

Our Legal Fees for Debt Recovery Claims up to £100,000.00

This is an example of costs, and what our overall fees may be.

A personalised fee estimate will be provided to you at the outset of our instruction, as depending upon how complex your case is, and the expertise required, costs may be subject to change.

We will endeavour to keep you updated on costs should our estimates change.

To comply with the SRA price transparency rules, we have set out below an exemplar of our typical charges. Please note that these charges are not fixed fees.

What are our fees made up of?

Our fees are made up of:

a) legal work undertaken on a time spent basis of the hourly rate of our fee earners, including solicitors, trainee solicitors and paralegals who may be undertaking work on your file.

The hourly rates of our team are listed below:

Partner:	£350.00 per hour, plus VAT
Solicitor:	£200.00 per hour, plus VAT
Trainee Solicitor/Paralegal:	£140.00 per hour, plus VAT

b) disbursements being costs related to your matter that are payable to third parties, such as fees for court fees, counsel, experts, bailiffs, land registry and/or bank transfer fees.

You will need to pay for 'disbursements' in addition to our costs as described above. In a debt recovery matter, the most common disbursement is the Court fee, and the costs for these are listed below.

What is included in our fees?

The fees described below cover all work about the following stages of the debt recovery process; this list is not exhaustive:

- Discussing your case with you and, where appropriate, reviewing documents you provide and providing advice as to your options;
- Performing relevant checks and searches;
- Sending a letter before action;
- Receiving payment and forwarding payment to you or, if a debt is not paid, drafting and issuing court proceedings;

- If no response is received to service of your proceedings, apply to the Court for Judgment in Default.
- If Judgment in Default is received, write to the other side to demand payment.
- If payment is still not received within the specified timescale, we will provide you with guidance on the next steps and likely costs.

There are different stages to the debt recovery process, and we set out an exemplar of estimates we would generally provide for each stage of a simple debt recovery claim: -

Stage 1: Issuing a Letter Before Action / Letter of Claim

A Letter Before Action is an Action Protocol letter which formally demands payment from the entity that owes you money (the 'debtor'). This is the first step for any debt recovery process before starting court proceedings.

Our legal fees for Stage 1 are typically between £300.00 to £1,500.00 (plus VAT) and include:

- Taking your instructions and considering relevant documents
- Undertaking appropriate searches
- Sending a letter before action
- Receiving payment and sending it to you, where applicable

Some cases may be more complicated and require us to charge more; however, we will provide you with a tailored estimate of fees prior to such work being undertaken.

Stage 2: Issuing Court Proceedings

If the debt has not been paid following expiry of any deadline provided in your Letter Before Action, we will draft and issue Court proceedings on your behalf.

Our legal fees for Stage 2 are typically between £600.00 to £3,000.00 (plus VAT) and include:

- Taking your instructions and considering relevant documents
- Drafting any particulars of claim and relevant court applications
- Monitoring the claim through the courts until Judgment is issued

Below are the Court Fees which are charged as disbursements, separate from your legal fees, and are exclusive of VAT:

Debt Value	Court Fee
Up to £300	£35.00
£301 to £500	£50.00

£501 to £1,000	£70.00
£1,001 to £1,500	£80.00
£1,501 to £3,000	£115.00
£3,001 to £5,000	£205.00
£5,001 to £10,000	£455.00
£10,001 to £200,000	5% of the value of the claim

Stage 3: Entering Judgment

If there is no response to the claim, we may be able to apply to the Court to 'obtain Judgment' for you. This means you would have a County Court Judgement which you can enforce to reclaim your money because the claim was not responded to.

Our legal fees for Stage 3 are typically between £300.00 to £900.00 (plus VAT) and include: -

- Submitting a request for Judgment
- Review of the case for advising on next steps in relation to the enforcement of the Judgment

Other costs to consider

The costs set out above do not include enforcement action, such as for Enforcement Agents to go out and collect the debt on your behalf.

We would be happy to provide you with an estimate of such costs at the appropriate time.

Defended Claims and more complex cases

If a debtor submits a defence to your claim, your legal costs may be higher. Once we have an understanding of the debtor's defence to your claims, we can advise you of your options, including the option to engage in Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR), the required next steps to progress your claims to Trial and the estimated future legal costs.

Should you need Debt Recovery assistance and/or are subject to a claim for recovery of a Debt against you, please enquire for a no-obligation quote from our experienced solicitors today by telephone on 01386 840483 or by email to admin@jhgabb.com