

# Late Payment of Commercial Debts (Interest) Act 1998

**1998 CHAPTER 20** 

### PART I

#### STATUTORY INTEREST ON QUALIFYING DEBTS

## [<sup>F1</sup>5A Compensation arising out of late payment

- (1) Once statutory interest begins to run in relation to a qualifying debt, the supplier shall be entitled to a fixed sum (in addition to the statutory interest on the debt).
- (2) That sum shall be-
  - (a) for a debt less than  $\pounds 1000$ , the sum of  $\pounds 40$ ;
  - (b) for a debt of £1000 or more, but less than £10,000, the sum of £70;
  - (c) for a debt of  $\pounds 10,000$  or more, the sum of  $\pounds 100$ .
- [ If the reasonable costs of the supplier in recovering the debt are not met by the fixed
- <sup>F2</sup>(2A) sum, the supplier shall also be entitled to a sum equivalent to the difference between the fixed sum and those costs.]
  - (3) The obligation to pay [<sup>F3</sup>a sum] under this section in respect of a qualifying debt shall be treated as part of the term implied by section 1(1) in the contract creating the debt.]
- [<sup>F4</sup>(4) Section 3(2)(b) of the Unfair Contract Terms Act 1977 (no reliance to be placed on certain contract terms) shall apply in cases where a contract term is not contained in written standard terms of the purchaser as well as in cases where the term is contained in such standard terms.
  - (5) In this section "contract term" means a term of the contract relating to a sum due to the supplier under this section.]
- [<sup>F5</sup>(4) Section 17(1)(b) of the Unfair Contract Terms Act 1977 (no reliance to be placed on certain contract terms) shall apply in cases where a contract term is not contained in

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written standard terms of the purchaser as well as in cases where the term is contained in such standard terms.

(5) In this section "contract term" means a term of the contract relating to a sum due to the supplier under this section.]

#### **Textual Amendments**

- F1 S. 5A inserted (7.8.2002) by S.S.I. 2002/335, reg. 2(5) (with reg. 4)
  S. 5A inserted (7.8.2002) by S.I. 2002/1674, reg. 2(5)
- F2 S. 5A(2A) inserted (16.3.2013 for E.W. N.I. and 29.3.2013 for S.) by The Late Payment of Commercial Debts Regulations 2013 (S.I. 2013/395), regs. 1(1), 3(2) (with reg. 1(3)); The Late Payment of Commercial Debts (Scotland) Regulations 2013 (S.S.I. 2013/77), regs. 1(1), 3(2) (with reg. 1(3))
- F3 Words in s. 5A(3) substituted (16.3.2013 for E.W. N.I. and 29.3.2013 for S.) by The Late Payment of Commercial Debts Regulations 2013 (S.I. 2013/395), regs. 1(1), 3(3) (with reg. 1(3)); The Late Payment of Commercial Debts (Scotland) Regulations 2013 (S.S.I. 2013/77), regs. 1(1), 3(3) (with reg. 1(3))
- F4 S. 5A(4)(5) inserted (E.W. N.I.) (16.3.2013) by The Late Payment of Commercial Debts Regulations 2013 (S.I. 2013/395), regs. 1(1), **3(4)** (with reg. 1(3))
- F5 S. 5A(4)(5) inserted (S.) (29.3.2013) by The Late Payment of Commercial Debts (Scotland) Regulations 2013 (S.S.I. 2013/77), regs. 1(1), 3(4) (with reg. 1(3))

# Changes to legislation:

There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Late Payment of Commercial Debts (Interest) Act 1998, Section 5A.