

Corporate Due Diligence Checklist

Before signing with a new supplier, partner, or investor, thorough due diligence protects your business from hidden financial, legal, and reputational risks. This checklist provides practical steps to reduce exposure and make informed decisions.

1. Company Registration & Trading History

- ☐ Confirm the company is registered with **Companies House**.
- ☐ Review its incorporation date, trading history, and previous names.
- ☐ Check whether the company is active, dissolved, or has changed names frequently (a red flag for risk).

2. Directors & Key Personnel

- ☐ Research directors' backgrounds for past bankruptcies, disqualifications, or failed businesses.
- ☐ Verify professional qualifications and relevant industry experience.
- ☐ Look for undisclosed conflicts of interest (e.g., links to competitors).

3. Financial Stability

- ☐ Review filed accounts for profitability, liquidity, and outstanding debts.
- ☐ Check for late filings or repeated use of micro-entity exemptions (may hide financial weakness).
- ☐ Assess whether the business is overly reliant on credit.

4. Insolvency & Bankruptcy History

- ☐ Search for past company liquidations or bankruptcies linked to directors.
- ☐ Investigate whether insolvency proceedings are pending.
- ☐ Confirm no county court judgments (CCJs) or unpaid creditors exist.

5. Legal & Litigation Risks

- ☐ Check for current or historic court cases involving the company or directors.
- ☐ Review employment tribunal records for repeated claims (a culture red flag).
- ☐ Ensure there are no pending regulatory investigations.

6. Reputation & Media Coverage

- ☐ Review local and trade press for negative publicity.
- ☐ Scan online reviews and social media for customer complaints or scandals.
- ☐ Use monitoring tools to track ongoing reputation issues.

7. Regulatory Compliance

- ☐ Confirm compliance with relevant UK/EU regulations (FCA, ICO, Health & Safety, etc.).
- ☐ Check for fines or sanctions imposed by regulatory bodies.
- ☐ Review GDPR compliance and data-protection policies.

8. Client & Contract Dependencies

- ☐ Assess whether revenue is concentrated with one or two major clients.
- ☐ Review the stability of key contracts and supply chain reliability.
- ☐ Check if termination of a single contract would pose a major risk.

9. International Trade Links

- ☐ Investigate overseas connections, subsidiaries, or trading partners.
- ☐ Confirm no sanctions, embargoes, or restricted trade links apply.
- ☐ Review compliance with international regulations and tax laws.

10. Insurance & Liability Coverage

- ☐ Verify professional indemnity, product liability, and public liability coverage.
- ☐ Check policy exclusions, limits, and whether cover is appropriate for their operations.
- ☐ Confirm insurance is valid and up to date.

Why This Matters

A single missed check can expose your business to fraud, financial loss, or reputational harm. By using this checklist — and engaging professional investigators where deeper verification is needed — you protect your organisation from unnecessary risk.



Keep copies of all due diligence checks on file. This not only reduces risk but also demonstrates good governance should your business face legal or financial scrutiny.

Contact Panthera Investigations

At Panthera Investigations, we specialise in delivering discreet, professional, and reliable services across the South Coast and nationwide. Whether you need support with corporate due diligence, tracing beneficiaries, or personal matters, our evidence is clear, lawful, and court-ready when required.



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