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STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

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**1991 No. 530 (L.3)**

**MATRIMONIAL CAUSES  
SUPREME COURT OF ENGLAND AND WALES  
COUNTY COURTS**

**The Matrimonial Causes (Costs) (Amendment) Rules 1991**

*Made* - - - - *7th March 1991*  
*Laid before Parliament* *11th March 1991*  
*Coming into force* - - *1st April 1991*

We, the authority having power to make rules of court for the purposes mentioned in section 50 of the Matrimonial Causes Act 1973(1), in exercise of that power and the further power conferred on us by section 64 of the Family Law Act 1986(2), hereby make the following Rules:

1.—(1) These Rules may be cited as the Matrimonial Causes (Costs) (Amendment) Rules 1991 and shall come into force on 1st April 1991.

(2) In these Rules, unless the context otherwise requires, a rule or Schedule referred to by number means the rule or Schedule so numbered in the Matrimonial Causes (Costs) Rules 1988(3).

(3) These Rules shall apply for the taxation of the costs of work done on or after 1st April 1991.

2. In rule 11(3), for the sum “£7.50”, there shall be substituted the sum “£8.00”.

3. For Schedule 2, there shall be substituted the following Schedule—

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(1) 1973 c. 18; section 50 was amended by the Domicile and Matrimonial Proceedings Act 1973 (c. 45), section 6(2), by the Inheritance (Provision for Family and Dependants) Act 1975 (c. 63), Schedule, by the Children Act 1975 (c. 72), Schedule 3, paragraph 79, by the Administration of Justice Act 1977 (c. 38), Schedule 5, Part VI, by the Domestic Proceedings and Magistrates' Courts Act 1978 (c. 22), Schedule 2, paragraph 40, by the Matrimonial Homes Act 1983 (c. 19), Schedule 2, by the County Courts Act 1984 (c. 28), section 148, Schedule 2, Part V, paragraph 44, by the Family Law Act 1986 (c. 55), section 64, Schedule 1, paragraph 15 and by the Courts and Legal Services Act 1990 (c. 41), section 125(3), Schedule 18, paragraph 3.

(2) 1986 c. 55.

(3) S.I. 1988/1328, as amended by S.I. 1989/385, 1021 and 1990/490.

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“SCHEDULE 2

PART I  
PREPARATION

Column 1	Column 2 High Court	Column 3 County Court
ITEM		
1. Writing routine letters	£4.00 per item	£3.50 per item
2. Receiving routine letters	£2.00 per item	£1.75 per item
3. Routine telephone calls	£4.00 per item	£3.50 per item
4. All other preparation work including any work which was reasonably done arising out of or incidental to the proceedings, interviews with client, witnesses, and other parties; obtaining evidence; preparation and consideration of, and dealing with, documents, negotiations and notices; dealing with letters written and received and telephone calls which are not routine	Where the proceedings were conducted in the divorce registry or in another court on the South-Eastern Circuit at the time when the relevant work was done:  £44.50 per hour All other circuits £41.75 per hour	£39.00 per hour  £37.00 per hour
5. In addition to items 1-4 above, to cover the general care and conduct of the proceedings	+50%	+50%
6. Travelling and waiting time in connection with the above matters	£30.50 per hour	£28.00 per hour

PART II  
CONFERENCES WITH COUNSEL

7. Attending counsel in conference	£35.50 per hour	£31.00 per hour
8. Travelling and waiting	£30.50 per hour	£28.00 per hour

### PART III

#### ATTENDANCES

<b>9.</b> Attending with counsel at the trial or hearing of any cause or the hearing of any summons or other application at court, or other appointment	£35.50 per hour	£31.00 per hour
<b>10.</b> Attending without counsel at the trial or hearing of any cause or the hearing of any summons or other application at court, or other appointment	£53.50 per hour	£50.50 per hour
<b>11.</b> Travelling and waiting	£30.50 per hour	£28.00 per hour

### PART IV

#### FEES FOR JUNIOR COUNSEL

<b>12.</b> With a brief on an unopposed application for an injunction, or procedural issue	Standard £84.50	£73.00
	Maximum £140.00	£121.00
<b>13.</b> With a brief on the trial of a cause or matter or on the hearing of an ancillary application or on a children appointment where the hearing lasts for	Standard £127.50	£109.00
(a) one hour	Maximum £256.00	£218.50
(b) a half day	Standard £176.50	£152.00
	Maximum £291.00	£256.00
(c) a full day	Standard £352.00	£304.00
	Maximum £559.00	£486.00
(d) more than a full day	Discretionary	Discretionary
<b>14.</b> For each day or part of a day on which the trial of a cause or matter, or the hearing of an ancillary application, or a children appointment, is continued after the first day	Discretionary	Discretionary

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<b>15.</b> Conference (including time reasonably spent in preparation and conference, but not otherwise remunerated)	Standard £19.50 per ½ hour	Standard £17.00 per ½ hour
(a) Complex items of written work (such as advices on evidence, opinions and affidavits of a substantial nature, requests for particulars or answers)	Standard £92.00 per item	Standard £79.00 per item
(b) All other written work	Standard £54.50 per item	£48.00 per item
<b>17.</b> Except where the court is within 25 miles of Charing Cross or where there is no local Bar in the court town, or within 25 miles thereof, for travelling time	Standard £17.70 per hour + expenses	Standard £15.20 per hour + expenses

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## PART V

### TAXATION AND REVIEW OF TAXATION

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<b>18.</b> Preparing the bill (where allowable) and completing the taxation (excluding preparing for and attending the taxation)	£30.50—£85.50	£30.50—£48.75
<b>19.</b> Preparing for and attending the taxation (including travelling and waiting)	Discretionary	Discretionary
<b>20.</b> Review by registrar or judge (including preparation)	Discretionary	Discretionary <sup>3</sup>

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7th March 1991

*Mackay of Clashfern, C.  
Stephen Brown, P.  
Mathew Thorpe, J.  
M. F. Norrie  
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## **EXPLANATORY NOTE**

*(This note is not part of the Rules)*

These Rules amend the Matrimonial Causes (Costs) Rules 1988 so as to revise the prescribed rates of costs.