



SIGNPOST

Dispute evaluation and
strategy recommendation

SHOOSMITHS

03700 86 41 88 | www.shoosmiths.co.uk

INTRODUCTION

Signpost is a fixed price evaluation of your commercial dispute, providing a clear direction on how to proceed. Commercial disputes are an inevitable but unwanted fact of business life. They can be time consuming, costly and an unwelcome distraction from core business.

Our Signpost solution aims to provide a quick and clear view on the merits of any dispute and a firm recommendation on what your next steps should be, with the added certainty of fixed pricing.

● **BENEFITS OF USING SIGNPOST**

● **HOW SIGNPOST WORKS**

● **SIGNPOST PRICES**

Want to know more?

If you would like to know any more about Signpost, please feel free to contact a member of the Signpost team on [03700 86 41 88](tel:03700864188) or email signpost@shoosmiths.co.uk

BENEFITS OF USING SIGNPOST



CLEAR DIRECTION

Our lawyers are straight-talking and will provide a clear steer. They do not sit on the fence, meaning the business can take an informed decision quickly.



FIXED COST

Your dispute can be reviewed and evaluated for as little as £1,000 plus VAT.



EXPERTISE

Signpost advice is always reviewed by a Disputes Partner so you can trust you are in safe hands.



FAST

Guaranteed 3 working day turnaround from provision of core documents.



TAILORED TO YOUR BUSINESS

All Signpost reports are written in plain English so that they can be provided directly to the business without the need to 'translate' advice.

HOW SIGNPOST WORKS

SIGNPOST PROCESS

Signpost follows the same simple process each time so you can be sure of a consistent approach to help manage your business timelines.

- **Instruction**

You complete a simple Signpost instruction sheet (containing basic dispute information) and submit this to signpost@shoosmiths.co.uk

- **Acknowledgement**

We conduct conflict searches and confirm clearance to you by email together with a list of 'core documents' we would need to review.

- **Provision of core documents**

Once you have provided the core documents requested, we will confirm which fixed cost applies and turnaround time.

- **Dispute evaluation**

We will review the documentation supplied and provide a Signpost report setting out our view on the merits and recommendation for proceeding within 3 working days.

- **Dispute Resolution (optional)**

Depending upon our evaluation/recommendation you may require further assistance. Again, depending on the case, other funding models and fixed prices are available for any negotiation, mediation, arbitration, litigation or any other form of Alternative Dispute Resolution process (whether on or off the record), including a 5% discount on our fees for your claim when you have used our Signpost service at the outset. Should your claim proceed to trial, we will also discount your final invoice by the amount of the Signpost fee paid.

SIGNPOST FEATURES

ALL SIGNPOST REPORTS:

- Analyse key areas of risk specific to your dispute.
- Provide a clear view on the merits of your position.
- Recommend what your next steps should be.
- Can be tailored to your specific business needs to incorporate any nuances within your business/ commercial imperatives*.
- Include an executive summary at the start so that your Board can immediately assess the position.
- Are written in plain English so they can be provided directly to the business.

* additional costs may apply.

TYPES OF DISPUTES COVERED

Signpost covers any commercial dispute including sale of goods or services, IT disputes, restrictive covenants, professional negligence, breach of contract, fraud claims, judicial review, shareholder disputes and warranty claims.

SIGNPOST PRICES

	Straightforward* (fixed fee excl VAT)	Complex/Business Critical** (fixed fee excl VAT)
Level 1	£1,000	£3,500
Level 2	£3,000	£4,750
Level 3	£5,000	£7,500***

Level 1 = Core documents are contained in 1 ring binder

Level 2 = Core documents are contained in 1 lever arch file

Level 3 = Core documents are contained in 3 or fewer lever arch files

(if core documents exceed 3 lever arch files, tailored quotes will be provided)

*Straightforward claims would include, for example, unpaid invoice claims or disputes over quality of goods or services where formal terms and conditions are minimal/no contract exists.

**Complex/business critical claims would include, for example, breach of contract claims involving lengthy contracts, a technical IT dispute or a claim which may not be complex in itself but its impact on the business is significant.

***If specific specialist input is required, additional fees may apply.

OTHER SERVICES

Expedited turnaround

Our standard turnaround time for completing a Signpost Dispute Evaluation is 3 working days. Signpost offers an expedited service guaranteeing a 1.5 working day turnaround for an additional 50% of the applicable Signpost fee (Level 1-3 only).

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