

Interest policy

In accordance with the SRA Accounts Rules 2019, it is our policy to account to you for a sum in lieu of interest on a fair and reasonable basis.

Client money is normally held in our general client account where it is pooled with money from other clients and matters. To comply with our obligations, the money held must be immediately available and we require an instant access account to do this.

As the holding of your money is incidental to the carrying out of your legal instructions, the rate of interest in our general client account is unlikely to be as high as the rate you may be able to obtain if you were depositing that money in your own account.

Rates

We align our interest rates to the current rates paid on our instant access general client account at National Westminster Bank Plc. This rate is likely to change from time to time.

If your money is held outside of our general client account, such as a separate designated account, the rate of interest will depend on the institution where the money is held. We will account to you the full amount of interest received to a separate designated account, subject to the following guidelines.

Should the Bank of England base rate fall below 0.01%, we reserve the right to charge negative interest. We would absorb any cost less than £20, however any charge above this would be re-charged to you.

How interest is calculated

Interest will only be calculated from the time the funds have cleared in our account, for the period held on a daily compounded basis. Interest will not be paid if the total amount calculated for the period is less than £20.

Should the amount of interest be over £20, we will credit the client ledger with this amount when we agree with you that the matter is at an end i.e. when we no longer need to hold any funds on your behalf. This may be used to offset our fees or if in surplus, returned to you.

Any interest paid to you is paid without any deduction for income tax. It is your responsibility to inform HM Revenue & customers of any interest received.

Governance

The Head of Finance is responsible for the implementation of this policy and will review it at least annually.

Version	Date	Approved by	To be reviewed
V1	March 2022		March 2023