# Your Policy Document

Home Insurance

Please read this booklet carefully to ensure that the cover provided by this policy meets your needs and expectations.



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# Policy Document PNL/PS/015





This Policy Document is also available in Braille and Large Print

# About your policy - Understanding and using your policy

This section 'About your policy ' does not form part of the legal contract between you and us. It includes information which will help you to understand and use your policy.

Insurance policies can be difficult to understand so we have tried to make this **policy** easy to read. Some words have a special meaning in **your policy** and these are listed and explained on pages 4 to 7 '**Policy** Definitions'. Whenever a word with a special meaning is used it will be printed in bold type.

Your policy is made up of the policy wording and the policy documentation including your certificate, insurer schedule, statement of fact and statement of price.

The policy wording explains what is and what is not covered, how we settle claims and other important information.

The certificate shows the cover selected. Please keep your certificate with the policy wording. The insurer schedule shows details of your insurer, the statement of fact sets out the information you have told us and the statement of price explains your premium.

The Administrator will send you new Policy Documentation including your certificate, insurer schedule, Statement of Fact and Statement of Price, whenever you or we make a change to the insurance and each year before the renewal date, so you can check that the cover still meets your needs.

Once you have received your policy you will have 30 days to make sure the cover is exactly what you need. If it isn't, you can send back your documents and ask the Administrator to make any necessary changes. Alternatively, you can request cancellation of the policy and you will receive a full refund of premium, less any administration or cancellation charges, as long as no claim has been made.

Remember to keep your sums insured up to date.

If you have selected buildings insurance, you should make sure your sum insured remains adequate to rebuild your home if you extend or make improvements to your home, such as installing double-glazing, adding a fitted kitchen or conservatory.

If you have selected contents and personal possessions insurance, your cover is for replacement as new. Remember to make sure your sums insured remains adequate to replace your contents if you buy new items. Items such as jewellery, articles of precious metal, clocks, watches, paintings, works of art, antiques and stamp, medal and coin collections often change in value. You should make certain that these items are insured for the correct amount at all times.

If you have any questions please contact the Administrator.

# About your policy - Guidance when making a claim

# Claim notification

Conditions that apply to the **policy** in the event of a claim are set out in this **policy** wording. It is important that **you** comply with all **policy** conditions and **you** should familiarise yourself with any requirements.

Directions for claim notification are included under claims conditions. Please be aware that events that may give rise to a claim under the insurance must be notified as soon as is reasonably possible although there are some situations where immediate notice is required. Further guidance is contained in this **policy** booklet.

Claims conditions require you to provide us with any reasonable assistance and evidence that we require concerning the cause and value of any claim. Ideally, as part of the initial notification, you will provide:

- Your name, address, and your home and mobile telephone numbers;
- Personal details necessary to confirm your identity;
- Policy number;
- The date of the incident;
- The cause of the loss or damage;
- Details of the loss or damage together with claim value if known;
- Police details where applicable;
- Names and addresses of any other parties involved or responsible for the incident (including details of injuries); and addresses of any witnesses.

This information will enable us to make an initial evaluation on policy liability and claim value. We may, however, request additional information depending upon circumstances and value which may include the following:

- Original purchase receipts, invoices, instruction booklets or photographs;
- Purchase dates and location of lost or damaged property;
- For damaged property, confirmation from a suitably qualified expert that the item you are claiming for is beyond
  repair.

Sometimes we or someone acting on our behalf may wish to meet with you to discuss the circumstances of the claim, to inspect the damage, or to undertake further investigations.

# Preferred suppliers

We take pride in the claims service we offer to our customers. Our philosophy is to repair or replace lost or damaged property where we consider it appropriate and we have developed a network of contractors, repairers and product suppliers dedicated to providing claim solutions.

Where we can, we offer repair or replacement through a preferred supplier but, on request, we agree to pay you a cash settlement, then payment will normally not exceed the amount we would have paid our preferred supplier.

## The insurance contract

This **policy** is a legal contract between **you** and **us**. The **policy** wording and **policy** documentation including **certificate**, **insurer schedule**, statement of fact and **statement of price**, make one document and must be read together. Please keep them together.

The contract is based on the information you gave us when you applied for the insurance.

Our part of the contract is that we will provide the cover set out in this policy wording:

- For those sections which are shown on your certificate;
- For the period of insurance set out on the same certificate.

Your part of the contract is:

- You must pay the premium as shown on your statement of price for each period of insurance;
- You must comply with all the terms and conditions set out in this policy.

If you do not meet your part of the contract, we may turn down a claim, increase the premium or you may find that you do not have any cover.

The Administrator will renew your policy and write to you 21 days prior to your renewal date to confirm your new price.

The Administrator may annually review your policy including your insurer and your renewal price and will write to you 21 days prior to your renewal date, confirming any change in your insurer or policy terms and conditions.

If you provide the Administrator with your consent, they may transfer your policy to a new insurer. They will write to you in advance with details of the new insurer and the offer of insurance. They will also explain how you can revoke your consent and remain with your existing insurer.

## Choice of Law

Under the laws of the United Kingdom (England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland) both you and we may choose the law which applies to this contract, to the extent permitted by those laws. Unless you and we agree otherwise, we have agreed with you that the law which applies to this contract is the law which applies to the part of the United Kingdom in which you live.

We and you have agreed that any legal proceedings between you and us in connection with this contract will only take place in the courts of the part of the United Kingdom in which you live.

This policy has been issued by the insurer specified in your insurer schedule in the United Kingdom.

# Use of Language

The language used in this policy and any communication relating to it will be English.

# Section A - Policy definitions

(For additional definitions applicable to Home Emergency Cover and Legal Expenses Cover see Section A(1) and A(2))

The special words we use in this policy wording are shown in bold type with their meanings alongside them.

Wherever these words appear in the policy wording they will always have these meanings.

Accidental damage

means visible damage which has not been caused on purpose or inevitably.

Administrator

means Paymentshield Limited.

**Buildings** 

means your home, landlord's fixtures and fittings, patios, terraces, footpaths, swimming pools, tennis courts, drives, walls, fences and gates.

**Buildings Extra** 

means an increased level of cover as detailed on vour certificate.

Business equipment

means computers, laptops, tablets, keyboards, visual display units and printers, word processing equipment, desktop publishing units, multi user small business computers, fax machines, photocopiers, typewriters, computer aided design equipment, furniture, furnishings and telecommunications equipment.

Certificate

means the document the administrator will send you that details the cover you have selected under this policy.

Contents

means household goods and personal possessions including Money up to £250, which belong to you (or for which you are legally responsible) or belonging to domestic staff who live in your home. Contents does not include the following:

- Motorised or mechanically propelled or assisted vehicles, including children's vehicles, whether licensed for use on public roads or not (other than garden machinery and motorised or electric wheelchairs), personal watercraft, aircraft, airborne remote controlled or pedestrian controlled models, gliders and hang gliders, caravans, trailers or any parts, keys or accessories for these items (except removable entertainment equipment when left in the home);
- Pets and livestock;
- Securities and documents;
- Any items more specifically insured by any other insurance policy; or
- Any item used for your trade or profession except business equipment.

Contents Extra

means an increased level of cover as detailed on your certificate.

Credit Cards

means charge, credit and debit cards all issued in the **United Kingdom** belonging to **you** or any member of **your family**.

Domestic staff

means any staff employed under a contract of service by you or your family in connection with the ownership or occupation of your home, not being self employed or through an agency.

Electronic Data

means non recoverable electronic data, legally downloaded by **you** or **your family** from a legitimate website. **Electronic Data Downloads** does not include software.

Download

means the first part of the claim which you have agreed to bear.

Excess Family

means you, your partner and any other person permanently living with you (including any children or foster children). Excludes lodgers and any other tenants not covered under your tenancy agreement.

tenancy agreement.

means your trees, shrubs, plants, hedges and lawns on the land belonging to your home.

Garden

Upward movement of the ground beneath the **buildings** as a result of the soil expanding.

Heave

means your private dwelling in the United Kingdom as detailed on your certificate. This includes domestic outbuildings used in connection with the dwelling and any private garage

or outbuilding within 100 metres of the dwelling used by you.

Household

means your family and domestic staff.

Insurer Schedule

means the document the administrator will send you that details the insurer you have selected under this policy

Judgment debtor

means any person legally liable to pay damages and costs to **you** or any of **your household** by virtue of a judgment of any court in the **United Kingdom**.

Landslip

Downward movement of sloping ground.

Money

means cash, currency notes, banknotes, money orders, cheques, postal orders, National Insurance stamps, savings stamps or certificates, premium bonds, travellers cheques, travel tickets, luncheon vouchers, gift tokens, phonecards, prepaid electricity and gas meter cards and any other negotiable security which belongs to you and is not used for business.

**Negotiable Security** 

means a security that can be transferred or delivered to another person, such as stocks and

Period of Insurance

means the period shown on **your certificate** and any further period for which **you** have paid or have agreed to pay and **we** have accepted or agreed to accept **your premium**.

Personal possessions

means articles of personal use normally worn, used or carried by you or your family including clothing, baggage, jewellery, watches, spectacles, mobile phones, laptops, media players, pedal cycles, photographic and sports equipment. Personal possessions does not include the following:

- Motorised or mechanically propelled or assisted vehicles, including children's vehicles
  whether licensed for use on public roads or not (other than garden machinery
  and motorised or electric wheelchairs), personal watercraft, aircraft, airborne remote
  controlled or pedestrian controlled models, gliders and hang gliders, caravans, trailers or
  any parts, keys or accessories for these items (except detachable car stereos);
- Pets and livestock:
- Securities and documents;
- Any item more specifically insured by any other insurance policy; or
- Any item used for your trade or profession except business equipment.

**Policy** 

means the statement of cover provided under document referenced PNL/PS/015.

Premium

means the amount you must pay for your cover under the policy.

Sanitary fittings

means wash basins and pedestals, bathroom and kitchen sinks, bidets, lavatory pans and cisterns, shower trays, shower screens, baths and bath panels but not including swimming pools.

Securities

means any document or certificate which is proof of Money owed to any of your family.

Settlement

Downward movement as a result of the soil being compressed by the weight of the **buildings** within ten years of construction.

Statement of price

means the document the administrator will send you which confirms the premiums due under your policy.

Storm

means a period of violent weather defined as;

- Wind speeds with gusts of at least 48 knots (55mph), equivalent to storm force 10 of the Beaufort Scale, or
- Torrential rainfall at a rate of at least 25mm per hour, or
- Snow to a depth of at least one foot (30 cms) in 24 hours, or
- Hail of such intensity that it causes damage to hard surfaces or breaks glass

Subsidence

Downward movement of the ground beneath the buildings other than by settlement.

Sum insured

means the most we can pay for any number of claims caused by one incident.

Underground services

means underground pipes, drains, cables (and their inspection covers) for which **you** are legally responsible.

United Kingdom

means England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.

Unoccupied

means when **your home** has not been lived in by **you** or any other person with **your** permission for more than 60 days in a row. Lived in means slept in frequently.

Valuables

means items composed of precious metal or precious stones, jewellery, watches, furs, curios and works of art, computer equipment, **Money** or portable electrical equipment other than televisions or radios.

You means the person named on the certificate and their family.

Your means belonging to you or for which you are legally responsible.

We/Our/Us means the insurer specified in your insurer schedule.

# Section A(1) - Home Emergency Cover

The following defined terms are in addition to the policy definitions in Section A. If a defined term in the policy wording, a word in bold type, is not in the list of defined terms in this section, A(1) Home Emergency, then the definition in Section A - Policy definitions will apply.

Engineer

Approved Engineer or A qualified person approved and instructed by the helpline to undertake emergency work.

Assistance

The reasonable efforts made by the approved engineer during a visit to the home to complete a temporary repair to limit or prevent damage or if at similar expense the cost of completing a permanent repair in respect of the cover provided.

**Beyond Economic** Repair

In the opinion of our approved engineer the cost of repair is more than the cost of replacement. In the event your domestic boiler is declared beyond economic repair we will make a contribution of £500 towards replacing it.

A request for emergency assistance from you, even if the request is then cancelled by you.

Claim Limit

Call Out

£1,000 per claim for all sections excluding alternative accommodation costs.

Commencement Date

The start of the policy as shown in the schedule.

Domestic Boiler

The central heating boiler contained within and supplying your home that is powered by natural gas from the appliance isolating valve, including all manufacturers fitted components within the boiler together with the pump, motorised valves, thermostat, time, temperature and pressure controls. We will not cover any boiler that has an output in excess of 60kW/hr.

Domestic Central Heating System

The domestic boiler and the central heating system within your home that is powered by natural gas from the appliance isolating valve, including all manufacturer's fitted components within the domestic boiler together with the pump, motorised valves, cylinder thermostat, time temperature and pressure controls, radiator valves, pipe work, feed and expansion tank and primary fluing. We will not cover any boiler that has an output in excess of 60kW/hr

Emergency

A sudden and unexpected event which, if not dealt with quickly would in the reasonable opinion of the helpline:

- a) render the home unsafe or insecure; or
- b) damage or cause further damage to the home; or
- c) cause personal risk to you; or
- d) cause a health and safety risk to others.

Home

your private dwelling in the **United Kingdom** as detailed on your certificate.

Pests

Wasps, hornets, rats and mice

Property

Buildings occupied by you solely for domestic residential purposes, and which are declared on the certificate

Territorial Limits

The United Kingdom

We, Us, Our

The Home Emergency insurer specified in your insurer schedule.

# Section A(2) - Legal Expenses Cover

The following defined terms are in addition to the policy definitions in Section A. If a defined term in the policy wording, a word in bold type, is not in the list of defined terms in this section, A(2) Legal Expenses, then the definition in Section A – Policy definitions will apply.

Appointed representative(s)

The solicitor, solicitors' firm, barrister or other suitably qualified person appointed or approved by **us** to act on **your** behalf. Please refer to panel and non-panel solicitor definitions below.

Civil proceedings

Civil court, civil tribunal or civil arbitration proceedings, which are subject to the jurisdiction of the courts of the United Kingdom, the Isle of Man and the Channel Islands.

Damage

Loss, destruction or damage to insured property.

Disbursements

Any sum spent by an appointed representative on **your** behalf in respect of services supplied by a third party. Disbursements may include, for example, barristers' fees (provided that the barrister is not acting under a conditional fee agreement or equivalent arrangement) or expert report fees.

Date of Event

The date of any event which may lead to a claim; where there is more than one such event, the date of the first of these

Injury

Your bodily injury or death, or any disease, illness or shock suffered by you.

Legal costs

Professional legal fees that **you** are bound to pay, including reasonable fees or expenses incurred by the **appointed representative** whilst acting for **you** in the pursuit of **civil proceedings**. This also includes **disbursements**; however these **disbursements** must be in respect of services provided by a third party, received by **you**, distinct from the services supplied by the **appointed representative**. Legal costs will not be paid on an interim basis throughout a claim.

Material Breach

A breach which has resulted in, or if not rectified is likely to result in, **your** property being unsuitable for continued use.

Non Panel Solicitor

If **you** decide to appoint a representative of your own choosing, they will be referred to within this policy as a 'non-panel' solicitor.

Panel Solicitor

**We** work closely with an existing selection of solicitors that **we** can recommend to **you** in the event of a claim, to act on **your** behalf and provide assistance, for the purposes of this policy these will be referred to as **our** 'panel' solicitors

Part 36 Offer

Any offer made to settle a claim, where blame is accepted or not, made by either party throughout the claim.

To be accepted, the offer must:

- be in writing
- call itself a Part 36 Offer
- be open for at least 21 days, when the offeror will pay the opponent's costs, if accepted
- specify covers the whole claim, part of it, or an issue that arises in it and, if so, which
- advise whether any counterclaim is factored in.

**Property** 

Your permanent primary residence within the territorial limits.

Reasonable prospects

A 51% or greater chance that **you** will recover losses or damages (or obtain any other legal remedy that **we** have agreed to, including an enforcement of judgement), make successful

defence or make a successful appeal or defence of any appeal in your pursuit of **civil proceedings** or criminal proceedings.

Territorial limits Section 1 Personal Injury – Worldwide

You/Your

Section 2 Employment Disputes - United Kingdom

We/our/us The Legal Expenses insurer specified in your insurer schedule.

The person named on the **certificate**, being the individual for whom this insurance provides legal expenses protection. This cover extends to also include the following, who permanently reside with **you** at the property:

permanently reside with **you** at the property.

a) your spouse or partner

b) your parents or parents-in-law

c) **your** children

In the unfortunate event of **your** death, the insurer will insure **your** personal legal representatives to pursue disputes covered under this policy arising from **your** death, provided that they keep to the terms and conditions of the policy.

# Section B - Buildings cover

This section explains the details of your cover if you have selected the buildings section as shown on your certificate.

1.	What is covered:	What is NOT covered:
a)	Buildings Your buildings including fixtures, fittings, any part of the structure, ceilings and decorations, fixed glass including double glazing and sanitary fittings.	
b)	Extra Costs  Extra costs necessary in restoring the damage by an insured cause to your buildings:  To pay architects, surveyors and legal fees.  To clear debris, demolish buildings or make them safe.  To comply with government or local authority requirements.	Fees for preparing any claim.  Any government or local authority requirements known by <b>you</b> before damage happens.
2.	What is covered:	What is NOT covered:
	Damage to your buildings caused by the following:	
a)	Fire, smoke, explosion, lightning or earthquake.	The Buildings excess shown on your certificate which you must pay.
b)	Riots, civil commotion, labour and political disturbances or strikes.	The Buildings excess shown on your certificate which you must pay.
c)	Malicious damage or vandalism.	The Buildings excess shown on your certificate which you must pay.  Loss or damage caused by anyone lawfully in or within the grounds of your home.  Loss or damage occurring after your home has been left unoccupied.
d)	Storm or Flood	The Buildings excess shown on your certificate which you must pay.  Loss or damage to fences, hedges and gates.  Damage caused by a rise in the water table (the level below which the ground is completely saturated with water).

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•	e)	Impact with your home by any aircraft or other aerial device or anything dropped from them or by any vehicle, train, animal, falling tree or branch or any falling aerial, aerial fitting or mast	The Buildings excess shown on your certificate which you must pay.  Loss or damage caused by felling or lopping of trees and branches.  Loss or damage to fences, hedges and gates.  Loss or damage by chewing, scratching,
			tearing or fouling by pets.
	f)	Subsidence or heave of the site on which your home stands or land belonging to it or landslip	The subsidence, landslip or heave excess shown on your certificate which you must pay.
			Damage caused by coastal or river erosion.
			Damage to or resulting from the movement of solid floors unless the foundations beneath the external walls of <b>your home</b> are damaged at the same time and by the same cause.
			Faulty workmanship, poor design or the use of defective materials or damage caused by any of them.
			Damage caused by normal shrinkage or settlement.
			Loss or damage caused by demolition or structural changes to <b>your home</b> .
			Damage to terraces, patios, tennis courts, outdoor swimming pools, drives, footpaths, walls, hedges, gates, fences, drains, septic tanks, pipes, cables and oil tanks unless your home is damaged at the same time and by the same cause.
			Damage by the action of any chemicals on or the reaction of chemicals with any materials which form part of the <b>buildings</b> .
(	g)	<b>Escape of water</b> from, or the freezing of water in washing machines, dishwashers or any fixed domestic	The Escape of water/oil excess shown on your certificate which you must pay.
		water or heating installation  Escape of oil from any fixed domestic oil heating	Loss or damage occurring after your home has been left unoccupied.
		installation	Damage to the fixed domestic water installation or pipework unless freezing has occurred.
			Any subsequent damage caused to the buildings in locating the escape of water.
			Events where cover is provided under Section B2 (f).
1	h)	Theft or attempted theft.	The Buildings excess shown on your certificate which you must pay.
			Loss or damage occurring after your home has been left unoccupied.
			Loss or damage caused by anyone who is lawfully in or within the grounds of <b>your home</b> .

i)	Emergency Services Damage  Damage to your home including gardens caused by the attending Emergency Services following damage to your home from any event insured by Section 2a) - 2h)  You can claim up to 10% of the buildings sum insured	The Buildings excess shown on your certificate which you must pay.
3.	What is covered:	What is NOT covered:
	This section also provides the following cover:	
a)	Glass breakage Accidental breakage of glass, ceramic hobs or sanitary fittings fixed to and forming part of your home	The Buildings excess shown on your certificate which you must pay.  Breakage while your home is left unoccupied.  The replacement cost of any part of the item other than the broken glass.
b)	Gardens Loss or damage to your trees, shrubs, plants, hedges and lawns on the land belonging to your home caused by:  • fire, smoke, explosion, lightning or earthquake • riots, civil commotion, labour and political disturbances or strikes • malicious damage or vandalism • theft or attempted theft • impact by any aircraft or anything dropped from them or by any vehicle  You can claim up to £2,000	The Buildings excess shown on your certificate which you must pay.  Damage by smoke from air pollution.  Loss or damage occurring after your home has been left unoccupied.  Loss or damage caused by anyone who is lawfully in or within the grounds of your home.
c)	Sale of home If you have entered into a contract to sell your home and the purchaser has not insured the property before completion of the sale, the purchaser will have the benefit of this insurance up to the date of completion All terms and conditions shown in this policy wording apply to the contracting purchaser	
d)	Replacement of Locks We will pay for the replacement of the lock mechanism or at our option we will change the locks in the event of accidental loss or theft of the keys to the external doors of your home or to safes or alarms in the home or in the event of Accidental damage' to the locks of the external doors to your home  You can claim up to £750	The Buildings excess shown on your certificate which you must pay.  Loss or damage occurring after your home has been left unoccupied.  The cost of repairing mechanical breakdown.

e)	Trace & Access We will pay for the cost of removing and replacing any part of the buildings to find and repair the source of any water or oil escaping from tanks, pipes, equipment or fixed heating system in the buildings  You can claim up to £5,000	The Buildings excess shown on your certificate which you must pay.  Loss or damage to tanks, pipes, equipment or fixed heating system unless covered under buildings sections 2 (a) to (h)
f)	If your home is made uninhabitable by any insured cause we will pay for:  Loss of any rents receivable or payable, including up to two years ground rent.  Additional accommodation expenses incurred by your household until your home is restored to normal living condition including costs for any pets living with you.  We will cover up to 15% of the buildings sum insured shown on your certificate	
4.	What is covered:	What is NOT covered:
a)	How much the buildings are insured for: The sum insured you have selected is shown on your certificate and is the most you can claim for any one loss	

# Section C - Accidental Damage to buildings

This section explains the details of your cover if you have selected the Accidental damage' to buildings section as shown on your certificate

1	What is covered:	What is NOT covered:
a	Accidental damage to buildings including fixtures, fittings, any part of the structure, ceilings and decorations	The Buildings excess shown on your certificate which you must pay.
	decorations	External television receiving equipment
		Loss or damage if caused by a paying guest or tenant
		Loss or damage occurring after <b>your home</b> has been left unoccupied
		Loss or damage by chewing, scratching, tearing or fouling by pets
		Loss or damage caused by normal shrinkage or settlement
		Loss or damage caused by demolition or structural changes to <b>your home</b>
		The cost of routine maintenance
		Mechanical or electrical breakdown of any fixed domestic water installation
		Damage caused by failure of the <b>household</b> to follow any manufacturers instructions

b) Accidental breakage to underground drains and pipes, and Accidental damage to cables and underground tanks providing services to or from your home and for which you are legally responsible

If following a blockage, normal methods of releasing a blockage between the main sewer and **your home** are unsuccessful, **we** will pay the cost of breaking into and repairing the pipe

The Buildings excess shown on your certificate which you must pay.

Damage by gradual deterioration which has caused an installation to reach the end of its serviceable life

Damage by water escaping which results in subsidence, movement, settlement or shrinkage of any part of your buildings or of the land belonging to your buildings

Damage caused by sulphate reacting with any materials from which **your home** is built

Loss or damage occurring after your home has been left unoccupied

Damage by a coast or riverbank being worn away

# Section D - Liability insurance included in your Buildings cover

This section explains the details of your liability cover if you have selected the buildings section as shown on your certificate

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1.	What is covered:	What is NOT covered:
a)	You (or your personal representative in the event of your death) are insured against any legal liability for damages caused by you as owner of your home and its land arising from any single event occurring during the period of insurance which results in:  Accidental bodily injury (including death, disease and illness) to anyone not in your household.  Accidental damage' or loss to material property that is neither yours nor your household's.  Accidental damage' or loss to material property that is neither yours nor your household's arising under Section 3 of the Defective Premises Act 1972 or Article 5 of the Defective Premises (Northern Ireland) Order 1975, for the home which is now insured under this policy and which you later sell and do not then own or occupy or insure, or by any other private home previously owned by you but not now owned by you.	Liability resulting from your trade, profession or business.  An agreement made by you unless you would have been liable even if you had not made the agreement.  Liability arising from you owning or using lifts or vehicles  Any liability arising under the Defective Premises Act or the Defective Premises Act (Northern Ireland Order) more than seven years after the date of expiry or cancellation of this policy.

We only pay for costs incurred with our written consent. The most we shall pay for a claim is £2,000,000.

Liability arising from any home disposed of by you after the date of expiry or cancellation of this policy.

Any responsibility arising from any of your household owning any buildings or land other than your home and the land belonging to it.

Any responsibility as an employer to anyone employed by any of **your household** in any trade, profession or business.

Injury, death, disease or illness caused by any dog owned by any of your household or for which they are legally responsible if the dog is described in Section 1 of the Dangerous Dogs Act 1991 or Article 3 of the Dangerous Dogs (Northern Ireland) Order 1991.

Any agreement or contract which adds any responsibility which would not have existed otherwise.

Damage, injury, death, illness or disease which occurs outside the **period of insurance**.

Any defence costs and expenses incurred without **our** written consent.

Any responsibility covered by any other policy.

# **Buildings**

## How we settle claims

If you wish to claim under this section of your policy please follow the steps detailed in 'How to claim' in Section Q. You should also read the Claims conditions and Policy exclusions in Section L & M.

# How we settle claims for buildings

 We will pay for the reasonable cost of work carried out in repairing or replacing the damaged parts of your buildings and agreed fees and related costs.

At our option we will arrange for specialist investigations to be carried out.

We may take over and conduct in your name with complete and exclusive control, the defence or settlement of any claim.

If the repair or replacement is not carried out, we will pay the decrease in market value of your buildings due to the damage but not more than it would have cost us to repair the damage to your buildings if the repair work had been carried out without delay.

At our option we will make a cash settlement but we will not pay more than it would have cost us to repair the damage to your buildings if the repair work had been carried out without delay.

All **building** repairs carried out by **our** approved contractors and insured under the **buildings section** of this **policy** are guaranteed for 12 months in respect of quality of workmanship.

No allowance will be made for VAT when a cash settlement is made

- You must ensure that any excess applicable is paid before our preferred suppliers release goods or commence repairs.
- 3. If your buildings have not been kept in a good state of repair or if the sum insured at the time of the loss or damage is less than the cost of rebuilding all your buildings in the same way, size, style and appearance as when they were new, including fees and related costs, we will pay the cost of repairing or replacing the damaged parts of your buildings and we will, where appropriate, take off an amount for wear and tear.
- 4. The most **we** will pay for any one claim, including fees and related costs, is the amount it will cost **us** to repair the damage to **your buildings** in the same way, size, style and appearance as when they were new, but not more than the **sum insured** or any limits shown in **your policy** or in **your certificate**.

We will not pay for:

- Loss of value resulting from repairs to or replacement of damage to your buildings;
- Replacing or changing undamaged parts of **your buildings** which belong to a set or suite or which have a common design or use, when the damage is restricted to a specific part or clearly defined area.

## 5. Inflation Protection

The buildings sum insured shown on your certificate will be adjusted in line with a recognised index. Please note that if we selected your sum insured for you, the sum insured shown on your certificate will not be adjusted. This includes where you have selected Buildings Extra cover. For your protection, we will not reduce your sum insured or limits if the index moves down.

## Section E - Contents cover

This section explains the details of your cover if you have selected the contents section as shown on your certificate.

1.	What is covered:	What is NOT covered:
a)	Your contents.  Loss or damage to contents in your home.  If specified on your certificate, the most we will pay for any individual item is £15,000. The most you can claim for any individual item is £5,000 unless the item is specified on your certificate.  The most we will pay for Valuables is £15,000.  You can only claim up to £2,000 per item for jewellery, gold and silver articles, furs, clocks, watches, pictures, other works of art, sculptures and collections of stamps, medals or coins unless they are specified on your certificate.  We will require a receipt of original valuation for these items in the event of a claim.  You can claim up to £250 for spectacles.  You can only claim up to £1,000 for contents in the open within the grounds of your home.	Loss or damage if items are left in an unattended motor vehicle or caravan.  Loss or damage by chewing, scratching, tearing or fouling by pets
b)	Medals, coins and stamps not forming part of a collection  You can only claim up to £250 in total.	Any items left in an unattended motor vehicle or caravan.
c)	Accidental damage to landlord's fixtures and fittings.  You must be a tenant and You can only claim up to 10% of the contents sum insured.	The Contents excess shown on your certificate which you must pay.

2.	What is covered:	What is NOT covered:
	Loss or damage to your contents in your home caused b	y the following:
a)	Fire, smoke, explosion, lightning or earthquake.	The Contents excess shown on your certificate which you must pay.
b)	Riots, civil commotion, labour and political disturbances or strikes.	The Contents excess shown on your certificate which you must pay.
c)	Malicious damage or vandalism.	The Contents excess shown on your certificate which you must pay.  Loss or damage caused by anyone lawfully in or within the grounds of your home.  Loss or damage occurring after your home has been left unoccupied.  Loss or damage unless force and violence is
		used to get into or out of your home.
d)	Storm or flood.	The Contents excess shown on your certificate which you must pay.  Damage caused by a rise in the water table (the level below which the ground is completely saturated with water).
e)	Impact with your home by any aircraft or other aerial device or anything dropped from them or by any vehicle, train, animal, falling tree or branch or any falling aerial, aerial fitting or mast.	The Contents excess shown on your certificate which you must pay.  Loss or damage caused by felling or lopping of trees and branches.  Loss or damage by chewing, scratching, tearing or fouling by pets.
f)	Subsidence or heave of the site on which your home stands or land belonging to it or landslip.	The Contents excess shown on your certificate which you must pay.  Damage caused by coastal or river erosion.  Damage to or resulting from the movement of solid floor.  Faulty workmanship.  Damage caused by normal shrinkage or settlement.  Loss or damage caused by demolition, repair or structural changes to your home.
g)	Escape of water from washing machines, dishwashers or any fixed domestic water or heating installation.  Escape of oil from any fixed domestic oil heating installation.	The escape of water/oil excess shown on your certificate which you must pay.  Loss or damage occurring after your home has been left unoccupied.  Damage caused to the installation or appliance that brought about the escape of water.

h)	Theft or attempted theft.  You can claim up to £3,000 for any one claim for items which are in the garage or any of the outbuildings belonging to your home  You can claim up to £500 for the unauthorised use of Credit Cards (you and your family must keep to the terms and conditions of your card issuer)  You can claim up to £250 for Money	The Contents excess shown on your certificate which you must pay.  Loss or damage unless force and violence is used to get into or out of your home.  Loss or damage occurring after your home has been left unoccupied.  Any Money or Credit Cards held in your home for business, trade or professional purposes  Loss or damage caused by anyone who is lawfully in or within the grounds of your home.
3.	What is covered:	What is NOT covered:
	This section also provides the following cover:	
a)	The cost of replacing food in a freezer in your home, that has been spoilt by an accidental change in temperature of your freezer.	The Contents excess shown on your certificate which you must pay.  Loss or damage recoverable under any other insurance.  Loss or damage occurring after your home has been left unoccupied.  Loss or damage caused by a deliberate act of any public electricity supply authority.  Loss or damage caused by your own or your household's wilful act of negligence or the continued use of damaged or faulty apparatus.
b)	Loss of or damage to visitor's <b>personal possessions</b> while in <b>your home</b> caused by events 2(a) to 2(h) <b>You</b> can claim up to £1,000 for any one claim	The Contents excess shown on your certificate which you must pay.
c)	The cost of replacing the <b>title deeds</b> of <b>your home</b> following loss or damage caused by events 2(a) to 2(h) while they are in <b>your home</b> or in the offices of <b>your</b> mortgage lender, bank or solicitor. <b>You</b> can claim up to £2,500	The Contents excess shown on your certificate which you must pay.
d)	Fatal accidents as a direct result of a criminal assault or fire in your home resulting in the death of you or your family within 30 days of the fire or assault.  You can claim up to £5,000 per individual.	Any injury which is inflicted by <b>you</b> or is the result of the wilful act of <b>your family</b> .  Any death which is the result of suicide.

e)	Loss or damage to <b>contents</b> in the open within the grounds of <b>your home</b> caused by events 2(a) to 2 (h).	The Contents excess shown on your certificate which you must pay.
	You can claim up to £1,000.	Loss or damage occurring after <b>your home</b> has been left <b>unoccupied</b> .
		Loss of Money or Credit Cards.
		Damage by smoke from air pollution.
		Loss or damage if items are left in a motor vehicle or caravan.
		Pedal Cycles.
f)	Loss or Accidental damage' to your contents while they are being moved by professional removers from your home directly to your new permanent home in	The Contents excess shown on your certificate which you must pay.
	the United Kingdom.	Damage to china, glass or other brittle items unless they have been packed by professional packers.
		Loss or damage by mechanical, electrical or electronic fault or breakdown.
		Loss or damage while <b>your contents</b> are in storage or being moved from storage.
		Loss of Money or Credit Cards.
g)	Accidental breakage of mirrors, ceramic hobs in free standing cookers, or glass which forms part of <b>your</b>	The Contents excess shown on your certificate which you must pay.
	furniture.	Breakage while your home has been left unoccupied.
		The replacement cost of any part of the item other than the broken glass.
h)	We will pay for the replacement of the lock mechanism or at our option we will change the locks in	The Contents excess shown on your certificate which you must pay.
	the event of accidental loss or theft of the keys to the external doors of your home or to safes or alarms in the home or in the event of Accidental damage' to the	Loss or damage occurring after <b>your home</b> has been left <b>unoccupied</b> .
	locks of the external doors to your home.	Loss or damage by any process of repair or restoration.
		The cost of repairing mechanical breakdown.
i)	Accidental loss at <b>your home</b> of metered water or oil from the domestic water or heating system.	The Contents excess shown on your certificate which you must pay.
	You can claim up to £2,000 for loss of metered water.	Loss or damage occurring after your home
	You can claim up to £1,500 for loss of oil	has been left unoccupied.
j)	Loss or damage to <b>your</b> shrubs and plants on the land belonging to <b>your home</b> caused by:	The Contents excess shown on your certificate which you must pay.
	fire, smoke, explosion, lightning or earthquake.     riots, civil commotion, labour and political disturbances or strikes     malicious damage or vandalism	Damage by smoke from air pollution.
		Loss or damage occurring after your home has been left unoccupied.
	theft or attempted theft     impact by any aircraft or anything dropped from them or by any vehicle.	Loss or damage caused by anyone who is lawfully in or within the grounds of <b>your</b> home.
	You can claim up to £1,500	

k)	Electronic Data Download  The cost of replacing electronic data downloads following loss or damage to your contents by covers 2(a) to 2(h) or Section F 1(a) if shown on your certificate.  You can claim up to £2,000.	The Contents excess shown on your certificate which you must pay.  The cost of remaking or recreating a disc, tape or film.  Any data not commercially available at the time of the loss.  Damage by any event listed in the Contents Section and which is specifically excluded under that event.
l)	Business Equipment  This cover is only included if you or your family work from home.	
m)	Agreed accommodation expenses including storage of property if your home is made uninhabitable by a cause shown in point 2, until your home is restored to normal living condition including agreed accommodation costs for any pets living with you.  The most we will pay is £10,000 and only for the period necessary for reinstatement.	
4.	What is covered:	What is NOT covered:
a)	Wedding or Civil Ceremony Gifts, Birthdays & Religious Festivals  For one month before and one month after the wedding, civil ceremony or birthday (for any of your family) or religious festival the sum insured for Contents is increased by £2,500.	

5.	Where the contents are insured:	What is NOT covered:
a)	In the home	
b)	In the open on the land belonging to your home	Contents insured under another policy
c)	Contents are covered following loss or damage by covers 2(a) to 2(h) anywhere in the United Kingdom when temporarily moved from your home, for up to 90 consecutive days, including into any bank, safe deposit box, occupied private dwelling or into any building where you are residing or carrying on business (other than while attending full-time education).  Loss or damage to your contents by theft or attempted theft is limited to any occupied private home where you are working, any occupied private home where you are temporarily living, or any bank or safe deposit box.	Contents removed for sale or exhibition, or to furniture depositories.  Contents removed because of the sale or letting of your home.  Contents during removal.  Loss or damage by theft or attempted theft to contents removed from your home, unless force and violence is used to get into or out of the building.  Money or Credit Cards.  Loss or damage if items are left in a motor vehicle or caravan.
d)	Contents are covered following loss or damage by covers 2(a) to 2(h) anywhere in the United Kingdom when moved from your home into any building where you are living while attending full-time education. The most we will pay is £5,000.	Pedal Cycles
6.	What is covered:	What is NOT covered:
a)	How much the contents are insured for:  The sum insured you have selected for your contents is shown on your policy certificate and is the most you can claim for any one loss.  If specified on your certificate, the most we will pay for any individual item is £15,000.  The most you can claim for any individual item is £5,000 unless the item is specified on your certificate.  The most we will pay for Valuables is £15,000.  You can only claim up to £2,000 per item for jewellery, gold and silver articles, furs, clocks, watches, pictures, other works of art, sculptures and collections of stamps, medals or coins unless they are specified in your certificate.  We will require a receipt or original valuation for these items in the event of a claim.  You can only claim up to £250 for spectacles.  You can only claim up to £1,000 for contents in the open within the grounds of your home.  Money is restricted to £250 and unauthorised use of Credit Cards is restricted to £500  Please refer to any specific exclusions for any type of item or type of claim.	

Section F - Accidental Damage to contents cover
This section explains the details of your cover if you have selected the Accidental damage' to contents section as shown on your certificate.

1.	What is covered:	What is NOT covered:
a)	Accidental damage to your contents in your home and in the open within the grounds of your home	The contents excess shown on your certificate which you must pay'
	If specified on <b>your certificate</b> , the most <b>we</b> will pay for any individual item is £15,000.	Damage to sports equipment whilst in use.  Damage to clothing, contact lenses and
	The most <b>you</b> can claim for any individual item is £5,000 unless the item is specified on <b>your certificate</b> .	hearing aids.  Deterioration of food.
	The most <b>we</b> will pay for Valuables is £15,000.	Money or Credit Cards.  Damage by depreciation, wear and tear,
	You can only claim up to £2,000 per item for jewellery, gold and silver articles, furs, clocks, watches, pictures,	insects, vermin, fungus, rot, corrosion, process of cleaning, dyeing, repair or restoration.
	other works of art, sculptures and collections of stamps, medals or coins unless they are specified in your certificate.	Loss or damage after <b>your home</b> has been left <b>unoccupied</b> .
	We will require a receipt or original valuation for these items in the event of a claim.	Loss or damage caused by a paying guest or tenant.
	You can only claim up to £250 for spectacles.	Loss or damage whilst <b>your home</b> is being lent or let to any person other than <b>your family</b> .
	You can only claim up to £1,000 for contents in the open within the grounds of your home.	Damage to pedal cycles.
		Damage to mobile phones.
		Motor vehicles and their accessories.
		Loss or damage by chewing, scratching, tearing or fouling by pets
		Mechanical or electrical breakdown.
		Damage caused by failure of the <b>household</b> to follow any manufacturers instructions.
		Damage to <b>Business equipment</b> whilst in use.

1.	What is covered:	What is NOT covered:
a)	Occupiers Liability You or your household (or your personal representatives in the event of your death) are insured against any legal liability for damages caused by you which results from an accident occurring within your home or its land and during the period of insurance and causing:  • Accidental bodily injury (including death, disease and illness) to anyone not in your household.  • Accidental damage' or loss to material property that is neither yours nor your household's.  We only pay for costs incurred with our written consent. The most we shall pay for a claim is £2,000,000 resulting from one accident or a series of accidents from any one cause except where the claim is for accidental bodily injury (including death, disease or illness) to any of your domestic staff and arises out of and in the course of their employment in which event it is £10,000,000.	Liability resulting from your or your household's trade, profession or business.  An agreement made by you or your household unless you or your household would have been liable even if you or your household had not made the agreement.  Liability resulting from the ownership of your home.  Liability resulting from your occupation or ownership of any other land or building.  Liability resulting from the use or ownership of:  • Mechanically powered vehicles, or trailers attached to such vehicles, except garden machinery.

	The action against <b>you</b> must be brought in a court in the United Kingdom.	Powered hovercraft, watercraft and aircraft (unless they are models).
	Provided you and your family are otherwise living	Animals of a dangerous species
	permanently in the United Kingdom, the insurance under this section extends, in respect of them, to any injury, loss or damage occurring during a journey or temporary visit to any country in the world in which you or your family do not own premises.	Any horse for hunting, racing or polo.
		• Firearms, except airguns or sporting guns.
		Lifts which you or anyone in your household own, control or are responsible for.
		Any responsibility as an employer to anyone employed by any of <b>your household</b> in any trade, profession or business (excluding domestic staff).
		Injury, death, disease or illness caused by any dog owned by any of <b>your household</b> or for which they are legally responsible if the dog is described in Section 1 of the Dangerous Dogs Act 1991 or Article 3 of the Dangerous Dogs (Northern Ireland) Order 1991.
		Damage, injury, death, illness or disease which occurs outside the <b>period of insurance</b> .
		Any defence costs and expenses incurred without <b>our</b> written consent.
		Any responsibility covered by any other <b>policy</b> .
		Any claim arising from any business liabilities.
b)	Legal liability for loss or damage to your home or the landlord's fixtures and fittings caused by events in section E points 2(a), 2(d), 2(e), 2(g) and 2(h).  This cover only applies if you are a tenant of your home.  You can claim up to 20% of the contents sum insured shown on your certificate.	The Contents excess shown on your certificate which you must pay.  Loss or damage caused by frost, landslip, subsidence or heave, malicious damage, riots, civil commotion, labour and political disturbances or strikes.
c)	Legal liability for the cost of repairing accidental damage to underground services.  This cover only applies if you are a tenant of your home.	The Contents excess shown on your certificate which you must pay.
	You can claim up to 20% of the contents sum insured shown on your certificate.	
d)	Legal liability to pay rent while your home is being restored after being made uninhabitable by any of the risks in section E points 2(a) to 2(h).	The Contents excess shown on your certificate which you must pay.
	This cover only applies if <b>you</b> are a tenant of <b>your</b> home.	
	You can claim up to 20% of the contents sum insured shown on your certificate.	
	If you claim under point 1(c) of this section at the same time, the most we will pay for the total claim is 20% of the contents sum insured shown on your certificate.	

e) You and your household (or your personal representatives if you die) are insured against a judgment debtor failing to meet his full legal obligations resulting from bodily injury, or loss of, or damage to material property in such circumstances that if the judgment debtor had been insured under this section, he would have been entitled to claim from us the amount of his legal liability to you or anyone in your household.

We will pay outstanding damages and costs due to you or your household.

Up to £1,000,000 for claims resulting from one accident or series of accidents from any one cause.

You must have been awarded damages and taxed costs by judgment of any court in the United Kingdom.

The damages and costs must have remained unpaid by the **judgment debtor** during the three months following the date of the court's award. The Contents excess shown on your certificate which you must pay.

Any judgment subject to a pending appeal.

Liability if the judgment debtor is you or anyone in your household.

# Contents

# How we settle claims

If you wish to claim under this section of your policy please follow the steps detailed in 'How to claim' in Section Q. You should also read the Claims conditions and Policy exclusions in Section L & M.

# How we settle claims for contents

If an item has been damaged and it can be economically repaired we will either arrange or authorise repair
and we will pay the cost of repair. Otherwise, we will replace the item with a new one of similar quality
through our preferred suppliers, or at our option, we will pay the replacement cost of a new item of similar
quality.

If we agree, at your request, not to repair or replace an item, at our option we will make a cash or voucher settlement equal to the cost we would have paid for replacement or repair through our preferred suppliers.

- We will not pay the cost of replacing or changing undamaged items or parts of items which belong to a set or a suite, or which have a common design or use such as suites of furniture and carpets, which are only damaged in one area, when the loss or damage relates to a specific part or part of an item or to a clearly defined area.
- 3. We will not pay for any loss of value to any item which we have repaired or replaced.
- 4. You must ensure that any excess applicable is paid before our preferred suppliers release goods or commence repairs.
- 5. If loss or damage happens and the sum insured is less than the cost of replacing all your contents as new, we will, where appropriate, take off an amount for wear and tear from the cost of the new item unless the item can be economically repaired when only the cost of the repair will be paid.
- 6. The most we will pay for any one claim is the amount it will cost us to replace all your contents as new but not more than the sum insured or any limits shown in your policy or in your certificate.

# Section H - Personal possessions

This section explains the details of your cover if you have elected to insure personal possessions as shown on your certificate.

Each item in points 1 (a) to (c) is insured up to a maximum in total of the personal possessions sum insured shown on your certificate unless a specific limit is shown below.

1.	What is covered:	What is NOT covered:
a)	The following are insured:	Dentures.
	Your Personal Possessions	Musical Instruments.
	You can claim up to £1,500 per single article unless	Contact or Corneal lenses.
	they are specified on <b>your certificate</b> .	Camping Equipment.
	<b>You</b> can claim up to £250 for spectacles and mobile phones unless they are specified on <b>your certificate</b> .	Vehicles, watercraft and aircraft.
	You can claim up to £250 for keys or electronic locking devices to the external door locks of your home.	Pedal cycles
	devices to the external door locks of your nome.	Money and Credit Cards
b)	Your Pedal Cycles You can claim up to £500 per cycle unless specified in your certificate.	Motorised pedal cycles.
c)	You can claim up to £250 for Money.  The most we will pay for the unauthorised use of Credit Cards is £500.  You or your family must report the loss to the police and for Credit Cards your card issuer within 24 hours of discovery and you and your family must keep to the terms and conditions of your card issuer.	Confiscation, loss of value or loss due to incorrect receipts, payment or accountancy.

2.	What is covered:	What is NOT covered:
a)	What the items are insured against:	The Personal Possessions excess shown in your certificate.
	Accidental damage or loss to your Personal Possessions inside your home or outside your home occurring anywhere in the United Kingdom,	Loss or damage to any property that is not in the care of you or your household.
	Europe, Mediterranean Islands, Madeira, the Canary Islands and any country which has a coastline on the Mediterranean Sea.  The personal possessions are also covered during	Loss or damage to items left in a motor vehicle unless the items are in a locked boot or concealed luggage or glove compartment, and violence and force has been used to enter the vehicle.
	travel by you or your family elsewhere in the world (up to a maximum of 60 days during any period of insurance).	Loss or damage by electronic, electrical or mechanical breakdown, failure or derangement.
	You can claim up to £1,000 for items left in an unattended motor vehicle.	Loss or damage if items are confiscated by any government, public or private authority.
		Loss or damage in your home while your home is left unoccupied.
		Loss or damage by theft or attempted theft, malicious damage or vandalism in <b>your</b> home unless force and violence is used to get into or out of <b>your home</b> .
		Loss or damage by chewing, scratching, tearing or fouling by pets
		Damage to sports equipment in the course of play.
		Skiing or underwater equipment whilst in use.
b)	Accidental damage or loss to your Pedal Cycles inside your home or outside your home occurring anywhere in the United Kingdom, Europe, Mediterranean	The Personal Possessions excess shown on your certificate.
	Islands, Madeira, the Canary Islands and any country which has a coastline on the Mediterranean Sea.	Loss or damage to any pedal cycle that is not in the care of you or your household.
	Your pedal cycles are also covered during travel by you or your family elsewhere in the world (up to a maximum of 60 days during the period of insurance).	Loss or damage to accessories unless caused by accident to the pedal cycle or unless the pedal cycle is lost or damaged at the same time.
		Loss or damage while the pedal cycle is being used for racing, trial or trade purposes.
		Loss or damage by theft whilst the pedal cycle is left unattended in any public place without being secured by a locked chain and/or padlock or equivalent device to fixed property.

c) You and your family are insured against loss of personal Money or the unauthorised use of Credit Cards occurring anywhere in the United kingdom, Europe, Mediterranean Islands, Madeira, Canary Islands and any coastline on the Mediterranean Sea.

Money or the unauthorised use of Credit Cards is also covered during travel by you or your family elsewhere in the world (up to a maximum of 60 days during any one year of insurance).

The Personal Possessions excess shown on your certificate.

Confiscation, loss of value or loss due to incorrect receipts, payment or accountancy.

Loss by deception unless the only deception was someone tricking their way into **your** home.

Any loss of **Money** or **Credit Cards** from the **home** whilst it has been left **unoccupied**.

Loss or damage recoverable under any other insurance.

3.	What is covered:	What is NOT covered:
	How much the Personal Possessions are insured for:	
	The total <b>personal possessions sum insured</b> is shown on <b>your certificate</b> . This is the most <b>we</b> will pay for any one claim.	

# Personal possessions

# How we settle claims for Personal Possessions and Pedal Cycles

If you wish to claim under this section of your policy please follow the steps detailed in 'How to claim' in Section Q. You should also read the Claims conditions and Policy exclusions in Section L & M.

If an item has been damaged and it can be economically repaired we will either arrange or authorise repair
and we will pay the cost of repair. Otherwise, we will replace the item with a new one of similar quality
through our preferred suppliers or at our option, we will pay the replacement cost of a new item of similar
quality.

If we agree, at your request, not to replace or repair an item, at our option we will make a cash or voucher settlement equal to the cost we would have paid for replacement or repair through our preferred suppliers.

- 2. We will not pay for any loss of value to any item which we have repaired or replaced.
- You must ensure that any excess applicable is paid before our preferred suppliers release goods or commence repairs.
- 4. The most **we** will pay for any one claim is the amount it will cost **us** to replace all **your personal possessions** and pedal cycles as new but not more than the **sum insured** or any limits shown in **your policy** or on **your** certificate

# How we settle claims for Money and Credit Cards

- 1. Where an excess applies, this will be taken off the amount of your claim.
- 2. The most we will pay for any one claim for Money and Credit Cards is the sum insured shown in your policy.

# Section I - Home Emergency cover

This section explains the details of **your** cover if you have selected Home Emergency cover as shown on **your** certificate. In this section of the Policy, **We/Us/Our** means the Home Emergency insurer specified in your **insurer schedule**.

Upon payment of the premium, the insurer will provide **you** with Home Emergency cover for the risks identified in the following sections, up to a limit of £1000 for any one claim,

Provided that the event is sudden and unexpected which, if not dealt with quickly would in the reasonable opinion of the helpline:

- a) render the home unsafe or unsecured; or
- b) damage or cause further damage to the home; or
- c) cause personal risk to **you**; or
- d) cause a health and safety risk to others.

# 1. What is covered:

# 1. External Water Supply Pipe

An **emergency** involving any blockage, collapse or leakage of the water supply pipe from and including the main stopcock for **your home** up to where it is connected to the public water main or communication pipe provided that **you** are responsible for this. In the event that **your home** becomes uninhabitable overnight as a result of an **emergency** covered by this section relating to **your** external water supply pipe, the insurer will pay up to £100 (including VAT) for the cost of suitable alternative accommodation

# Conditions applying to Section 1 Where you share legal responsibility for the water supply pipe outside the boundary of **your property** with any third party, the insurer will only pay **your** rateable proportion of any work

undertaken under this section of cover

When a shared responsibility applies, any third party or parties must agree to the work being completed by the insurer's **engineers** and must grant any access necessary to the water supply pipe

# 2. Plumbing

An **emergency** arising from the sudden and unexpected failure of or damage to the internal plumbing system within the **home** which has or may result in internal water leakage, or escape of water from water tanks, pipes, and domestic appliances or fixed heating systems which causes damage to the **home**. In the event that **your home** becomes uninhabitable overnight as a result of an **emergency** covered by this section relating to your plumbing, the insurer will pay up to £100 (including VAT) for the cost of suitable alternative accommodation

# What is NOT covered:

Costs which exceed **your** rateable proportion of the cost of any work undertaken by the insurer under the terms of this policy on a water supply pipe outside the boundary of your **property** where **you** share legal responsibility for the water supply pipe with any third party

Tracing leaks where the source cannot be ascertained or where there is no visible evidence of a leak

Frozen pipes which have not caused any damage

Any work required on a water supply pipe outside the boundary of **your property** where **you** share legal responsibility for the water supply pipe with any third party who does not agree to the work being completed by the insurer's **engineers** 

Damage resulting from lack of proper maintenance

Reinstatement costs relating to the original surface or construction of a drive, path, decking or any other surface which is excavated as part of a claim

General maintenance including, but not limited, to dripping taps

Frozen pipes which have not caused any damage

Where there is a leak from a shower, bath or toilet when in use and there is an alternative facility at the **home**.

Cracked or broken toilets or cisterns

Pipes outside the boundary of your home

Water pipes to, from or within a detached outbuilding or garage

The replacement of water tanks, cylinders, central heating radiators, external WC's and external pipes and taps

# 3. Drainage

An **emergency** arising from the sudden and unexpected failure of or damage to the drainage system of **your home**. In the event that **your home** becomes uninhabitable overnight as a result of an **emergency** covered by this section relating to your drainage, the insurer will pay up to £100 (including VAT) for the cost of suitable alternative accommodation.

If the **emergency** cannot be resolved by jetting or rodding the drain, **we** will cover the cost of a CCTV survey to identify the cause of the issue. Please note, the remedial work required following the CCTV survey may not be covered under the Home Emergency policy, and **you** may be redirected to the Building and Contents provider.

General servicing and maintenance issues including but not limited to leaf accumulation, build-up of oil, fats or other debris within the drainage system

Any drainage system which is not of standard construction e.g. clay pot, plastic, P.V.C or concrete, including Saniflo systems or other macerator-based systems

Cesspits, septic tanks, vacuum drainage systems, electric pumps

Plumbing and filtration systems for any swimming pools or spa or whirlpool baths

Detached outbuildings

Damage to drains caused by structures not conforming to local building regulations or caused as a result of negligence or neglect

Failure or damage caused to by faulty or defective design of the drainage pipe including but not limited to failure of pitch fibre pipework

Reinstatement costs relating the original surface or construction of a drive, path, decking or any other surface which is excavated as part of a claim

Any costs arising from or relating to the excavation of the drain

# 4. Domestic Central Heating Systems

An emergency which has arisen from the sudden and unexpected failure of your domestic central heating system. The emergency must render the domestic central heating system inoperable and the failure has to be due to mechanical or electrical failure or malfunction of the central heating system

**We** will undertake to obtain spare parts as quickly as is reasonably possible. In the event it takes more than 48 hours to achieve this from the first point at which **our approved engineer** visits **you** and diagnoses the requirement **we** will pay a fixed benefit of £40 toward providing alternative heating

General maintenance including, but not limited to, descaling or power flushing of the **domestic central heating system**, or any adjustment to the timing and temperature controls of the **domestic central heating system** and venting (bleeding) of radiators

Any **domestic boiler** which is not serviced in line with the manufacturers recommendations

Any non-gas appliances, Elson tanks, separate gas heaters supplying hot water, LPG boilers and dual purpose boilers such as AGAs and Rayburns

Maintenance or replacement of fan convector heaters or heated towel rails or underfloor heating

Corrosion or any work arising from hard water scale deposits

Removal of sludge or hard water scale from the domestic central heating system

Any gas fired appliance whose primary purpose is other than heating, for example a domestic cooker or lighting system

Solar powered panels or ground air and water source pumps

5.	Electrical Emergency & Breakdown An emergency arising from the breakdown or failure of the permanent domestic electrical wiring system and its components (fuse box, switches, sockets) supplying electrical power	Your electricity supply meter;
		Domestic appliances or electrical items with a plug
		Replacing light bulbs, fuses and any other routine electrical maintenance tasks
	to <b>your home</b> . In the event that <b>your home</b> becomes uninhabitable overnight as a result of an <b>emergency</b> covered by this section relating to your permanent domestic electrical wiring system, the insurer will pay up to £100 (including VAT) for	External Lighting, garden lighting and the electrical supply to outbuildings, such as sheds and greenhouses which are connected to a separate electric meter to that of the <b>home</b>
	the cost of suitable alternative accommodation	Swimming pools, fish tanks, ponds, burglar and smoke alarms, satellite/TV equipment, telephone equipment, doorbells, garage doors, shower units, portable and fixed heating systems, immersion heaters, power generating systems including solar panels and wind turbines, any 3 phase electrical systems
		Electrical wiring or electrics in communal areas of your home
		Where an appliance has caused a circuit to fail or trip
6.	Emergency Gas Supply Pipe	General or routine maintenance
	An <b>emergency</b> following to any damage to the internal gas supply pipe following a gas leak occurring in your <b>home</b> . <b>Our assistance</b> will only be provided once the National Gas Emergency Service have attended and isolated the leak. In the event that <b>your home</b> becomes uninhabitable overnight as a result of an <b>emergency</b> covered by this section relating to your permanent domestic electrical wiring system, <b>we</b> will pay up to £100	The breakdown of any gas boiler, fire, central heating or hot water system
		Temporarily frozen pipes where there is no permanent damage
		Systems not installed correctly by an appropriately qualified person or which do not conform to any governing Gas Safe regulation or requirements
	(including VAT) for the cost of suitable alternative accommodation	Pipes outside the boundary of <b>your home</b>
7.	Security, Lost Keys, Roofing & Pests The call out, labour and parts and materials involved in an emergency relating to the security or roofing of your home, a pest infestation or the loss of the only available key to your home as detailed below  Security and Roofing: The insurer will arrange an emergency repair to make the home safe and/or prevent further damage in the event of damage or failure to the roof, external lock, door or window  Lost Keys: The insurer will assist you to gain access to your home arising from the loss of the only available key to your home, when you are unable to replace it or gain normal access	Pest infestation relating to pests which are not defined in this policy; including but not limited to; ants, fleas, bedbugs, spiders, flies, squirrels and bees
		Pest infestations of any outbuilding, or any other part of your property which is not part of main home, or where the living areas of the property are not affected
		Damage caused by <b>pests</b>
		Loss of keys to the main <b>property</b> if a duplicate
		set exists
		Loss of keys for any outbuilding, garage or shed which is not part of the main <b>home</b>
	Pest Infestation: The insurer will assist you to remove any pest infestation inside your home. In the event that your home becomes uninhabitable overnight as a result of an	The failure of any internal doors and/or window lock
		The replacement or repair of electronic units powering garage doors
	<ul> <li>emergency covered by this section relating to your security, lost keys, roofing or pest infestation we will pay up to £100 (including VAT) for the cost of suitable alternative accommodation</li> </ul>	Doors subject to swelling

# General Exclusions applicable to the Home Emergency Section

We shall not be liable for costs arising from or in association with:

- 1) Claims arising after the home has been left unoccupied
- 2) Any wilful or negligent act or omission by **you** or any third party
- 3) Events where on attendance it becomes clear that the call out is not an emergency
- 4) General maintenance work or any system that has not been regularly maintained
- 5) Loss of or damage arising out of disconnection from or interruption to the public supply of gas or water or electricity to **your home**
- 6) Any emergency arising from poor workmanship or design defect
- 7) Any repair that is, in **our** opinion, either difficult or impossible to complete due to problems with access needed to facilitate the repair
- 8) Replacing lead, steel or iron pipes, rusting, corrosion, general wear and tear and/or gradual deterioration
- 9) Replacement of bespoke or designer radiators or towel rails
- 10) Any boiler or heating system that has not been serviced in line with manufacturer's recommendations
- 11) Improvements including work that is needed to bring the insured system up to current standards
- 12) Homes situated outside the territorial limits
- 13) Any damage caused by the approved engineer in gaining access in order to affect an emergency repair
- 14) Any system(s) not installed properly or in line with manufacturers guidelines
- 15) Claims arising within the first 48 hours from the date of commencement of this insurance unless **you** held equivalent insurance **immediately prior** to the commencement of this policy, or claims arising within the first 21 days under Boiler Replacement Contribution
- 16) Materials or labour charges covered by manufacturers, suppliers or installers guarantee or warranty
- 17) Garages, out-buildings, leisure equipment, cesspits, septic tanks, swimming pools or fuel tanks unless appropriately covered under the Pests section of this policy.
- 18) Any costs that would be more appropriately recovered under any other insurance
- 19) Any costs relating to trace and access or excavation
- 20) Any work on Internet connected heating control equipment (such as Hive, Nest, etc.) or any issues arising from such equipment.

# General conditions applicable to the Home Emergency Section

These conditions are in addition to those specified in 'Section K -General conditions'.

# 1. Statutory Regulations

In all matters relating to the performance of this insurance contract, it is the responsibility of both **you** and **us** that we both respectively comply with all Acts of Parliament and with all orders, regulations and bylaws made with statutory authority by Government Departments or by local or other authorities. The cost of meeting the requirements of this clause will be payable by **you** and **us** in our own rights respectively.

# 2. Severability Clause

If any term of this contract of insurance is to any extent invalid, illegal or incapable of being enforced, such term will be excluded to the extent of such invalidity, illegality or unenforceability; all other terms will remain in full force and effect

#### 3. Acts of Parliament

All references to Acts of Parliament in this policy shall include the equivalent laws in Scotland and Northern Ireland and shall include any subsequent amendments, re-enactments or regulations.

# SECTION J - Legal Expenses cover

This section explains the details of **your** cover if you have selected Legal Expenses cover as shown on **your** certificate. In this section of the Policy, **We/Us/Our** means the Legal Expenses insurer specified in **your insurer schedule**.

Upon payment of the premium, the insurer will provide **you** with legal expenses protection for the risks identified in the following sections, up to a limit of £100,000 for any one claim, provided that the legal action or criminal prosecution:

- i) relates to a cause, event or circumstance which occurs within the **territorial limits**
- ii) occurred during the period of insurance
- iii) has been notified to us during the period of insurance and as soon as reasonably possible after the date of event
- iv) can be dealt with by a court of competent jurisdiction within the territorial limits

In order for us to accept your claim, we must deem that there are reasonable prospects of success.

	What is covered:	What is NOT covered:
	vvnat is covered:	what is NOT covered:
1.	Personal Injury Legal costs incurred in bringing a legal action against a third party following an event which causes personal bodily injury to you, or an event which subsequently causes your death	Coroners' Inquests and Fatal Accident Enquiries  Alleged failure to correctly diagnose any medical condition  Any illness or bodily <b>injury</b> or psychological <b>injury</b> that occurs gradually or is not caused by a sudden, specific event  Any claims caused by or arising out of the deliberate, conscious or intentional disregard of your obligation to take all reasonable steps to prevent bodily <b>injury</b>
	What is covered:	What is NOT covered:
2.a)	Your home Legal costs incurred in bringing about legal action due to any infringement of your legal rights to own and occupy your property. The insurer will provide cover for legal costs incurred by you in taking legal action in connection with:  1. disputes over the buying or selling of the property  2. infringement or encroachment of your use, enjoyment or rights over the property  3. nuisance or trespass disputes which occur at or in respect of the property  The insurer will provide cover in respect of legal costs incurred in taking legal action  Following your unlawful eviction from a property occupied by you under an Assured Shorthold Tenancy agreement. This cover applies in respect of your permanent home and any other property occupied by you on a temporary basis; and against a landlord following a material breach of a tenancy agreement	Any claims for physical damage to your property where the amount claimed is less than £100  Claims relating to subsidence, ground heave, landslip mining or quarrying  Any claim relating to land or buildings owned by you but which are not your permanent primary residence within the territorial limits  Claims in respect of works undertaken or to be undertaken by or under the order of any government or public or local authority unless the claim is for accidental physical damage  Claims relating to any mortgage, loan agreement or any other consumer credit scheme

	What is covered:	What is NOT covered:
3.	Services and Personal Property Legal costs incurred in bringing a claim or beginning civil proceedings against a third party or organisation for:  1. any physical damage to personal property owned by you at your property 2. the purchase, hire, lease or sale of any personal or private goods or the provision of services for your private or personal use	Any claims made in respect of any motor vehicle owned, used by, hired or leased to <b>you</b> The settlement payable pursuant to any insurance or other policy  Any claim where the amount in dispute is less than £100
	What is covered:	What is NOT covered:
4.	Employment disputes Legal costs incurred in the pursuit of civil proceedings against your employer, in matters relating to any discriminatory action as specified in the Employment Tribunals Act 1996, including but not limited to:  1. unfair dismissal 2. minimum wage disputes 3. infringement of trade union rights 4. the right to request flexible working 5. discrimination on any grounds including but not limited to gender, sexual orientation, race or religion, maternity, paternity or parental leave.	Where your employment status is not that of an employee (worker, self-employed or contractor)  Any claim brought outside of the employment tribunal (e.g. county court or high court)  Fines, penalties or damages which you are ordered to pay by a court, tribunal or other authority  Any claim relating to your employer's disciplinary hearings or internal grievance procedures  Any claims relating to a settlement agreement whilst you are still employed
5.	Legal costs incurred in defending your legal rights in the following circumstances arising out of your work as an employee:  1. prior to being charged when dealing with the police or Health and Safety Executive or anybody else with the power to prosecute  2. in a civil action brought against you for compensation under Section 13 of the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) and Data Protection Act 2018  3. for civil proceedings brought against you under legislation for unlawful discrimination	Any claims in respect of parking or obstruction offences  Where your employment status is not that of an employee (worker, self-employed or contractor)  Fines, penalties or damages which you are ordered to pay by a court, tribunal or other authority  Your use of a motor vehicle for which you do not hold a valid licence or valid motor insurance

	What is covered:	What is NOT covered:
6.	Family We will represent you in any appeal proceedings following a full enquiry into your personal income tax position by H M Revenue & Customs. This cover only applies if you have:  • maintained proper, complete, truthful and up to date records, including making all returns at the due time without having to pay any penalty;  • provided all information that HM Revenue and Customs reasonably required.	Claims where deliberate misstatements or omissions have been made to the authorities  Claims where the Special Investigations Section, Special Civil Investigations or Prosecution Office is investigating <b>your</b> tax affairs  Claims for accountancy fees which related to <b>your</b> business, trade or profession  Claims in respect of income or gains which have been under declared because of false representations or statements by <b>you</b>
7.	Legal costs incurred in defending your legal rights following an insured event, which results in criminal proceedings being brought against you for an offence relating to your ownership or use of a motor vehicle.  Cover includes costs in respect of pleas in mitigation, provided that there are reasonable prospects that a plea will materially affect the outcome.	Any claims made in respect of parking or obstruction offences, for which you receive no penalty points against your licence  Any claims made when you have been driving or riding a motor vehicle without valid motor insurance or a valid driving licence  Any claims made, when you qualify for legal aid  Any claim arising from or associated with your driving under the influence of alcohol and/or drugs
8.	Your net salary or wages, less any amount payable by the court or which is recoverable from your employer, for the time that you are absent from work on jury service. The amount we will pay will not exceed £100 per day and is subject to a maximum of £1,000 in total.  We will calculate the amount payable based on the duration of your unpaid absence from work, based on an eight hour day and calculated to the nearest half day. One day's pay will be calculated as 1/250th of your total annual pay. Where you work part-time, the amount payable will be reduced on a pro-rata basis.	Any claims in respect of parking or obstruction offences  Where your employment status is not that of an employee (worker, self-employed or contractor)  Fines, penalties or damages which you are ordered to pay by a court, tribunal or other authority  Your use of a motor vehicle for which you do not hold a valid licence or valid motor insurance
9.	Probate The insurer will provide cover in respect of legal costs incurred in bringing a legal action in respect of a probate dispute involving the will of your deceased parents, grandparents, children, stepchildren or adopted children where you are contesting as a beneficiary.	Any claim in respect of a dispute where a will has not previously been made, or concluded, or cannot be traced  The negligent drafting of a will  Any claim relating to a dispute concerning the funeral service of the deceased  Any claim where the financial benefit to you is less than £10,000

# General exclusions applicable to the Legal Expenses section

- 1. Any claim:
  - i) where the amount being claimed is less than £100
  - ii) that is not notified to us during the period of insurance
  - iii) that is not notified to **us** as soon as is reasonably possible after the date of event when the claim may be prejudiced by late notification
  - iv) where cover is provided by trade union membership. (Where cover is available but does not provide protection for **your** claim written confirmation will be required to this effect)
  - v) if at the time a claim is made by the you under this policy there is any other insurance covering the same liability, the insurer will not be liable to pay or contribute more than **our** proportion of any claim and the **legal costs** in connection with this.
- The balance of any legal costs incurred before we have given our written acceptance of your claim, or before the inception date of this policy
- 3. Legal costs incurred whilst you are bankrupt, in administration or in receivership, or if you have entered into a voluntary agreement with creditors
- 4. Any dispute arising from a contract entered into prior to the inception of this legal expenses policy, with the exception of Contracts of Employment, where the cover and exclusions noted in Section 4 Employment Disputes will apply
- 5. The balance of legal costs in excess of what has previously been agreed
- 6. Any claim that arises as a result of a deliberate action by you
- 7. Any legal costs relating to any event giving rise to a claim or leading to civil proceedings which is not identified in sections 1-5 of the Cover section of this policy, including but not limited to:
  - i) divorce, separation or other matrimonial disputes; cohabitation disputes or any legal action brought about between members of **your** family or **household**
  - ii) any shareholding, directorship or partnership, or other commercial interest
  - iii) libel or slander or allegations which will or may harm your reputation
  - iv) any computer, electric or electronic error
  - any form of structural alteration to the property or any buildings forming part of it, for example an
    adjoining garage. Minor alterations are covered, as long as no works affect the structural integrity of the
    property
  - vi) any motor vehicle owned by **you** or anyone associated with **you**, or any incidents relating to road traffic accidents, except under Section 1 of the Cover section of this policy where you are injured as a pedestrian or cyclist
  - vii) any legal costs incurred in any appeal proceedings, unless the insurer agreed to cover the original claim, we deem that the matter has reasonable prospects and we are notified of the decision to appeal at least 7 days before the deadline to appeal
  - viii) fines, penalties or damages that you are ordered to pay by court, Tribunal or other authority, or;
  - ix) leases, licences, tenancies and disputes between landlord and tenant.

- 8. We will not offer any protection under this insurance contract for any defence of legal matters brought against you by a third party
- Any dispute whatsoever arising between you and us or the insurer or your insurance broker, other than the cover provided under the Arbitration Condition of this policy
- 10. Any claims for disputes or professional negligence against the appointed representative resulting from a current or previous claim under this policy. Please refer to the "How to Make a Complaint" section of this policy
- 11. Any enforcement proceedings or procedure arising from a successful outcome where settlement is not then made, unless relating to claims concluded successfully under this policy
- 12. Claims arising from or associated with your business, trade or profession or any other commercial venture
- 13. Any party legally acquiring the **property** from **you**, or restriction/controls placed on the **home** by governmental or public/local authorities (except for accidental physical damage)
- 14. Judicial review
- 15. Proceedings before, or reference to the European Court of Justice or the European Court of Human Rights
- 16. If we or the appointed representative do not believe there are reasonable prospects in pursuing your claim, the insurer will not pay for any costs arising from a subsequent or additional claim to determine reasonable prospects.

# General conditions applicable to the Legal Expenses section

These conditions are in addition to those specified in 'Section K -General conditions'.

## 1. Claims

- a) You will give notice to us during the period of insurance and as soon as reasonably possible of an insured event
- b) All professional fees, expenses, **disbursements** and any other costs may only be incurred with **our** prior written consent
- c) Legal costs will not be paid on an interim basis throughout a claim
- d) All legal costs are subject to an independent assessment to ensure that they have been incurred reasonably
- e) You will take all steps necessary to assist in the recovery of legal costs from a third party where appropriate and where you are able to do so
- f) You will not unreasonably withhold consent for your appointed representative to make an offer to settle the legal action

If an offer of settlement (which may include a Part 36 offer) is made that we or the appointed representative would deem fair and you do not accept it, the insurer will not be liable for any further costs incurred.

You will not withdraw from any legal action without our permission to do so.

In some circumstances, where we decide it is appropriate, the insurer may elect to pay you the sum of damages that you are seeking and then end or not begin civil proceedings, and the insurer will not be liable for any further costs incurred.

# 2. Appointed representative

a. i) Before legal proceedings are issued, an appointed representative from our panel will be appointed to act

- for you to pursue, defend or settle any claim we have accepted in accordance with the terms and conditions of this policy
- ii) Should legal proceedings need to be issued or have been issued against you, or where there is a conflict of interest, you can choose a non-panel solicitor of your choosing. You must inform us in writing of the full name and address of the representative you want to act for you
- iii) If there is any dispute over **your** choice of **non-panel solicitor you** will be asked to nominate an alternative. If, after having done so, **we** are still not able to agree, **you** may escalate the matter in accordance with General Condition 4
- b) If you do select to appoint your own non-panel solicitor, this insurance will not cover expenses over and above the costs that our panel would charge in equivalent circumstances. For your information, this means that we would take into account the seriousness of the claim and the location and class of non-panel solicitor that you choose. The hourly rate is currently set at £125 + VAT. We reserve the right to assess each case on its merits, and may agree to pay additional fees if we feel the situation warrants it. This will remain entirely at our discretion.
- c) The appointed representative or non-panel solicitor will have direct contact with us and must fully cooperate with us at all times, and you must cooperate with your representative, providing all necessary information and assistance to them as required.
- d) Any non-panel solicitor that you appoint must sign our standard terms of appointment and adhere to all of its terms. You agree to us having access to the appointed representative's or non-panel solicitor's (as the case may be) file relating to your claim. You will be considered to have provided express consent to us or our appointed agent to access the file for auditing, quality and cost control purposes.

### 3. Counsel's Opinion

Where reasonable and necessary, we may obtain at our own cost, advice on prospects for your claim from an independent barrister. This will be in the event that there is a dispute on the prospects of success for your claim, between your choice of appointed representative and our panel solicitors.

#### 4 Arbitration clause

If there is a dispute between you and us, or you and the insurer, which arises from this insurance, you can make a complaint to us in accordance with the complaints process. If we, or the insurer, are not able to resolve the matter satisfactorily and the matter can be dealt with by the Financial Ombudsman Service, you can ask them to arbitrate in the matter.

If the matter cannot be dealt with by the Financial Ombudsman Service, it can be referred to arbitration by a single arbitrator who will be agreed by both **you** and **us**. The arbitration shall be in accordance with the Arbitration Act 1996 and will be binding on both parties. The costs of the arbitration shall be at the discretion of the arbitrator.

If **we** are not able to agree on the appointment of an arbitrator, **we** shall ask the President of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators to decide. Their decision will be final and binding on both parties.

### 5. Statutory Regulations

In all matters relating to the performance of this insurance contract, it is the responsibility of both you and us that we both comply with all Acts of Parliament and with all orders, regulations and bylaws made with statutory authority by Government Departments or by local or other authorities. The cost of meeting the requirements of this clause will be payable by you and us in our own rights respectively.

### 6. Severability Clause

If any term of this contract of insurance is to any extent invalid, illegal or incapable of being enforced, such term will be excluded to the extent of such invalidity, illegality or unenforceability, all other terms will remain in full force and effect

### 7. Proportionality

Where an award of damages is the only legal remedy to a dispute and the cost of pursuing civil proceedings is likely to exceed the value of any such award of damages, the most the insurer will pay in respect of legal costs is the value of the likely award of damages.

#### 8. Acts of Parliament

All references to Acts of Parliament in this policy shall include the equivalent laws in Scotland, Northern Ireland, the Isle of Man and the Channel Islands and shall include any subsequent amendments, re-enactments or regulations.

#### Section K - General conditions

These are the conditions of the insurance you and your family will need to meet as your part of this contract.

There are additional conditions of insurance applicable to Section I Home Emergency and Section J Legal Expenses.

If you do not, a claim may be rejected or payment could be reduced. In some circumstances your policy might be invalid.

## Taking care

Your family must take all reasonable steps to avoid incurring liability and prevent loss or damage to everything which is covered by this insurance and to keep all the property insured in good condition and in good repair.

## Changes in your circumstances

You must tell the Administrator as soon as you are aware (and no more than 30 days later) of any of the following changes:

- You are going to move home permanently
- Someone other than you or your family is going to live in your home
- Your home is going to be unoccupied for more than 60 days in a row
- The number of bedrooms in **your home** has changed
- The value of your buildings or contents has increased and your sums insured may no longer be sufficient
- You or any member of your family receives a conviction or has a pending prosecution for any offence
  There is no need to tell us about driving offences or any offences which are spent under the Rehabilitation of
  Offenders Act 1974.
- Any part of your home is going to be used for trade, professional or business purposes

There is no need to tell us about trade, professional or business use if:

- The trade, professional or business use is only clerical: and
- You do not have staff employed to work from your home: and
- You do not have visitors to your home in connection with your trade, profession or business, and
- You do not keep any business money or stock in your home

We may re-assess your cover and premiums when we are told about changes in your circumstances. If you do not tell us about changes or provide full answers and relevant details, or give us incorrect information or do not answer questions honestly or to the best of your knowledge, the wrong terms may be quoted, a claim might be rejected or payment could be reduced. In some circumstances your policy might be invalid and you may not be entitled to a refund of premium.

#### Fraud

If you, your family or anyone acting on your behalf:

a) Makes any false or fraudulent claim

- b) Makes any exaggerated claim
- c) Supports a claim by false or fraudulent documents, devices or statements (whether or not the claim itself is genuine)
- d) Makes a claim for loss or damage which the insured or anyone acting on the insured's behalf deliberately caused we may:
  - i. Refuse to pay the whole of the claim; and
  - ii. Recover from you any sums that we have already paid in respect of the claim.

We will also notify you if we will be treating the policy as having terminated with effect from the date of the earliest of any acts set out in (a) - (d) above. In that event, you will:

- Have no cover under the **policy** from the date of termination; and
- Not be entitled to any refund of **premium**.

## Transferring your interest in the policy

You cannot transfer your interest in this policy to anyone else without our written permission.

### Other conditions

There are other conditions which relate to any claim **you** may make and these are shown in Section L under the heading 'Claims conditions'. **You** should also refer to any conditions shown under individual sections of **your policy**.

## Section L - Special claim conditions

#### Claims conditions

These are the claims conditions you and your family will need to keep to as your part of this contract. If you do not, a claim may be rejected or payment could be reduced. In some circumstances your policy may be invalid.

If anything happens which might lead to a claim, what you must do depends on what has happened. The sooner you tell us the better. In some cases, there are other people you must contact first.

When an incident occurs which may result in a claim, you must also read the information in Section Q under the heading 'How to claim'.

You should also check the information on 'How we settle claims' under the section of your policy which covers the loss or damage, e.g. contents, buildings.

# What you must do

If you or your family are the victim of theft, riot, a malicious act or vandalism, or if you lose something away from your home, tell the police as soon as possible upon discovery and ask for a crime reference number and tell us as soon as you can or in the case of riot tell us immediately.

If someone is holding any of your family responsible for an injury or any damage, no one in your family must admit responsibility. Give us full details in writing as soon as you can and any claim form, application notice, legal document or other correspondence sent to your family must be sent to us straightaway without being answered.

For all other claims, tell us as soon as you can.

You should do all we reasonably ask you to do to get back any lost or stolen property.

Do not throw away any damaged items before **we** have had a chance to see them.

To help us deal with your claim quickly, we may require additional information which may include the following:

- Original purchase receipts, invoices, instruction booklets or photographs;
- Purchase dates of lost or damaged items;
- For damaged items, confirmation by a suitably qualified expert that the item you are claiming for is beyond repair.

## Rights and responsibilities

We may need to get into your building that has been damaged to salvage anything we can and to make sure no more damage happens. You must help us to do this but you must not abandon your property to us.

You must not settle, reject, negotiate or offer to pay any claim you have made or intend to make under this policy without our written permission. We have the right, if we choose, in your name but at our expense to:

- Take over the defence or settlement of any claim;
- Start legal action to get compensation from anyone else;
- Start legal action to get back from anyone else any payments that have already been made.

You must provide us, at your own expense, with any information and assistance we may reasonably require about any claim. You must help us to take legal action against anyone or help us defend any legal action if we ask you to.

When you call us, at our option we will:

- Ask you to get estimates for building repairs or replacement items; or
- Arrange for the damage to be inspected by one of our Claims Advisors, an independent loss adjuster or other
  expert their aim is to help us agree a fair settlement with you; or
- Arrange for the repair or a replacement as quickly as possible.

#### Other insurance

If you claim under this policy for something which is also covered by another insurance policy, you must provide us with full details of the other insurance policy. We will only pay our share of any claim.

#### Section M - General exclusions

These exclusions apply to all sections of your policy. This insurance does not cover:

Exclusion:	Meaning:
Radioactive contamination	Any claim or expense of any kind caused directly or indirectly by:
	<ul> <li>Ionising radiation or radioactive contamination from any nuclear fuel or waste which results from the burning of nuclear fuel.</li> <li>The radioactive, toxic, explosive or other dangerous properties of nuclear machinery or any part of it.</li> </ul>
War risks	Any loss or damage caused by any sort of war, invasion or revolution.
Terrorism	Any loss, damage, liability, cost or expense of any kind directly or indirectly caused by, resulting from or in connection with any act of terrorism.  For the purpose of this exclusion terrorism means the use or threat of use of biological, chemical, radiological and/or nuclear force or contamination by any person(s) whether acting alone or on behalf of or in connection with any organisation(s) or government(s) committed for political, religious, ideological or similar purpose including the intention to influence any government(s) or put any section of the public in fear.
Sonic Bangs	Any loss or damage by pressure waves caused by aircraft or other flying objects moving at or above the speed of sound.

Pollution or contamination	Any claim or expense of any kind directly or indirectly caused by or arising out of pollution or contamination unless caused by:
	a sudden unexpected incident, or
	oil or water escaping from a fixed oil or water installation; and
	which was not the result of an intentional act; and
	which occurs during any period of insurance.
	All Pollution or Contamination which arises out of one incident shall be deemed to have occurred at the time such incident takes place.
Rot	Any loss or damage caused by wet rot or dry rot whether or not this was caused directly or indirectly by any other cover included in this insurance.
Defects	Any loss or damage caused by or from poor workmanship, poor design or faulty materials.
Events before the insurance starts	Any loss, damage, liability, cost or expense of any kind which occurs as a result of an event before the <b>period of insurance</b> starts.
Date change and computer viruses	Direct or indirect loss or damage caused:
	To equipment by its failing correctly to recognise data representing any date in such a way that it does not work properly or at all.
	By computer viruses.
	Liability arising directly or indirectly from:
	Equipment by its failing correctly to recognise data representing any date in such a way that it does not work properly or at all.
	Computer viruses.
	Equipment includes computers and anything else insured by the <b>policy</b> which has a microchip in it.
	Computers include hardware, software, data, electronic data processing equipment and other computing and electronic equipment linked to a computer.
	Microchips include integrated circuits and microcontrollers.
	Computer viruses include any programme or software which prevents any operating system, computer program or software working properly or at all.
Associated claim costs.	Your costs in preparing, proving, agreeing or negotiating your claim.
Any other costs.	Any costs incurred without our approval or permission.
Wear and tear.	Any loss, damage, liability, cost or expense of any kind caused by or resulting from wear and tear, depreciation, corrosion, rusting, damp, insects, vermin, fungus, condensation, fading, frost or anything which happens gradually, the process of cleaning, dyeing, repair, alteration, renovation or restoration.

### Section N - Duration of the insurance

Your policy is an annual contract. The policy will begin on the date you specify which will be the start date shown in your certificate and will expire 12 months from the start date.

The policy will be renewed on the renewal date, subject to payment of the premium, unless you tell us not to or the insurer has written to you to advise that the policy will be cancelled. At least 21 days prior to the end of each period of insurance, you will receive details about your cover for the next 12 months.

You must advise us if you choose not to renew your policy.

## Section O - The payment of premiums

You can choose to pay your premium by either

- i) using monthly credit facilities by Direct Debit, or
- ii) annually by Direct Debit or credit/debit card (fees may apply on credit card transactions).

If you are paying your premium using monthly credit facilities you must make regular monthly payments as per the terms of your credit agreement. If you fail to do this, your lender reserves the right to terminate your credit agreement in accordance with the terms of your credit agreement. If your credit agreement is terminated, your insurance cover may also be cancelled in accordance with the terms of your policy, unless the remainder of the premium due is paid. If your insurance is cancelled for this reason, a concellation charge may apply as shown on your Statement of Price. If the credit agreement requires you to pay an advance payment, you are required to pay that payment by the date specified by your lender or your policy may not be valid.

## Section P - Administration and Cancellation Charges

The Administrator reserves the right to apply an administration charge (subject to Insurance Premium Tax) to your policy. The administration charge is non refundable. The administration charge is refundable during your initial statutory right to cancel the policy, the administrator allows 30 days from the start date of your policy.

A **policy** cancellation charge applies to the insurance contract (subject to Insurance Premium Tax). The cancellation charge is payable when **you** cancel the **policy** and will be deducted from **your** refund of **premium** or **we** will ask **you** to pay the charge to release the **policy** cancellation. The cancellation charge is not payable during **your** initial statutory right to cancel the **policy**, the **administrator** allows 30 days from the **start date** of **your policy**.

Charges applicable to your policy are included in your Statement of Price.

### Section Q - How to claim

## To make a claim for sections B - H

- Check the policy and your certificate to see whether or not the event is covered.
- If you are a victim of theft, vandalism or something is lost or damaged away from your home, tell the police
  first and ask for an incident number. It would be helpful if you have an approximate cost to replace or repair the
  item(s) you would like to claim for.
- Telephone the claims helpline and confirm your certificate number. The helpline number and certificate number can be located on your certificate of insurance.

We will register the claim from the details you provide and tell you what to do next.

You should not admit fault if you are being held responsible for injury or damage. In this instance you should send all documents unanswered and without delay to the Paymentshield Claim Team address located on your certificate

### To make a claim for section I - Home Emergency cover

Check your certificate and the policy booklet to see whether you are covered by the **Home Emergency** cover section of the policy.

Check that the event you want to claim for is covered by phoning the **Home Emergency** helpline. The number can be located on your certificate of insurance.

We will arrange for a skilled and reliable tradesman, approved by us, to get in touch with you.

NB. The Home Emergency helpline service does not give confirmation of whether or not you have cover for any of the loss or damage which has occurred, under your Buildings and Contents cover.

### To make a claim for section J - Legal Expenses cover

Check your **certificate** and the **policy** booklet to see whether **you** are covered by the Legal Expenses cover section of the **policy**.

Check that the event you want to claim for is covered by phoning the Legal Expenses helpline. The number can be located on your certificate of insurance.

### Helpline services

We offer you a range of helpline services. These are available 24 hours a day any day of the year. You will need to have your policy number available whenever you contact the helplines.

### Home emergency Helpline

In this section of the policy, We/Us/Our means the Home Emergency insurer specified in your certificate.

You will find your policy number and Home emergency Helpline number on your certificate.

The Home emergency helpline is a service that provides help with domestic emergencies, for example, a burst pipe or a break-in. If an emergency happens which threatens the safety of your home and you need help fast, just call this helpline. We will arrange for a skilled and reliable tradesman, approved by us to get in touch with you. You will have to pay the tradesman's bill and you will require a credit or debit card to use this service. If the loss or damage is subsequently covered under your Buildings and Contents cover you can claim what you paid the tradesman but the appropriate policy excess will then apply. You will also have to pay the tradesman's bill if you have used this facility but not selected Home emergency cover.

### Telephone Legal Advice Helpline

In this section of the Policy, We/Us/Our means the Legal Expenses insurer specified in your certificate.

You will find your policy number and Telephone Legal Advice Helpline number on your certificate.

Available 24 hours a day throughout the year to provide **you** with confidential telephone advice about any personal legal problem in the UK. **We** can also provide Legal Advice on issues arising in member states of the European Union

To help us monitor our service standards, telephone calls to the Helpline may be recorded.

Please do not phone the Helpline to report a general insurance claim. We will not accept responsibility if the Helpline services are unavailable for reasons we cannot control.

## Section R - Cancellation rights under the policy

If, having examined your policy, you decide not to proceed you have a statutory right to cancel for up to 14 days from the Start Date. However, we have extended this to a 30 day cooling off period where you may cancel the policy back to the Start Date without charge with a full refund of any premiums already paid, unless you have made a claim during this period.

Following the expiry of your cooling off period, you continue to have the right to cancel your policy at any time during its term. If you do so, you will be entitled to a refund of the premium paid, subject to a deduction for the time for which you have been covered. This will be calculated on a pro-rata basis for the period for which you have received cover and there will also be an additional cancellation charge, as shown on your Statement of Price, to cover the administrative cost of providing the policy. If you have made a claim and you choose to cancel your policy, you may not be entitled to a refund of premium.

We may cancel this **policy** by sending 30 days notice to **your** last known address. **You** will be entitled to a refund of the **premium** paid, subject to a deduction for the time for which you have been covered. If **you** have made a claim, **you** may not be entitled to a refund of premium.

If you are paying your premium using a monthly credit facility and you do not make regular monthly payments as per the terms of your credit agreement, we reserve the right to cancel your insurance in accordance with the terms of your credit agreement. If we cancel your insurance for this reason, an additional cancellation charge will apply, as shown on your Statement of Price.

### Section S - How to cancel your policy

To cancel **your** cover, **you** should contact the Paymentshield Customer Services Team on **0345** 6011 050. Alternatively, **you** can write to Paymentshield in advance at the address shown on **your certificate** and **your** cover will end on the date Paymentshield receive **your** written request.

## Section T - What you should do if you have a complaint

Please refer to your insurer schedule included in your policy documentation which outlines the complaints process.

### Sales

If you are unhappy with any aspect of the sale of this policy or have cause for complaint you should initially contact the person who arranged the cover for you.

#### Administration

The Administrator handles complaints regarding general administration on our behalf.

If you are unhappy with the general administration of the policy, Home Emergency or Legal Expenses cover or have cause for complaint you should contact the Paymentshield Customer Services Team by telephone or in writing to the Paymentshield address located on your insurer schedule.

The Financial Ombudsman Service (FOS) was set up by parliament to resolve complaints that customers and financial businesses are not able to resolve. FOS is an independent service free to customers.

If you have a complaint about any aspect of our service, you should contact us in the first instance. If you remain dissatisfied with our response or 8 weeks have elapsed from the date we received your complaint, you may be eligible to refer your complaint to FOS.

The contact details for the Ombudsman, can be found below: The Financial Ombudsman Service

Exchange Tower

London

E14 9SR

0800 023 4 567

(calls to this number are now free on mobile phones and landlines.

Monday - Friday, 8am - 8pm, Saturday, 9am - 1pm)

#### 0300 123 9 123

(calls to this number cost no more than calls to 01 and 02 numbers. Monday – Friday, 8am – 8pm, Saturday, 9am – 1pm) complaint.info@financial-ombudsman.org.uk www.financial – ombudsman.org.uk

### Claims

### For Sections B - H Buildings, Contents and Personal Possessions cover

If you are unhappy about claims handling on the policy for Buildings, Contents and Personal Possessions cover you should contact the Claims Team by telephone or in writing. The contact details for complaints concerning claims for Buildings, Contents and Personal Possessions are located on your Insurer Schedule.

#### For Section I - Home Emergency

If you are unhappy about claims handling on the policy for Home Emergency cover you should contact the Quality Assurance Manager. The contact details for complaints concerning claims for Home Emergency are located on your Insurer Schedule.

### For Section J - Legal Expenses

If you are unhappy about claims handling on the policy for Legal Expenses cover you should contact the Quality Assurance Manager. The contact details for complaints concerning claims for Legal Expenses are located on your Insurer Schedule.

### Section U - Fair Processing Notice

This section describes how the administrator, Paymentshield, will capture, process and store **your** data. For details on how the insurer of **your** policy uses **your** personal data please refer to **your** insurer schedule for contact details.

Full details of Paymentshield's Fair Processing Notice which can be found here: https://www.Paymentshield.co.uk/Fair-Processing-Notice. It explains who Paymentshield are, the types of information it holds, how it is used, who they share it with and how long it is kept and informs you of certain rights you have regarding your personal information. If you are unable to access this website, details can be obtained by contacting the address detailed or telephone number indicated in any recent correspondence or emails you have received from Paymentshield.

#### Who are we?

Paymentshield Limited (part of The Ardonagh Group of companies) along with the insurer is the Data Controller of the information **you** have provided. **You** can contact Paymentshield for general data protection queries by email to DataProtection@ardonagh.co.uk or in writing to The Data Protection Officer, care of the office of the Chief Information Officer, The Ardonagh Group, 1 Minster Court, Mincing Lane, London, EC3R 7AA.

# How Paymentshield use the information you provide

Your personal information will be used to:

- Assess and provide the products or services that you have requested through arranging and administration of
  policies
- Communicate with you
- Develop new products and services
- Undertake statistical analysis
- Contact you about products that are closely related to those you already hold with Paymentshield
- Provide additional assistance or tips about these products or services
- Notify you of important functionality changes to our websites
- Cross reference with information from publicly available sources
- Conduct Market research

Any new information you provide us may be used to update any existing record we hold for you.

Only where you have provided us with consent to do so, we may from time to time use your information to provide you with details of marketing or promotional opportunities and offers relating to other products and services from The Ardonagh Group (http://www.ardonagh.com).

# Sharing your information

We will only share your information:

- Where we are required to do so by law
- With fraud prevention agencies or third parties that provide a service to us or on our behalf;
- Where we may transfer rights and obligations under this agreement; and
- In order to achieve any of the purposes for which we process your data, as noted above

The data we hold may be transferred to, and stored at, a destination outside of the European Economic Area (EEA). It may also be processed by staff operating outside of the EEA who work for us or one of our suppliers. If we provide information to a third party we will require it and any of its agents and/or suppliers to take all steps reasonable necessary to ensure that **your** data is treated securely and in accordance with this notice.

We follow strict security procedures in the storage and disclosure of **your** personal information in line with industry practices.

### How long do we keep your information?

We will not keep **your** personal information for longer than is necessary for the purpose for which it was provided unless we are required to by law or have other legitimate reason to do so, such as if necessary for any legal processing. This is typically for a period of no more than 6 years after the termination or cancellation of a product, contract or service we provide.

### Your Rights

You have rights relating to your personal data, such as to request access to a copy of the data we hold about you, to request a review of any automated decision taken about you and correct any erroneous information we hold about you. More details on your rights can be found on the Information commissioner's website: https://ico.org.uk/

## Section V - Underwriting

#### Sections B - H & I - J

The insurance for policy sections B - H, I & J are underwritten by the insurers specified in your Insurer Schedule. The insurers to this insurance contract are authorised by the Prudential Regulation Authority (PRA) and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority (FCA) and the Prudential Regulation Authority as an insurance company and to undertake insurance mediation. The Financial Services registration number for your insurer is specified in your Insurer Schedule. You can check the insurers registration number and status by visiting the FCA's website or by contacting the FCA on 0800 111 6768.

#### Section W - No Claims Discount

This part of the **policy** explains how No Claims Discount works and only applies if "No Claims Discount" is shown on **your certificate**.

If no incident occurs during the **period of insurance** which results in a claim under the **Buildings** or Contents sections, **your** No Claims Discount will increase in line with **our** scale at the renewal of the **policy**.

For each incident that occurs during the **period of insurance** which results in a claim under the **Buildings** or Contents sections, **your** No Claims Discount may reduce in line with **our** scale at the renewal of the **policy**.

You cannot transfer your No Claims Discount to anyone else.

### Section X - Enquiries and assistance

If you have any queries about your policy please contact the Paymentshield Customer Services Team on 0345 6011 050.

## A Guide to Direct Debit Payments

# (this section does not form part of the policy conditions)

The premium for your policy is collected by monthly or annual Direct Debit from your bank account.

We can accept your instruction in one of the following ways:

- From a signed Direct Debit mandate
- From a telephone instruction you have given to us
- Electronically (if collected by your intermediary) or through the internet



#### The Direct Debit Guarantee

- This Guarantee is offered by all Banks and Buildings Societies that accept instructions to pay Direct Debits
- If there are any changes to the amount, date of frequency of your Direct Debit Paymentshield will notify
  you 10 working days in advance of your account being debited or as otherwise agreed. If you request
  Paymentshield to collect the payment, confirmation of the amount and date will be given to you at the
  time of the request.
- If an error is made in the payment of **your** Direct Debit, by Paymentshield or **your** Bank or **Building** Society, you are entitled to a full and immediate refund of the amount paid from **your** bank or **building** society
  - if you receive a refund you are not entitled to, you must pay it back when Paymentshield asks you to
- You can cancel a Direct Debit at any time by simply contacting **your** Bank or **Building** Society. Written confirmation may be required. Please also notify us.



The Administrator for this insurance policy is Paymentshield Limited

Paymentshield Limited is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority under Registration No. 312708. You can check this on the Financial Services Register by visiting the FCA's website or by contacting the FCA on 0800 111 6768 or 0300 500 8082.

Paymentshield and the Shield logo are registered trade marks of Paymentshield Limited

Telephone calls to Paymentshield may be recorded for security purposes and monitored under our quality control procedures

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