

3rd April 2012

HSBC CONTINUES TO ENLARGE CONVEYANCING PANEL TO BENEFIT MORTGAGE CUSTOMERS

HSBC today publishes the criteria for its conveyancing panel and continues to invite applications from eligible firms. HSBC established a panel of solicitors and licensed conveyancers in January to provide the required legal services to our home buying [mortgage](#) customers.

Those firms interested in joining for the panel must meet certain criteria deemed to be advantageous to HSBC's mortgage customers including:

- Agree to fixed fees for customers (see table 1)
- Agree to the addition of electronic links to facilitate online case tracking for customers
- Achieve accreditation with the Law Society of England and Wales CQS where relevant
- Agree to Solicitors Regulation Authority (SRA) and CCJ checks
- Be registered with the SRA or Council of Licensed Conveyancers (CLC)

Firms who are able to meet the above criteria are invited to apply and will be considered if there is a need for the firm to support the panel geographically. Interested firms can apply to the panel manager, Countrywide Conveyancing Services at CCSPanel@cwpl.com.

Peter Dockar, Head of [Mortgages](#) at HSBC, commented: "We introduced our panel to provide additional protection for our customers through a 'no sale-no fee' guarantee and to offer them a guaranteed fixed fee and quality of service for the important conveyancing work when they purchase a property.

"We continue to review and add to the panel on an ongoing basis and following feedback have now published the criteria for firms to be considered."

Customers who choose to appoint a panel firm to act for them can take advantage of the following benefits:

- Fixed fees
- No sale - no legal fees*
- Free searches on their replacement purchase
- 24 hour updates, 7 days a week.
- Managed service

Table 1

Table showing conveyancing fees for England and Wales (excluding disbursements)

Purchase Price	Legal Fee (including Vat)
Up to £100,000	£399
£100-150,000	£449
£150-200,000	£475
£200-300,000	£499
£300-500,000	£549

Customers will continue to be free to use their own solicitor or conveyancer to act for them, but HSBC will use a panel firm to undertake its own legal requirements.

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Notes to editors:

* Where the seller withdraws from the sale or the mortgage valuation varies by more than 5% to purchase price. Excludes Scotland and Northern Ireland properties due to different legal process.

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