the reason why we are in business – to continue to serve our community consistently and to the best of our ability.

We accept things could go wrong and when they do, to deal with them humanely and professionally.

If you have any concerns about any aspect of our relationship with you, do let us know immediately. Christopher Aigbokhan is readily available to hear from you in person, by telephone on 020 7738 3898 or by email to: chris@ccsolicitors.com.

At Chris & Co Solicitors, we treat any complaints as a feed-forward because we are forward looking in our relationship with our clients.

Our complaint procedure:

1. All complaints are handled by Christopher Aigbokhan. You can see in person or call us on 020 7738 3898 or by email at chris@ccsolicitors.com. With a background in Counselling, Mediation and Public Relations, you can be certain that Chris will listen to your concerns. He will most probably invite you to come to discuss your concerns with him face to face and he will attempt to resolve your concerns as humanely, professionally and quickly as possible. He is down to earth and approachable. If he cannot speak to you when you called, he will arrange to return your call as soon as possible.
2. After your meeting with Chris, he will contact you again to check that you were happy with your meeting with him. He will confirm with you that your concerns have been resolved to your satisfaction.
3. If you are satisfied that your concerns have been resolved and agreed for the matter to be treated as closed, we will continue with your case until completion.
4. If, as it may happen, you are not satisfied with Chris's handling of your complaint, you will have the opportunity to put your reasons in writing to him. He will write to you within 7 days or sooner. A record of all meetings and discussions will be kept for future reference. Your complaint will be recorded in our Complaint Register.
5. If you are unable to reach a resolution and you wish to take the matter further, the Legal Ombudsman would be the people to complain to. You can reach them at: Legal Ombudsman, PO Box 6806, Wolverhampton WV1 9WJ. You can also reach them on 0300 555 0333 or by email enquiries@legalombudsman.org.uk. You have 6 months from the date you confirmed to us that you are not satisfied with our handling of your complaint, to take your case to the Legal Ombudsman.