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## **PRACTICE FEE RECOVERY POLICY**

### **How fees are calculated & charged**

The insolvency legislation allows fees to be calculated and charged in a variety of different ways. These bases include time costs, percentage calculation, set fee or a combination of them for different tasks within the same appointment.

The basis or combination of bases set for a particular appointment are subject to approval. Approval is either by a committee of creditors, if one is appointed, or failing that the creditors in general meeting, or lastly by the court.

Further detail about how an office-holder's fees are approved for each case type are available in a series of guides issued with the Statement of Insolvency Practice 9 (SIP 9) and can be accessed at <http://kreocr.co.uk/creditors/>. Alternatively, a hard copy may be requested from KRE Corporate Recovery Limited, Unit 8, The Aquarium, 1-7 King Street, Reading, Berkshire, RG1 2AN.

Once the basis of the office-holder's remuneration has been approved, a periodic report will be provided to any committee and to each creditor. The report will provide a breakdown of all remuneration drawn together with the time costs incurred. The analysis of the time and value also shows the average rates charged for each category covered.

Each report also discloses how you as a creditor can seek further information and challenge the basis on which the fees are calculated as well as the level of fees drawn in the period of each report. Once the time to challenge the office-holder's remuneration for the period reported on has elapsed, then that remuneration cannot subsequently be challenged.

### **Time-cost basis & rates used**

This basis uses charge out rates appropriate to the skills and experience of a member of staff and the work that they perform on each case. The time is recorded in 6-minute units and combined with the amount of time spent on each activity. A supporting narrative is maintained to explain the work undertaken.

<b>Grade of staff</b>	<b>Current charge-out rate per hour, effective from 1 April 2021 (£)</b>	<b>Charge-out rate per hour, effective from 1 October 2020 (£)</b>
Director (officeholder)	475	450
Associate Director	400	-
Senior Manager	375	350
Manager	350	310
Other administration	300	270
Support Staff	150	100

The charge-out rates listed above are reviewed annually and are adjusted to take account of inflation and the firm's overheads.

Time spent on casework is recorded directly to the relevant case using a computerised time recording system. The nature of the work undertaken is recorded against each activity code and the codes are maintained under the following main categories:

- Administration & Planning
- Investigations
- Realisation of Assets
- Creditors
- Trading

### **Percentage-basis**

Fees can be charged on a percentage of either or both of the value of the property with which the office-holder has to deal and / or in relation to the level of funds being distributed. Different percentages can be used for different assets, types of assets or distributions made to different classes of creditors. Where we would like to realise any asset or type of assets on a percentage basis an explanation will be provided explaining why this basis is considered fair and reasonable in the circumstances of that case. .

### **Set fee**

A set fee provides certainty in relation to the amount being charged as an agreed amount. Different set amounts can be used for different tasks. Where we would like to realise any asset or type of assets on a set fee basis an explanation will be provided explaining why this basis is considered fair and reasonable in the circumstances of that case.

### **VAT**

The office-holder's remuneration invoiced to the insolvent estate will be subject to VAT at the prevailing rate.

## Professional Advisers

Details of any professional advisers used will be given in the reports to creditors together with the basis of the fee charged. The choice of professional used is based on their expertise, qualification and location.

Professional Advisers include:-

- Solicitors/Legal Advisors
- Auctioneers/Valuers
- Accountants
- Quantity Surveyors
- Estate Agents
- Other Specialist Advisors

## Subcontractors

Where we subcontract out work that could otherwise be carried out by the office-holders or their staff then we will draw it to the attention of creditors in any report that incorporates a request for approval of the basis of which the remuneration may be charged.

## Associates (including perceived connections)

Where there are payments made to associates we are required to obtain approval to those payments in the same manner as office-holders remuneration.

The term “associate” is defined in s435 Insolvency Act 1986 however the SIP9 definition includes any person who could be perceived as such by any reasonably informed third party, even if the legal definition is not met. In the spirit of openness, the following provider is sometimes used on our cases and could potentially be perceived as an associate using the wider definition due to extended family connections.

Service provider	Description	Costs
Cripps Transport Ltd	Collection and removal to storage of company books and records	Charges relevant to the location and quantity of the records

## Expenses

In accordance with Statement of Insolvency Practice 9 (SIP9) the basis of expense allocation in respect of expenses incurred by the Office-holder in connection with the administration of the estate must be fully disclosed to creditors. Expenses are categorised as either Category 1 or Category 2.

Category 1 expenses are directly referable to an invoice from a third party, which is either in the name of the estate or KRE Corporate Recovery Limited in the case of the latter, the invoice makes reference to, and therefore can be directly attributed to, the estate. These disbursements are recoverable in full from the estate without the prior approval of creditors either by a direct payment from the estate or, where the firm has made payment on behalf of the estate, by a recharge of the amount invoiced by the third party. Examples of category 1 expenses are statutory advertising, external meeting room hire, specific bond insurance and external printing costs.

Category 2 expenses are payments related to the case but not paid to independent third parties and include payments made to associates or payments with an element of shared costs. These expenses are recoverable in full from the estate, subject to the basis of the expense charge being approved by creditors in advance.

It is likely that the following category 2 expenses will be incurred in administering the case: -

- Mileage will be charged at the relevant HM Revenue and Customs rate, currently 45p per mile.

Should it be intended that an associate will be used on the case then this will be disclosed to creditors and subject to the same approval as Office-holders remuneration.