

Fees

for debt recovery for business

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1. Introduction

These costs apply where you claim between £1000 to £100,000 for unpaid invoices which are not disputed. If the other party disputes your claim at any point, we can discuss any further work required and provide you with revised advice about costs.

These apply for a case that proceeds normally. If they do not apply to your case we will inform you and provide revised information.

We cannot offer a debt recovery service for debts less than £1,000 at an economic price and we suggest that you claim them without incurring solicitors fees by using the Court Service Money Claim on line service <https://www.moneyclaim.gov.uk/web/mcol/welcome>.

Please contact us in relation to fees for our other services including landlord and tenant claims where there are rent or service charge arrears.

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2. Stage 1 – Correspondence prior to Court Proceedings

You send us the relevant papers for us to check including the contract, terms and conditions, invoices and a statement showing the calculation of the balance due including any interest that you wish to claim that is allowed under your contract. Our check will be limited to identifying the essential terms of the contract and we will not advise on the merits of the claim for this price. We will carry out a conflict of interest check and send the debtor letter and email saying that unless payment is made to you by the deadline set out below we will take court proceedings.

Letters before action sent to a business other than a sole trader usually require the debtor to pay within 14 days, but letters to individuals (including a sole trader) require much more information and documents to be provided and give an initial 30 day period in accordance with the Pre-Action Protocol laid down by the court which can be found at <https://www.justice.gov.uk/courts/procedure-rules/civil/pdf/protocols/debt-pap.pdf>

We will then report to you with the debtor's response if any and, if payment not made, obtain your instruction as to whether to proceed to Stage 2. We will refer requests for information or to pay instalments to you.

Debt	Laceys fee (non protocol debtor)	Laceys fee (protocol debtor)
£1000-£5000	£450 plus £90 VAT = £540	£550 plus £110 VAT = £660
£5,000.01-£10,000	£600 plus £120 VAT = £720	£700 plus £140 VAT = £840
£10,000.01-£50,000	£750 plus £150 VAT = £900	£800 plus £160 VAT = £960
£50,000.01-£100,000	2% of claim plus VAT	2% of claim plus VAT

3. Stage 2 – Court Claims

If instructed, we would then prepare court papers; send them to you to approve and lodge them with the court service together with the court fee.

Once the court has served the claim a debtor has 14 days in which to file a defence or enter an acknowledgement. If they do neither, once the 14 day period has expired, we will apply to the court for judgment to be entered. The court normally takes 2-3 weeks to do that. If a defence is lodged then we will send you a copy.

In the table below we set out fees that are paid to the court (these may be changed by the Government) and our fees and the contribution that the debtor will be ordered to make if we obtain a County Court judgment (CCJ).

Debt	Court fee	Laceys' fee	Total (incl VAT)	Debtor Pays
£1,000.01 - £1,500	£80	£500 plus £100 VAT	£680	£182-215
£1,500.01 - £3,000	£115	£600 plus £120 VAT	£835	£217-250
£3,000.01 - £5,000	£205	£700 plus £140 VAT	£1045	£307-340
£5,000.01 - £10,000	£455	£800 plus £160 VAT	£1415	£585-625
£10,000.01 - £100,000	5% of claim	10% of claim plus VAT		5% of claim plus £130-£170

4. Stage 3 – Defence or enforcement of judgement

If the debtor has still not paid and you wish us to continue to act we can offer additional services for which we will make a proposal to you for our fees depending on the particular situation.

5. What qualifications do the team hold?

All debt recovery work is supervised by a partner. Specific experience and qualifications can be seen in the individual staff profiles on our [Debt Recovery page](#).