

Palmerslaw

Recover your book debts

Moving forward **together** >



The late payment of invoices is becoming an increasing problem for all types and sizes of businesses within the UK.

It is a real problem that businesses need to get to grips with and tackle because it can cause cash flow misery. Indeed it will be unsurprising for many to hear that cash flow problems continue to be one of the biggest causes for business failure within the UK.

At Palmers Solicitors we recognise that instructing a solicitor to chase book debts and overdue invoices is something that is often avoided by businesses that do not want to get dragged into a costly legal dispute. Therefore, Palmers Solicitors offers a Debt Recovery Scheme that ensures your business retains cost effective control of its debt recovery process whilst benefiting from the involvement of legal experts.



Debt Recovery Scheme

The Debt Recovery Scheme is designed to take away the valuable time and effort that a business expends in chasing undisputed invoices.

Palmers Solicitors is able to assist in a cost proportionate way at all stages of the debt recovery process. Often all that is needed is for a debtor to receive a letter from a solicitor to demonstrate to them that a business is serious about debt recovery. Palmers Solicitors can therefore escalate the debt recovery process by drafting a formal letter before claim to ensure compliance with the Practice Direction on Pre-Action Conduct and, if required, draft a Claim Form and Particulars of claim to prepare proceedings for issue, **all for a fixed and proportionate sum.**

It is the choice of the business involved whether to progress from option a to b and you retain control of that decision.
(In the event that the invoice is disputed ordinary hourly rate charges will apply and that information will be provided at the relevant time – see the Debt Recovery Scheme for more information.)



Legal proceedings (undisputed debts) price list

There are four stages to legal proceedings:

1. Letter Before Action 2. Issuing Legal Proceedings 3. Judgment 4. Enforcement

We charge a fixed-fee for Sending a Letter Before Action and Issuing Legal Proceedings based on the size of your debt:

Claim size (£)	Court fee (£)	Our charges (£) (plus VAT)
Up to 300	35	450
300-500	50	450
500-1,000	70	450
1,000-1,500	80	450
1,500-3,000	115	450
3,000-5,000	205	450
5,000-10,000	455	550
10,000-200,000	5% of the claim	5% of the claim
200,000+	10,000	5% of the claim

Continued on the following page...

Upon entering Judgment, we charge **£65.00 plus VAT** for debts under £5,000 and **£80.00 plus VAT** on debts over £5,000.00. The cost of enforcement will be agreed with you in advance, should it be necessary.

Whilst this is still covered under our “Pricing – Commercial Debt Recovery”, if the debtor is a sole trader or an individual, the Pre-Action Protocol for Debt Claims will apply which means we are unable to send out a standard Letter Before Action and must give the sole trader or individual 30 days to respond to the Letter of Claim.

If an invoice becomes defended or disputed either (i) after sending a Letter Before Claim or (ii) after Issuing Proceedings, such defended or disputed claims will be charged by Palmers Solicitors on a time spent basis and additional court fees may be payable. We will discuss such costs with you at the relevant time and before proceeding further. A case will become defended and/or disputed when the debtor challenges payment of your invoice(s) for any reason.



Contact us for advice

If you, or anyone else, is interested in our Debt Recovery Scheme, please feel free to contact us and we will be happy to provide you with further information.



Colin Adamson

Solicitor

Commercial Hub, Basildon

☎ 01268 240000

@ Colinadamson@palmerslaw.co.uk



Erin Duffy

Head of Personal Litigation

Commercial Hub, Basildon

☎ 01268 240000

@ ErinDuffy@palmerslaw.co.uk



Jade Norton

Trainee Solicitor

Basildon

☎ 01268 240000

@ JadeNorton@palmerslaw.co.uk



James Pettit

Associate Solicitor

Commercial Hub, Basildon

☎ 01268 240000

@ JamesPettit@palmerslaw.co.uk



Luke Morgan

Supervising Director

Commercial Hub, Basildon

☎ 01268 240000

@ LukeMorgan@palmerslaw.co.uk



Patricia Wollington

Head of Commercial Litigation

Commercial Hub, Basildon

☎ 01268 240000

@ PatriciaWollington@palmerslaw.co.uk

Palmerslaw

Basildon

19 Town Square,
Basildon,
Essex, SS14 1BD

☎ 01268 240000

Rayleigh

105 High Street,
Rayleigh,
Essex, SS6 7QA

☎ 01268 988488

South Woodham Ferrers

Prospect House, 1/3 Brickfields Road,
South Woodham Ferrers,
Chelmsford, Essex, CM3 5XB

☎ 01245 322111

Thurrock

Ascension Chambers,
Fleming Road, Chafford Hundred,
Grays, Essex, RM16 6HH

☎ 01375 484444

Commercial Hub

Suite 1A, Phoenix House,
Christopher Martin Road,
Basildon, Essex, SS14 3EZ

☎ 01268 240000

www.palmerslaw.co.uk enquiries@palmerslaw.co.uk



Palmers Solicitors is the trading name of Palmers Law Limited (company registration England & Wales: 09464224) registered office 19 Town Square, Basildon, Essex SS14 1BD and is authorised & regulated by the Solicitors Regulation Authority, SRA No. 813805

This guide is not intended to be an exhaustive statement of the law and gives general information only. You should not rely on it as legal advice. We do not accept liability to anyone who does rely on its contents. This guide was correct at time of publication (May 2023) and is not a substitute for legal advice.

Lexcel
Legal Practice Quality Mark
Law Society Accredited

