

Dispute resolution

We resolve commercial disputes on the best terms available — by settlement where that wins, by court where it must. You get the strategy, and how we will charge, up front — not three letters in.



Litigation is a tool, not a default.

We handle business disputes — breach of contract, unpaid debts, shareholder and partnership fall-outs, professional negligence and defamation — for claimants and defendants across England and Wales, and we tell you early whether a case is worth fighting, settling or walking away from.

Many disputes settle; the question is on what terms, and how much it costs to get there. We read the whole file first — contracts, correspondence, accounts — so the conversation starts at strategy rather than at the facts.

We use the Pre-Action Protocols and mediation to settle before issue where we can, and run cases hard through the courts when the other side leaves no choice — in the County Court, the High Court (including the Business and Property Courts) and in arbitration. Either way, you will know the plan.

Who we act for

Claimants and defendants across England and Wales

Businesses, shareholders and partners

Executors and beneficiaries

Individuals, charities and businesses with human rights and public law matters

Pilots, operators, owners, lessors and financiers

What to expect

01

Experienced litigators with a focus on commercial and business disputes

02

Hourly rates and debt-recovery percentages published

03

Commercial firm first: we understand the business behind the dispute

Matters we handle

Breach of contract

Pursuing or defending claims where a supplier, customer or partner has failed to perform. We quantify the loss, test the causation, and pick the forum that gets the result.

Debt recovery

Recovering unpaid invoices and sums due, from a single letter before action to judgment and enforcement — fast, proportionate, and structured to protect a commercial relationship worth keeping.

Shareholder & partnership disputes

Deadlock, unfair prejudice, exit and valuation fights between owners. We act to remove, buy out or protect a shareholder or partner — and to keep the business trading while it happens.

Professional negligence

Claims against accountants, solicitors, surveyors, architects and other advisers whose errors cost you money. We assess duty, breach and loss before you commit to a claim.

Defamation & reputation

Responding to false and damaging statements about your business or you, under the Defamation Act 2013 — weighing the serious-harm threshold and the realistic remedies before you spend on a fight.

Mediation & ADR

Negotiated and mediated settlements that close a dispute faster and cheaper than trial. The courts expect parties to try; we make the attempt count rather than tick a box.

Injunctions & urgent relief

Emergency applications to freeze assets, restrain a breach or protect confidential information — we advise on the prospects of success, and act where immediate action is needed.

Enforcement of judgments

Turning a judgment or settlement into actual money — charging orders, attachment of earnings, High Court enforcement and insolvency pressure where appropriate.

The wider practice

Civil & commercial litigation

Contract disputes, shareholder fallouts, professional negligence and everything else that ends up contested.

Debt recovery

An unpaid invoice is a claim waiting to be made — recovered by letter where possible, and taken the rest of the way when it isn't.

IP infringement

A copied brand, a lifted design, a scraped catalogue — stopped quickly and proportionately; and a defence for businesses wrongly accused.

Defamation

False statements in print, on review sites or across social media — stopped, corrected and compensated.

Human rights & freedoms

The protection of human rights and freedoms is fundamental to our ethos — with a dedicated operation focused on the Equality Act and freedom of religion and belief.

Claims against the police

False arrest, wrongful imprisonment, excessive force and misuse of police powers.

Contesting a will

Validity challenges and Inheritance Act claims, and the defence of a will that is being challenged.

Executor & administrator disputes

For beneficiaries who need an estate moved along, and for executors who need protecting while they do a difficult job.

Visa appeals

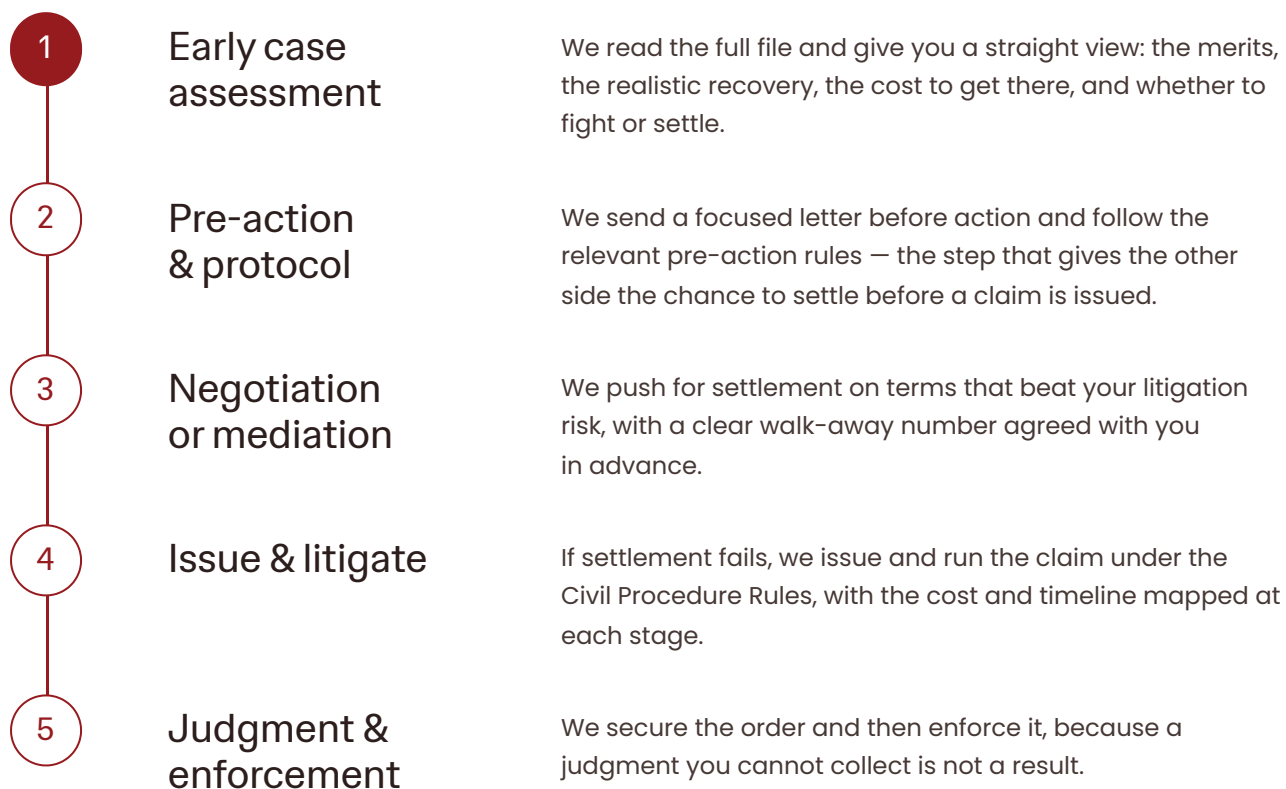
Refusals and deportation orders, with representation before the Immigration Tribunal.

Aviation law

CAA investigations, aviation disputes and aircraft finance, with qualified pilots on the team.

Each service has its own page, with the questions clients ask most, at ai-law.co.uk/disputes.

A clear path, start to finish.



Good to know

Six years

to bring most contract and negligence claims (Limitation Act 1980); twelve for a deed, and one year for defamation.

Letter first

the Pre-Action Protocols expect a letter before action before proceedings, and the court can penalise you on costs if you skip it.

Mediation counts

a party who unreasonably refuses to engage can be penalised on costs even if it wins — and the courts can now order parties to engage in ADR.

Costs recovery

the loser usually pays a large part of the winner's costs, but recovery is rarely complete; we factor that into the decision to fight.

No surprises on the invoice.

Unless we agree otherwise, we charge at our hourly rates and give you an estimate before we start; business debts of £25,000 or more can instead be recovered for a percentage of the debt. If you win, the court will usually order the other side to pay a substantial part of your costs, but recovery is rarely complete; we set that out before you commit.

Hourly rates

£145 to £350

plus VAT

Depending on the nature of the case and seniority of the person acting. We give you an estimate before we start.

Significant business debts

5% – 8%

of the debt, before court

For business debts of £25,000 and above, a tiered percentage of the debt, plus VAT (10% – 15% if court proceedings are needed). Initial advice on prospects is free; fees paid up front are quoted to you, capped at the percentage and credited back on recovery. If there is no recovery or you stop, the greater of £400 plus VAT and what you have paid up front.

All figures are exclusive of VAT (charged at 20%) and disbursements such as court issue fees, barristers' fees and expert reports.

Hourly rates range from £145 to £350 plus VAT, depending on the nature of the case and seniority of the person acting.

Our published fees, with the stages, timescales and disbursements for each, are at ai-law.co.uk/pricing. We always agree your fee with you in writing first.

Relationships that last.

“ Having previously used multiple solicitors across various matters, once we approached Ai Law we quickly established that they were experts in most areas of law. We subsequently gave the firm all of our business exclusively, and we haven't looked back.

Ai Law client

Ai Law are a professional service provider that really knows what they are doing. They are an asset to our business.

Ai Law client

These guys are constantly delivering their services. Donna is always on the top of all things and her team is very efficient. I have used their services before and again, they have not disappointed. I am certain I will use these guys again.

Lukasz, ReviewSolicitors, January 2026

Recognition



Legal Team of the Year 2025 (joint winner)

Sunday Express Construction and Property Awards — in Property and Construction

Royal Television Society Awards North West

Sponsor, 2024 and 2025

Rated 4.9 out of 5 from 111 reviews on ReviewSolicitors

reviewsolicitors.co.uk, October 2026

Talk to us

Tell us what you need today. We respond quickly to enquiries and quote requests.

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Ask **Ai Guy**[®], any time. Describe your situation in plain English. Ai Guy, our AI assistant, gives general information about the law of England and Wales and points you to the right solicitor. ai-law.co.uk/ask