



In tune with your needs

Eversheds Sutherland Costs Unit Services

How can we help?

Our costs unit offers a complete litigation funding, retainer, case management and costs service, from traditional costs drafting services to bespoke costs budgeting and management, drafting and reviewing retainers and arranging litigation funding through our network of third party funders.

The unit has a proven track record in all manner of litigation, regularly dealing with multi-million pound costs disputes and highly complex commercial matters.

By instructing us to deal with all your costs claims, you are assured of:
a competitive pricing structure;
consistency of approach; and
bespoke management information tailored for your business needs.

Why are we different?

Situated within one of the world's largest litigation teams, and with litigators working alongside specialist costs lawyers, we draw on our experience, not only of costs cases, but of being involved in and running large litigation projects. This provides the team with a valuable insight resulting in a bespoke costs offering that meets your needs and objectives.

We can provide you with a service that has equal regard to the commercial realities of business as well as the 'black letter' law, allowing you to make the decisions that best suit your business needs.

We also provide advice on funding options in including Damaged Based Agreements, CFAs, preparation of retainers and the availability of third party funding.

Examples of our expertise include:

1 Bill drafting

We have extensive experience in bill drafting, having drafted bills in all manner of proceedings, including multi million pound costs claims.

2 Points of dispute

We have considerable experience in preparing points of dispute and replies for both paying and receiving parties. We recognise that, points of dispute and replies often represent the only opportunity a party has to make representations to the court in the costs dispute, and are skilled at deploying appropriate arguments clearly and succinctly.

3 Attendance at detailed assessment hearings

We are able to attend at detailed assessment hearings and provide advocacy on detailed assessment hearings.

4 Retainer health checks

We recognise the importance of getting the retainer right. If the retainer is lacking, this can result in a successful party going without their costs. Our retainer health-check service is designed to help you ensure that your retainer(s) are in good order and to give you time to address any points that might be addressing before it might be too late.

What happens next?



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Did you know?

- 1 We provide free in-house training on all aspects of costs and costs management, including budgeting and the impact of the Jackson Reforms. repetitive
- 2 We work alongside litigation fee earners on funding related actions, as well as standard costs work.
- 3 Not only do we handle financial mis-selling claims, we can also handle the costs aspect of any contentious matter, whether from a claimant or defendant perspective, whether we were instructed in the underlying claim or not. repetitive
- 4 We provide a fixed price review service for own fees where the matter has been dealt with by another firm of lawyers on your behalf.
- 5 We offer a no saving, no fee arrangement. If we cannot reduce a costs claim, we will not make a charge.

Our notable cases include:

- retained by the Lloyds of London market to defend a £5.5 million costs claim in the case of *Capita Alternative Fund Services v Drivas-Jonas* [2012] EWCA Civ 1417
- retained by Monsanto in the case of *Griffiths v Solutia*, a Court of Appeal decision on proportionality and the instruction of London solicitors
- acted for the London Development Agency in fee disputes arising from the London 2012 Olympic bid, saving over £2 million in fees in two cases alone including the High Court decision in *Balcombe v LDA*.
- representing HSBC in a £1.8 million costs dispute arising out of the Court of Appeal's decision in *Rubenstein v HSBC*

What our clients say:

"I have worked with the costs team for a number of years dealing with extortionate costs claims arising from mis-selling disputes. Their expertise and attention to detail has led to considerable savings and they are my first port of call for any costs related issue"

Philip Abel GE Capital