

DRUCES LLP – INTEREST POLICY

In the course of the provision of legal services Druces LLP (**the Firm**) often holds or receives money on behalf of our clients (**client money**).

This policy explains how we deal with interest on client money held by the Firm.

In accordance with the SRA Accounts Rules it is the Firm's policy to account to its clients for a fair sum of interest on client money.

Client money received by the Firm is paid into a client account in which amounts held for different matters and clients are pooled (**general client account**). The Firm's general client accounts are held with Barclays Bank PLC and client money held in them is available on demand.

We shall pay a sum in lieu of interest on amounts of client money held in our general client account. Usually interest is paid gross, without the deduction of income tax, and it remains the responsibility of clients to declare and pay any appropriate liabilities.

We shall calculate the amount payable in lieu of interest by applying the interest rate which would be applicable to the amount of client money held on a matter if that amount were held in Barclays Bank PLC's "Client Premium Account" over the period for which we hold the amount in cleared funds.

We will normally calculate and pay any amount due once the matter has been concluded. However, in long running matters it may be more appropriate to account for interest at intervals throughout the matter.

Where we are conducting more than one matter for the same client, matter client money balances will not be aggregated for the purposes of the calculation.

We will not pay a sum in lieu of interest on a matter:

- if the amount otherwise payable is £50 or less;
- where money is held for the payment of a professional disbursement if the person to whom the money is owed has requested a delay in settlement;
- on which an advance has been made from the Firm to fund a payment on behalf of a client in excess of funds already held for that client;
- where an alternative arrangement has been agreed with the client in writing to hold client money outside of a general client account.

The Firm's Finance department will calculate any amount due under this policy as instructed by the matter partner.

This policy is reviewed from time to time by the Firm's Compliance Officer for Finance and Administration and the partners of the Firm.

Reviewed: 1st November, 2023