

Scott Bailey LLP

DEBT COLLECTION

When it comes to bad debt, Scott Bailey's key focus is on resolving the matter simply, quickly and cost effectively. We are committed to providing you with clear and transparent costs information from the outset. We have the breadth of experience you need to provide you with the quality of service you are looking for. We would be happy to discuss our fees with you further.

We charge a fixed fee where your claim is in relation to an unpaid invoice which is not disputed and enforcement action is not needed. These fees cover debts of up to £100,000. If the other party disputes your claim at any point, we will discuss any further work required and provide you with revised advice about costs if necessary. Please contact either Nick Jutton (nick@scottbailey.co.uk) or Jason Grimster (jason@scottbailey.co.uk) for a quote and further details.

If your business needs a commercial debt recovery service to help you recover multiple debts, we are happy to work with you to discuss how we can best help your business to improve your credit control and ensure that we have the best chance of recovering the debts that are owed. We are happy to visit your premises if that would be helpful.

We set out below our range of fixed fees for collection of an undisputed debt. These costs apply where your claim is in relation to an unpaid invoice where there is no dispute and enforcement action is not needed. In addition to our fees, there are fees to pay to the Court to start Court proceedings. These are updated from time to time. The current fees to start Court proceedings to recover a debt can be found at: www.gov.uk/court-fees-what-they-are.

What our Fixed Fee includes

- Taking your instructions and reviewing your paperwork
- Undertaking any appropriate searches
- Sending a Letter of Claim
- Receiving payment and remitting this to you or, if the debt is unpaid, drafting and issuing a claim
- In the absence of a Defence or an Acknowledgment of Service, making an application to the Court to enter Judgment in Default
- Following receipt of the Judgment, writing to the debtor to request payment
- If payment is not received within 14 days, advising you on the next steps and likely costs.

If a debt claim is defended, then before proceeding further we will provide you with an estimate of the likely costs to continue with the claim. We cannot give you an accurate estimate in relation to a defended claim until we have details of the Defence. We can then assess with you the complexity of the issues, the strength or weakness of the Defence and the likelihood of success.

As to undefended debt collection claims, we have set out below our fees by reference to the value of the claim (up to £100,000) for each stage of the process.

We have also set out at the end of this guide, details of costs for enforcing a Judgment.

In addition to our fees, there are fees to pay to the Court to start Court proceedings. These are updated from time to time. The current fees to start Court proceedings to recover a debt can be found at: www.gov.uk/court-fees-what-they-are.

There are three stages.

Stage 1

Letter of Claim

We will write to the debtor demanding payment of the monies owed to you. The letter will threaten Court proceedings if payment is not made.

The amount of our fees for writing the initial letter to include obtaining detailed instructions from you depends on the value of the debt owed to you. Details are set out below:

Amount Owed	Our Fee	VAT	Total
Up to £1000	100.00	20.00	120.00
£1,001-£3,000	200.00	40.00	240.00
£3,001-£10,000	250.00	50.00	300.00
£10,001-£100,000	350.00	70.00	420.00

Stage 2

Issuing County Court Proceedings against your Debtor

At this stage we will arrange to start County Court proceedings against the debtor. We will file with the Court a Claim Form and Particulars of the amount owed and the reasons why it is owed. The Court will then arrange service on the debtor.

Debt Owed	Our Fees	Court Fees
Up to £300	100.00 plus VAT	35.00
£301-£500	150.00 plus VAT	50.00
£501-£1000	150.00 plus VAT	70.00
£1001-£1,500	200.00 plus VAT	80.00
£1,501-£3,000	250.00 plus VAT	115.00
£3,001-£5,000	300.00 plus VAT	205.00
£5,001-£10,000	350.00 plus VAT	455.00
£10,001-£100,000	3% of the value of the claim	5% of the value of the claim

Stage 3

If, having been served with the County Court proceedings, the debtor fails to acknowledge service of those proceedings within 14 days or fails to file a Defence within 28 days of service, we will apply for a Judgment in default on your behalf. Our fees for applying for a Judgment will be as follows:

Amount Owed	Our Fee	VAT	Total
Up to £5,000	50.00	10.00	60.00
£5,001-10,000	100.00	20.00	120.00
£10,001-100,000	150.00	30.00	180.00

Enforcing Your Claim

Once we have obtained a Judgment against the debtor, the next stage will seek to enforce that Judgment. There are a number of enforcement methods. We will discuss these with you and decide which of these are most appropriate in your particular case.

The table below sets out our fees and Court fees associated with different enforcement actions.

Enforcement	Our Fee	Court fees/other fees
Application for an Order that the debtor attends Court to be questioned	150.00 plus VAT	Court fee: 55.00 Process server's fees to serve Order: 100-150 plus VAT approximately
Application for Warrant of Control (Bailiff)	120.00 plus VAT	Court fee: 110.00 (in the County Court)
Application for attachment of earnings Order	120.00 plus VAT	Court fee: 110.00
Application for third party debt Order	150.00 plus VAT	Court fee: 110.00 Representation at Court, estimated 500.00 plus VAT
Application for Charging Order on debtor's property	To be charged on a time spent basis. Estimated between 500-1,000 plus VAT to include representation at Court	Court fee: 110.00 HM Land Registry fee: £40

How long will this take

Matters usually take 12 to 16 weeks from receiving your instructions to receiving payment from the debtor depending on whether or not it is necessary to issue a claim. This is on the basis that payment is made promptly upon receipt of the Judgment in Default. If the matter becomes defended or it is necessary to take enforcement action, the matter will take longer to resolve.

