

Hertfordshire County Council

Countryside & Rights of Way Service

Public Path Orders Fees Sheet

from April 2023

The fees due to the County Council at each stage of the Public Path Order (PPO) process are below.

A straightforward application will cost around **£4,000**. However, a complex application may cost over **£6,500**. Please note that the final cost will vary depending on the complexity of the application and the amount of time the County Council is required to spend processing it. These figures are correct as of April 2023 and are reviewed every April. The above estimate of £4,000 should be increased by £1,000 per extra path included.

Application stage

On application HCC requires a non-refundable fee of **£275** to cover the costs involved with opening the file and meeting with a Rights of Way officer to discuss your proposal.

Order-making stage

- An Order requiring one Order Plan, is **£362** (+VAT)
- For complex Orders requiring more than one Order Plan, add **£182** (+VAT) for each additional Order Plan.

Consultation report stage

Consultation Reports should be sent with payment of **£3,000**. This should cover HCC's costs for assessing the application and making the decision as to whether or not to make an Order. This includes the price for advertising the order twice in the local newspaper. If HCC's costs are greater than this, you will be requested to submit an additional payment.

Determination stage

At the Determination stage you will be asked for a further payment of the balance of fees. HCC will let you know what these are after the order has been advertised, but they may be in the region of **£1,000**. There may need to be a fee of **£340** if an additional (third) newspaper advert is required (only if Certification is required after works).

Confirmation stage

If HCC confirm the Order and, following its advertising, no application is made to the High Court to challenge it, HCC can, if requested, supply semi-permanent site notices explaining the legal changes to the public. The fee will depend on the number and complexity of semi-permanent signs required, but is likely to be in the region of **£110** (+VAT) per sign, plus a further **£135** for design.

Highways Act Section 25 Agreements

Producing an Agreement, plans & works specifications **£1,050** (+ VAT).

This does not include the price of **£340** for advertising the agreement in the local newspaper.

Hourly Fees for All other processes

Hourly fees, where chargeable by the County Council, are £90/hour for Officers, £127/hour for Team Leaders, and £190/hour for solicitors; for any other processes, meetings, advice, etc.

Making a Payment

Payment can be made by **credit card** to the County Council cashiers on **01992 555407**, or BACS. Before making your payment, please first contact the Countryside and Rights of Way Service, to obtain the correct accounting codes and payment reference for your application.