

Fees/Legal Aid

Non-means tested legal aid is available for advice at the **police station** and I can attend for you without charge

Legal aid may be available in **criminal cases before the Courts**
I can help you to make an application for legal aid.

For those under the age of 16 or under 18 in full time education legal aid is non means tested

For all other proceedings legal aid is means tested. The Court will assess whether you qualify

- a) Whether the case is serious or complex enough to need representation by a lawyer
- b) Whether you qualify financially either on the basis that you claim a “passported” state benefit or on the basis of your income and savings

If you are not eligible for legal aid I can advise you as a private client and you will have to pay for my services. Details of private-client charges are

Guilty plea to a straightforward case at Brighton Magistrates’ Court	£250.00
Straightforward half day trial at Brighton Magistrates’ Court	£500 plus disbursements
Straightforward one day trial at Brighton Magistrates’ Court	£750 plus disbursements

One initial free appointment and subsequent appointments prior to any hearing to take instructions and advise £150.00 per hour

Routine telephone calls e mails and letters are charged at £6.00 per hour

These rates give an indication of the likely fee in the majority of cases. If a case is more complex or urgent higher rates will apply

If legal aid is applied for and refused I may agree a fee with a client

If legal aid is applied for and refused in the Crown Court a level of fees can be discussed

Please do not hesitate to call to discuss any queries that you might have in relation to costs which might apply to your case. I am always willing to discuss fee levels dependent on your situation

