

Commercial Dispute Resolution



Resolve issues quickly and gain strategies to avoid future disputes



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I was appointed Joint Administrator of Toys “R” Us Limited in February this year. I instructed PDT to help me recover large, disputed balances owed by trade vendors based in the UK, USA and Asia. The claims and underlying vendor agreements were contractually complex, with international dimensions, and were often heavily disputed by well-resourced toy manufacturers. Will, Justin and their recoveries team were commercial, responsive and successfully negotiated substantial recoveries from vendors – to date - in excess of six-figures for the benefit of creditors.

Simon Thomas, Director, Moofields Advisory Limited

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// Welcome

I wanted to take the time to talk a bit about PDT and our way of doing things which we think makes us different from other law firms.

We work hard at getting things right, not just with the services we provide our clients but also with our staff who deliver these. We want PDT to be a positive experience whether you are a client, potential client, another professional interacting with the firm or those working for us.

We are committed to the development of an excellence in service delivery, the growth of genuine sector expertise and the creation of a working environment that supports, encourages and inspires.

We are a firm built on two core principles: to deliver clear, strong commercial advice and to nurture genuine and supportive relationships with our clients and staff.

We work hard. We take time to listen. We become your soundboard. We are ready for all of the opportunities and challenges you face.

We hope you take time to read our brochure. Talk to us. Give us an opportunity to demonstrate what we can do.



James Clewlow
Managing Partner



We listen. We care. We support.

Our aim is to look after you and provide confident, conscientious advice.



We have a strong eye for business

We look to advise not just on legal aspects but the commercial factors that impact your business.



We act swiftly, without fuss

We provide speedy, practical, no fuss services within a sensible structured fee proposal.



We select our lawyers carefully

We work hard at developing and supporting all our lawyers to help them develop confidence in the services they provide.



We are experienced and considered

We consistently work on high quality, complex work and deliver measured, clear and relevant solutions.



We are there when you need us

We work with you to get the transaction done and to support you in your business objectives.

Commercial Dispute Resolution

Resolve issues quickly and gain strategies to avoid future disputes

Disputes are an inevitable part of business life, but they're distracting, unproductive, expensive and a drain on time and energy. We provide clear, considered advice that focuses on the resolution not the dispute.

We have considerable experience dealing with a wide range of corporate and commercial disputes, including:

Commercial contract disputes: Disputes arising out of commercial contractual relationships in the course of business. We have experience of advising on a wide range of contractual situations between our clients and those they do business with, such as customers, suppliers, distributors, agents, franchisees and licensees.

Corporate transaction disputes: Disputes arising out of corporate transactions such as company sales, financing, joint venture agreements and shareholder agreements.

Land and property disputes: We work with landlords, commercial tenants, leaseholders, property developers, housing associations, property managers and agents and building contractors on all issues and challenges arising from the use or occupation of property.

Professional negligence: Disputes against professionals who have failed to meet the standards expected of them in the services that have provided.

Director and shareholder disputes: Disputes arising from the internal governance of companies and ownership issues, such as claims against directors, disputes shareholders may have between themselves and the company, and disputes between partners.

Banking and financial services disputes: Disputes relating to banking, such as loan agreements, guarantees, consumer credit and other forms of financing, and other financial services such as insurance.

Debt recovery: Working alongside our debt recovery team, our commercial disputes team can assist you in collecting debt when the debt is disputed.

We can advise on the full spectrum of dispute resolution techniques, from negotiation to litigation, including alternative dispute resolution (ADR) methods such as mediation and arbitration.

“ Will Angas and his team have acted for me on several occasions when we have successfully recovered payments from directors or third parties which related to unlawful actions permitted by the directors prior to my appointment. Will's energy and commitment to these cases was exceptional and has resulted in significant recoveries to the benefit of the insolvent companies' creditors. In many of these cases, Will's sharp, commercial approach and strong, technical ability has resulted in settlement without the need to commence formal legal proceedings therefore reducing the risk and potential expense to the insolvent estate. I look forward to working with Will and his team on future matters

David Clements, Director, Harrisons Business Recovery and Insolvency Limited ”

“ We're delighted with the service we get from PDT. We're particularly impressed with the range of expertise available, their commitment to finding the best solutions for us and their ability to provide clear practical advice on the options available. Their commercial and dispute resolution teams provide an outstanding service ”

Ray Goodfellow, Chief Legal Officer, RSPCA

Key Contacts

The Legal 500, 2020 ranked PDT as a Leading Firm for Dispute Resolution and Debt Recovery

“They stand out because of their willingness to go the extra mile. Our reputation is linked to their ability to push through litigation in a timely fashion.”

“The Dispute Resolution team at PDT are very strong and commercially minded and have a knack for understanding what judges are looking for in terms of persuasive litigation.”

“They are big enough to offer bandwidth in expertise, small enough to maintain personal relationships.”



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“ Will and his team were quick to spot the merits in the claim, commercial as to its funding and progression and were tenacious and relentless in their pursuit of the retailer for payment.
David Oprey, Partner, CVR Global ”

Recent Work

Contract Disputes

- We acted for the Liquidators of a national beverage producer in a claim issued in the High Court against a supplier. The claim sought damages of c.£1m arising from a breach of contract by the supplier. Following the supplier making a six-figure counterclaim, the claim was settled very favourably with a six-figure payment made to our client.
- We acted for a supplier of beverage products to a chain of national supermarkets in commencing proceedings for breach of contract against a firm of engineers, who it engaged to design and install an automated packaging and palletising line. Our client claimed damages of £1.1m arising from the losses it suffered as a result of the engineering firm's breaches of the contract. We assisted our client agree a six-figure settlement following a mediation, avoiding the expense of continued litigation.
- We acted for a supplier of spa baths who was a defendant in proceedings issued by a multinational wholesaler, with a claim value of £250k for damages arising from an alleged breach of contract. We successfully negotiated settlement terms following the service of our client's Defence.

Commercial Disputes

- We act for a client with its claim issued in the High Court seeking damages of c.£5m from the sellers of a business for breaching their warranties in a Share Purchase Agreement. The sellers have counterclaimed for payment of the deferred consideration.
- We acted for a client in a dispute concerning whether an individual acted as its commercial agent within certain European jurisdictions, and whether he was therefore entitled to payments and/or compensation under The Commercial Agents (Council Directive) 1993. We assisted our client in achieving a successful settlement which created certainty and finality in its relationship with the individual.
- We assisted our client in successfully obtaining a substantial six-figure judgment against an Independent Financial Adviser who breached the terms of our client's Agency Agreement. The matter was of importance to our client as it wished to demonstrate to advisers within its network that breaches of its agency agreement were treated very seriously.

Corporate Litigation

- We advised an AIM listed client on its eventual sale to Merzell Holdings AS for a cash consideration of over £15m. This required a collaborative cross-team approach in which our Commercial Dispute Resolution team advised on the corporate litigation aspects of the deal, including issuing an application at the High Court to obtain the court's sanction of the arrangement.

Shareholder Disputes

- We acted for a minority shareholder in an innovative, interactive packaging and advertising business, by issuing an unfair prejudice petition in the High Court. The petition identified how the majority shareholder was acting in an unfairly prejudicial manner towards our client. It was the springboard to achieving a highly favourable six-figure payment to our client for the purchase of his shares.
- We act for a minority shareholder in a cosmetic treatment business, in unfair prejudice proceedings in the High Court. This case is unusual in that our client is seeking an atypical order to purchase the majority's shares.
- We act for a majority shareholder, in unfair prejudice proceedings, who denies allegations that the company's affairs were unfairly prejudicial where the dispute hinges on whether the shares should be acquired with or without a minority discount and the date at which the shares should be valued.

Professional Negligence

- We assisted a client in commencing a claim against an accountant for damages in relation to double taxation suffered by the client as a result of negligent capital gains tax advice, achieving a very favourable settlement shortly after proceedings were issued.

Finance Litigation

- We acted for an invoice financier in proceedings issued in the High Court against three guarantors (claim value £250k). We successfully obtained summary judgment against the defendants and then applied for a possession order pursuant to CPR Part 55 in relation to an investment property. We successfully obtained a possession order which prompted the defendant to pay in full of the sums owed to the client including interest and all legal costs.

Debt Recovery

- We assisted the Administrators of Toys 'R' Us Limited by making substantial, six-figure recoveries from trade vendors in international jurisdictions and we are regularly instructed by financiers and insolvency practitioners to collect entire sales ledgers or discrete debts on a sales ledger.

Corporate Law & Deals Investment Shares Mergers & Acquisitions Buy-ins
Buy-outs International Business Corporate Restructuring Corporate
Finance Debt Refinancing Strategic Advisory Work Commercial Services
Terms of Business Commercial Documentation Commercial Agreements
Research & Development Agreements Data Protection & GDPR Intellectual
Property Commercial Real Estate Acquisitions & Disposals Development &
Regeneration Planning & Construction Property Investment Secured Finance
Insolvency & Corporate Restructuring Insolvency Investigations Administration & Receiverships
Individual Insolvency & IVA S Liquidation & CVAS Directors
Disqualification Debt Collection Corporate & Commercial Disputes Contract
Disputes Partnership Disputes Property & Land Disputes Employment Law
Monthly Support & Advice Packages Management and Health & Safety
Training Employment Dispute Resolution Documentation Contracts Settlements
Corporate Law & Deals Investment Shares Mergers & Acquisitions Buy-ins



Contact us to discuss how we can help your business.

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Authorised and regulated by the Solicitors Regulation Authority

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PDT are a knowledgeable, approachable and efficient firm who offer easy access to their senior legal team. They are excellent at providing clear, practical and useful advice on complex matters and situations.

The Legal 500

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PDT Solicitors hold a [Leading Firm Ranking 2020](#) for Commercial Real Estate, Corporate and Commercial, Healthcare, Commercial Dispute Resolution, Insolvency & Corporate Recovery, Debt Recovery and Banking and Finance

