

BNT Legal Commercial Costs Information

Fees

Where possible we will attempt to charge a fixed fee. If this is applicable, this will be provided to you before the work commences.

Some matters it is not possible to charge a fixed fee, therefore, we charge for the work carried out according to the amount of time spent. The time spent includes (if applicable):

- 1.1 meeting with you, corresponding with you or talking to you on the telephone or to any relevant party (including solicitors);
- 1.2 writing letters and drafting documents;
- 1.3 researching the legal position and background of your matter; and
- 1.4 reading and studying papers and documents relevant to your matter.

We record time by units of 6 minutes or one tenth of an hour so the minimum time spent on any item of work would always be 6 minutes.

The laws of Western Australia apply to your legal costs. The Legal Practitioners (Solicitors Costs) Determination 2013 applies to regulate our hourly rates. We reserve the right to review and alter these rates from time to time.

The firm's current charge out rates, are as follows:

- Tax Matters \$550.00 per hour, including GST
- General Matters:
 - Nathan Thomson \$484.00 per hour, including GST
 - Brett Meredith \$385.00 per hour, including GST

We charge one tenth of an hour for short letters, short emails and short telephone calls made or received and for the perusal of short letters received. Longer letters and emails and telephone calls are charged according to the time spent, as are meetings with you and others concerning your case. The drafting of documents is also charged for according to time spent.

Because some rates charged out by this firm exceed the maximum hourly rate that is set out in the scale (which presently specifies for a maximum of \$462 per hour including GST) we must obtain your informed consent to us charging above the maximum rate (if and / or when such rate is charged).

In addition to legal fees, you will be liable for money that we have to pay to others in connection with your case. These fees are referred to as disbursements. Examples of such payments are barristers' fees, Court fees, medical reports, photocopying, courier fees, company and title searches, facsimile transmissions and so on.

We charge out all disbursements at cost except for photocopying for which we charge 50 cents per page or 15 cents per page for bulk copying, and facsimiles for which we charge \$1.00 for a local facsimile and \$2.00 for Eastern States and \$4.00 for overseas.

Settlements

Settlement charges are charge in accordance with the Solicitors Costs Determination 2015 and cover work that is performed by us in relation to:

- the investigation/confirmation of title;
- adjustment of rates and taxes;
- dealing with preparation and execution of the form of Transfer of Land;
- preparation of settlement statement;
- verification of identity work; and
- arrangements for and attendance at settlement, including liaison with your bank securities section (if applicable) and the solicitor or settlement agent acting for the buyer / seller.

However, any other work, including but without limitation the following will be additionally charged for in accordance with the hourly rates set out previously:

- any service performed in respect of an amendment to the contract by which the property is being sold (“Contract”);
- the perusal and giving of advice in relation to any document other than the Contract;
- the handling of any document other than the form of Transfer of Land;
- correspondence or attendances as may be required by any amendment to any document other than the form of Transfer of Land;
- correspondence or attendances not usually involved in respect of completion or settlement of the Contract, including interpretation or enforcement of the Contract.