

# Scotland & Northern Ireland (undisputed commercial debts)

This document outlines the costs and fees involved at each stage of the debt collection process. Please be aware that invoices are issued to you at the end of the month for all work carried out in that month. Our terms are 7 days.

## Stage One

To begin the debt collection process where the debtor is a limited company or a firm (partnership) we can send either a Letter Before Action to the debtor, which requests payment from the debtor within seven days or alternatively a Late Payment Demand, which not only claims your basic debt but also claims interest, compensation and your reasonable debt collection costs under the Late Payment of Commercial Debts (Interest) Act 1998, provided both parties were acting in the course of business.

Letter Before Action only £3.00 (+ VAT) Standard LBA

Late Payment Demand only £3.00 (+ VAT) LPD

#### Suing individuals.

To begin the debt collection process where the debtor is an individual the new Pre-action Protocol for Debt Claims is applicable from 1 October 2017. It will only affect you when your debtor is an individual. Our charge is £10 plus VAT and is applicable to letters containing up to 16 printed sheets of A4 paper and postage. When the letter contains between 17 and 50 printed sheets the actual additional postage will be charged in addition to the £10 plus VAT. 50 printed sheets is the maximum we will include in a pre-action protocol letter.

Please note that if the debt is paid at this stage you will **not** be charged any of the costs or fees listed below.

# Stage Two

### Court Actions in Scotland, Northern Ireland

For these regions, Court Actions are issued through the County Court Money Claims Centre. VAT is charged on costs, not fees and is not recoverable from the Debtor, but can be reclaimed by you if VAT registered (unless exceptionally you operate under the VAT Flat Rate Scheme).

Claim Value	Costs (+ VAT)	Court Fees	*Total (+ VAT on Costs)	Standard LBA Debtor Pays	Standard LBA Non-Recoverable Costs	LPD Debtor Pays
£25 to £200	£70	£35	£105	£85	£20	All
£200 to £300	£80	£35	£115	£85	£30	All
£300 to £500	£90	£50	£140	£100	£40	All
£500 to £600	£110	£70	£180	£140	£40	All
£600 to £1,000	£140	£70	£210	£140	£70	All
£1,000 to £1,500	£150	£80	£230	£160	£70	All
£1,500 to £3,000	£150	£115	£265	£195	£70	All
£3,000 to £5,000	£150	£205	£355	£285	£70	All
£5,000 to £10,000	£170	£455	£625	£555	£70	All
£10,000 to £15,000	£170	5% *	5% * + £170	5% * + £100	£70	All
£15,000 to £50,000	£175	5% *	5% * + £175	5% * + £100	£75	All
£50,000 to £100,000	£180	5% *	5% * + £180	5% * + £100	£80	All

<sup>\*</sup> of the claim value.

The **Total** column is the amount you pay regardless of whether the debt has been paid at this stage. The **Debtor Pays** column is the amount the Debtor pays when an action is successful, this may be after our invoice has been issued. The Court calculate the fee on the total of the debt plus interest, which may put the Court fees and costs into the higher band. You will not recover the sum in the **Non-Recoverable** column for a standard LBA. There are very exceptional circumstances where we are able to cancel the court action on the day of processing. Where we are able to do so, a cancellation charge of no more than the equivalent non-recoverable costs element will apply, otherwise the total costs and fees will be payable.

# Stage Three

## **Judgment & Enforcement in SCOTLAND only**

Application for Judgment:	THL Costs (+ VAT)	Disbursements	Court Fees
Debt amount £25 to £125 without Acknowledgment of service	£32		£100
Debt amount £25 to £125 with Acknowledgment of service	£35		£100
Debt amount £125 to £600 without Acknowledgment of service	£37		£100
Debt amount £125 to £600 with Acknowledgment of service	£40		£100
Debt amount £600 to £5,000 without Acknowledgement of service	£42		£100
Debt amount £600 to £5,000 with Acknowledgement of service	£45		£100
Debt amount over £5,000 without Acknowledgment of service	£55		£100
Debt amount over £5,000 with Acknowledgment of service	£60		£100
Affidavit fee no exhibit		£12(+ VAT)	
Affidavit fee with exhibit		£13(+ VAT)	

Application for Enforcement:	THL Costs (+ VAT)	Disbursements	Court Fees
To make an application	£100		£100
Registration fee	£39	£10	

### Scottish Messenger-at-Arms (Sheriff's Officer) Fees

Fees are dependent on the defendant's location (add 30% for remote rural areas) and the method of enforcement selected. The enforcement procedure in Scotland is significantly different from that in England and Wales. They proceed to each stage separately and render a fee note after completion of each step. Sheriff's fees may be recoverable from the defendant provided the Sheriff is successful. Fees quoted below are exclusive of VAT.

The feeing structure for Messenger-at-Arms is strictly regulated by the procedural laws issued by the Court of Sessions in Edinburgh. Scottish Officers of Court are not allowed to negotiate any kind of discount or deals with clients, therefore, regardless of which firm is instructed the fee will be exactly the same.

Service of Notice:	Scottish Messenger-at-Arms (Sheriff's Officer) Fee
Charge for payment £10	
Additional copy at same address	£20.47

Attachment of Goods (if no payment following charge):	Scottish Messenger-at-Arms (Sheriff's Officer) Fee			
This is the process of attaching the debtor's goods. The goods are inventoried and valued. Ultimately they will be exposed for sale by auction if the debt remains unpaid. The fees for attachment are based on the value of the goods attached.				
Service of notice of entry if necessary	£11.49			
Arranging and executing attachment where appraisal value is:				
£708 or under	£100.60			
Over £708 and up to £2,845	£155.95			
Over £2,845 and up to £28,648	10% of appraised value			
Over £28,648 and up to £143,231	10% up to £28,648; 5% thereafter			
Over £143,231	10% up to £28,648; 5% up to £143,231; 1% thereafter			
Reporting attachment	£9.54			

Attachment of motor vehicle, heavy plant or machinery:	Scottish Messenger-at-Arms (Sheriff's Officer) Fee	
Arranging and executing attachment where appraisal value is:		
£708 or under	£100.60	
Over £708 and up to £3,147	£155.99	
Over £3,147 and up to £143,231	5% of appraised value	
Over £143,231	5% up to £143,231; 1% thereafter	
Reporting attachment	£9.54	
Unsuccessful Attachment	£85.98	

## Auction:

The process of realizing the value of attached articles is held at a public auction. At the conclusion the Officer is required to submit a report to the Court. This is audited after which the Officer will disperse the funds. Fees for auction will differ depending on the nature of the goods to be disposed of and the Auctioneers used. Indicative costs should be requested on a case by case basis.

Other Enforcement Procedures:	Scottish Messenger-at-Arms (Sheriff's Officer) Fee
Earnings arrestment (charge for payment must be served first)	£67.18
Bank arrestment on one named bank	£103.78 to £134.91
All five main banks	£268.97
3 <sup>rd</sup> party arrestment	£103.78 to £134.91

Inhibition (charge over property or land):  Scottish Messenger-at-Arms (Sheriff's Officer)	
Property search	£30
Inhibition	£103.78 to £134.91
Additional defendant (at same address)	£33.40
Registering execution of inhibition	£19.08
Fee to register of Scotland	£15

## Judgment & Enforcement in NORTHERN IRELAND only

Enforcement in Northern Ireland is significantly different to England & Wales. The Enforcement of Judgment Office take full control of the enforcement process (once you have decided to proceed with enforcement). The EJO decide what steps to take and advise accordingly. Please note that this can be a long, slow process and can be quite costly.

Application for Judgment:	THL Costs (+ VAT)	Disbursements	Court Fees
Debt amount £25 to £125 without Acknowledgment of service	£32		£100
Debt amount £25 to £125 with Acknowledgment of service	£35		£100
Debt amount £125 to £600 without Acknowledgment of service	£37		£100
Debt amount £125 to £600 with Acknowledgment of service	£40		£100
Debt amount £600 to £5,000 without Acknowledgement of service	£42		£100
Debt amount £600 to £5,000 with Acknowledgement of service	£45		£100
Debt amount over £5,000 without Acknowledgment of service	£55		£100
Debt amount over £5,000 with Acknowledgment of service	£60		£100
Affidavit fee		£12(+ VAT)	

Application to register the Judgment:	THL Costs (+ VAT)	Disbursements	Court Fees
To make an application	£100		£100
Registration Fee	£39		

Application for Enforcement:	THL Costs (+ VAT)	Disbursements	Court Fees
Form 1		£24	
Enforcement of Judgments Office (EJO) search	£10	£10	
Bankruptcy search	£10	£24	
Form 3	£12		Variable *
Form 6 (debts over £3,000) - Application for questioning			£177

<sup>\*</sup> Fee is calculated based upon the amount of Judgment debt. We will inform you at this stage the value of the Court Fee.

Potential additional charges:	THL Costs (+ VAT)	Disbursements	Court Fees
Conditional order process server fee (per defendant)		From £100	
Debtor's travelling expenses (per defendant)		£15	
Registration of order charging land with land registry in Northern Ireland		Variable *	

<sup>\*</sup> Solicitor agent's fees (+ VAT). We will inform you at this stage.

Matters referred to our litigation department may be charged at £100 to £160 plus VAT per hour.