INCOMESHIELD





Please read this booklet carefully alongside **your policy** documents, to ensure that the cover provided meets **your** needs and expectations.

This *Policy Booklet* is also available in Braille and large print.



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Need to FIND SOMETHING QUICKLY ...?

- Q How do I make a claim?
- A See pages 14-17
- Q What cover have I selected?
- A Check your Certificate of Cover

- Q What number do I call in the event of a claim?
- A 0330 134 8586
- Q I want to make changes to my policy
- A Contact Paymentshield on 0345 6011 050

SHORT TERM INCOME INSURANCE

This **policy** is designed to protect **your** income in the event of an **accident**, **sickness** and/or **unemployment**, (depending on the levels of cover selected by **you**) providing **you** meet the eligibility criteria set out in the "Eligibility" Section and have paid the **monthly premium** when due.

This **policy** together with the **certificate of cover** provides **you** with everything **you** need to know about **your** cover and contains all the contractual terms and conditions of **your** cover including the exclusions. Please make sure that **you**:

- are eligible for the insurance cover;
- know what this insurance does and does not cover;
- know what insurance cover you have chosen;
- understand how changes in your employment affect eligibility; and
- understand the terms and conditions for making a claim.

There are 3 levels of cover available under this insurance cover. The benefits applicable to **you** depend on the level of cover **you** selected when applying for this insurance or any changes **you** make during the lifetime of this **policy** and will be shown in **your certificate of cover**.

The levels of cover are:

- Accident, sickness and unemployment cover
- Accident and sickness cover
- Unemployment cover

This **policy** uses words and phrases that have specific meanings. **You** will find these explained in the "Definitions" Section. Defined words are shown in "**bold**" wherever they appear.

- i. Within the "cooling off period" - if you decide you do not want the cover and wish to cancel **your policy**, **you** can do so by contacting Paymentshield within 30 days of the start date or the date you receive your policy documents, whichever is the later (the "cooling off period"). You will receive a full refund of any monthly **premium** paid provided no claim has been made under the terms of this **policy**. If **you** have made a claim, no refund of monthly premium will be payable.
- ii. Outside the "cooling off period" - if you cancel your cover after the cooling off period **you** may not be entitled to any refund of premiums, in order to determine **your** eligibility for a refund please contact Paymentshield at the address below.
- iii. If we change your monthly premium and/ or vary or waive your terms and conditions and you do not wish to continue your cover you should contact Paymentshield to discuss **your** options. Depending on your circumstances, you may be able to change your monthly benefit or change **your** type of cover. Alternatively **you** can cancel without notice and without penalty. Any cancellation will take effect at the end of the period for which **you** have already paid your monthly premium.
- All cancellation requests should be iv. made to:

Paymentshield Customer Services Team Paymentshield Limited PO Box 229, Southport PR9 9WU

0345 6011 050

enquiries@paymentshield.co.uk

IMPORTANT NUMBERS

If **you** have any questions about **your** eligibility for this insurance or changes to **your** circumstances **you** should call:



Paymentshield Customer Helpline: 0345 6011 050 Lines open between 8.00am-7.00pm Monday to Friday (8.00am-1.00pm Saturdays).

To register a claim (or check progress on a claim) call:

Claims Helpline

0330 134 8586 Lines open between 9:00am - 5:00pm Monday to Friday.

If **you** are registering a claim **you** should read the 'Making a claim' Section before calling to make sure **you** have the relevant information available. Telephone calls may be recorded and monitored.

CUSTOMERS WITH DISABILITIES

This **policy** is also available in large print, audio and Braille. If **you** require any of these formats please contact the **Paymentshield** Customer Helpline.

ELIGIBILITY

'To be eligible for this insurance **you** must:

- i. be 18 years or over but less than 64 years of age;
- ii. be working for at least 16 hours per week and live in the United Kingdom. You will also be eligible for continued cover if you worked and lived in the United Kingdom and you are subsequently posted to work outside the United Kingdom for; (a) the British Armed Forces or as a civil servant at a British Embassy or Consulate; or (b) your employer which is a United Kingdom company and you are assigned to work within the European Union; and
- iii. have been in **full-time employment** with the current employer for at least 6 continuous consecutive months, **working**

under a **fixed-term contract** with the current employer for at least 24 continuous consecutive months or **self-employment** for at least 6 continuous consecutive months, immediately before the **start date**.

In addition to the eligibility requirements above, we have used the information supplied by you in your application for this policy in making our decision to offer you cover under this policy.

SELF-EMPLOYED AND FIXED-TERM CONTRACT WORKERS

If you are self-employed or you work on a fixed-term contract(s) you are eligible for this insurance but you should read this policy carefully to make sure it is suitable for your needs - you should pay particular attention to the definitions of "self-employed" and "ceased trading", the "Unemployment Benefit - What is covered" Section and the "Making a claim" Section.

If **you** are **self-employed** and wish to claim **unemployment** benefit **you** will need to provide

satisfactory evidence that **you**:

- have involuntarily ceased trading;
- are registered as **unemployed** with the Department for Work and Pensions Jobcentre Plus; and
- fulfil the definition of **unemployed**.

If any of these happen or are likely to happen to **you** or if **you** have any questions **you** should contact **us** to discuss.

You must continue to meet the conditions (i) and (ii) above to remain eligible for the levels of cover that apply to you. If your circumstances change as described in "Changing Level of Benefit/Circumstances" Section or you no longer meet the conditions (i) and (ii) above you should contact Paymentshield straight away to discuss your options.

IMPORTANT NOTES

Certain circumstances may affect **your** right to benefit if **you** are aware of them at the **start date**. We will not pay any benefits under this **policy** for:

 accident or sickness claims: any condition, injury, illness, disease, sickness or related condition and/or associated symptoms whether specifically diagnosed or not, which medical evidence shows you knew about or were experiencing symptoms that you would have been aware of at the start date or, for which you sought or received advice, treatment or counselling from a doctor during the 12 months immediately prior to the start date.

However, **you** will be able to claim if **you** have been symptom free and have not consulted a **doctor** or received treatment for the condition for at least 12 months after the **start date**. Please refer to the "Accident and sickness (Disability) exclusions - what is not covered" Section;

- sickness claims: any sickness which occurs within the initial exclusion period. Your certificate of cover will confirm the exclusion period which applies to your policy;
- **unemployment** claims: any **unemployment** which follows any announcement or action by **your** employer prior to the **start date** in relation to the department or division of the business in which **you work**, and which relates to any redundancies, employee consultations, restructures, mergers or reorganisations that have led or could lead to compulsory job losses, mandatory reduced **working** hours or mandatory reduction in salary;
- unemployment claims: any unemployment which happens within the initial exclusion period. Your certificate of cover will confirm the exclusion period which applies to your policy;
- a Carer Cover claim under the "Unemployment Benefits - what is covered" Section, if your immediate family member is in receipt of any disability benefit for his/her condition as described by the Department of Work and Pensions Jobcentre Plus, or you are in receipt of Carer's Allowance in relation to

your immediate family member's disability, as described by the Department of Work and Pensions Jobcentre Plus.

CHANGING LEVEL OF BENEFIT/ CIRCUMSTANCES

- It is your responsibility to ensure this policy and the chosen monthly benefit continues to meet your requirements.
- ii. If you want to change the amount of your monthly benefit or your type of cover please call the Paymentshield Customer Helpline or write to the Paymentshield Customer Services Team at Paymentshield Limited, PO Box 229, Southport, PR9 9WU or e-mail enquiries@paymentshield.co.uk. Eligibility and underwriting criteria will apply. If the change is accepted it will take effect from the date Paymentshield confirm they have accepted the amendment. You cannot amend your monthly benefit or **your** type of cover if **you** are already receiving monthly benefit under this **policy** or are aware of circumstances which mean that **you** will need to make a claim.
- iii. If we have accepted an amendment we will not:
 - a. apply any decrease in **your** qualification period;
 - apply any increase to the maximum number of **monthly benefit** payments;
 - c. pay any increase in **your monthly benefit**; or
 - d. pay any **monthly benefit** under any additional cover

If any of the following occur:

- a. for unemployment claims: you receive notice verbally or in writing of unemployment, or are aware of impending unemployment within 120 days of the date you applied for the increase or change. This will be reduced to 60 days if you are a new borrower;
- b. for unemployment claims: your

unemployment follows any announcements or action by your employer prior to the date you applied for the increase or change in relation to the department or division of the business in which you work, and which relates to any redundancies, employee consultations, restructures, mergers or reorganisations that have led or could lead to compulsory job losses, mandatory reduced working hours or mandatory reduction in salary;

c. for accident or sickness claims: an accident or sickness claim results from any condition, injury, illness, disease, sickness or related condition and/or associated symptoms whether specifically diagnosed or not, which medical evidence shows you knew about (or were experiencing symptoms that you would have been aware of) at the date you applied for the increase or change, or for which you sought or received advice, treatment or counselling from a doctor during the 12 months immediately prior to the date you applied for the increase or change.

However, this exclusion will not apply if **you** have been symptom free and have not consulted a **doctor** or received treatment for the condition in the 12 months immediately prior to **your** claim; or

d. sickness within the initial exclusion period.

ACCIDENT AND SICKNESS (DISABILITY) BENEFITS: WHAT IS COVERED

This cover only applies if it is specified in **your** certificate of cover.

 Your certificate of cover will show the type of cover you have selected and the qualification period that applies to you.

OPTION 1 - 30 DAY QUALIFICATION PERIOD - BACK TO DAY 1 COVER

If after the **start date** and before the **end date** an **accident** or **sickness** prevents **you** from

working for 30 consecutive days or more, **we** will pay:

- a. the **monthly benefit** for the first 30 days **you** are unfit for **work**; and
- b. thereafter, 1/30th of the **monthly benefit** for each continuous day **you** remain unfit for **work**.

OPTION 2 - 30 DAY QUALIFICATION PERIOD - EXCESS COVER

If after the **start date** and before the **end date** an **accident** or **sickness** prevents **you** from **working** for 30 consecutive days or more, **we** will pay from the 31st day onwards, 1/30th of the **monthly benefit** for each continuous day **you** are unfit for **work**.

OPTION 3 - 60 DAY QUALIFICATION PERIOD - EXCESS COVER

If after the **start date** and before the **end date** an **accident** or **sickness** prevents **you** from **working** for 60 consecutive days or more, **we** will pay from the 61st day onwards, 1/30th of the **monthly benefit** for each continuous day **you** are unfit for **work**.

OPTION 4 - 90 DAY QUALIFICATION PERIOD - EXCESS COVER

If after the **start date** and before the **end date** an **accident** or **sickness** prevents **you** from **working** for 90 consecutive days or more, **we** will pay from the 91st day onwards, 1/30th of the **monthly benefit** for each continuous day **you** are unfit for **work**.

OPTION 5 - 180 DAY QUALIFICATION PERIOD - EXCESS COVER

If after the **start date** and before the **end date** an **accident** or **sickness** prevents **you** from **working** for 180 consecutive days or more, **we** will pay from the 181st day onwards, 1/30th of the **monthly benefit** for each continuous day **you** are unfit for **work**.

The **monthly benefit** will be paid monthly in arrears provided **you** meet the terms and conditions of this **policy**.

- ii. To receive the **monthly benefit you** must:
 - a. be in full-time employment or selfemployment when your accident occurs or sickness begins;
 - b. be under the regular medical care as directed by **your doctor**;

- c. be prevented from **working** only as a result of the **accident** or **sickness**;
- d. not be receiving the **monthly benefit** for **unemployment** for the same period; and
- e. give **us** any evidence **we** ask for in order to prove **your** claim is valid and continues to be so.
- iii.When paying your claim we will consider the first day of your accident or sickness to be the day a doctor certifies that you are unfit for work.
- iv. We will continue to pay the **monthly benefit** until:
 - we have paid the maximum number of monthly benefit payments in respect of a single accident and sickness claim as shown on your certificate of cover;
 - b. you return to full-time employment or self-employment;
 - you fail to provide evidence (as listed in Section "Making a claim" (ii)) to prove your claim remains valid and continues to be so; or
 - d. the **end date**; whichever happens first.
- v. Can you work whilst you are claiming?

If you are in full-time employment - if you make a valid claim and your doctor confirms that because of your condition you must return to work gradually over a period of time, we will continue to pay your monthly benefit at the same rate until you are working at least 16 hours per week, or your doctor confirms your accident or sickness no longer prevents you from working for at least 16 hours per week, subject to the terms and conditions of this policy.

If **you** have made an **accident** or **sickness** claim and then find alternative part-time **work** for less than 16 hours per week, **you** will still be able to claim for **accident** and **sickness** benefit provided that **you** are in receipt of Employment and Support Allowance.

If **you** are **self-employed** - **you** must not do any **work** including helping, managing or carrying on any part of the running of a business whilst **you** are claiming and **you** must not be receiving any form of payment whilst **you** are claiming.

vi.Future Claims

- a. You may make a further **accident** and **sickness** claim:
- i. for an unrelated condition if you have returned to full-time employment or self-employment for at least 1 month following the previous accident and sickness claim, unless paragraph (b) below applies; or
- ii. for the same or a related condition

 if you have returned to full-time employment or self-employment for at least 3 consecutive months following the previous accident or sickness claim, unless paragraph (b) below applies.

However, if two **accident** or **sickness** claims (each resulting from the same or a related condition) are separated by less than 3 consecutive months of **full-time employment** or **self-employment**, **we** will treat them as one continuous claim for the purposes of calculating the maximum **monthly benefits** payable, but no benefit will be payable for the time in between.

- b. If we have paid the maximum monthly benefits for a single claim, you may only make a further accident and sickness claim (whether resulting from a related or unrelated condition) provided you have returned to full-time employment or self-employment for at least 3 consecutive months.
 Statutory maternity or paternity leave can form part or all of the 1 or 3 month periods in (a) and (b) above.
- vii.Pregnancy and childbirth we will pay benefit for any accident or sickness resulting from any symptom(s) of, or complication(s) of pregnancy and childbirth which a doctor certifies prevents you from working, and which is not excluded under any other exclusions listed in this policy. However no benefit will be payable for normal pregnancy and childbirth related conditions.
- viii.The maximum **monthly benefit** payable under this **policy** is £2,000 or 65% of **your gross monthly income**, whichever is less.

ix. If your doctor certifies that you must return to work gradually, we will deduct your monthly earnings from your monthly benefit and pay you the difference.

ACCIDENT AND SICKNESS (DISABILITY) EXCLUSIONS: WHAT IS NOT COVERED

We will not pay any accident and sickness benefit if **your accident** or **sickness** results from or as a consequence of the following:

- i. any **sickness** within the **initial exclusion period**;
- ii. any pre-existing medical condition this exclusion does not apply if you have been symptom free and have not consulted a doctor or received treatment for the condition, for at least 12 months after the start date;
- iii. a self-inflicted injury;
- iv. civil unrest, terrorism, riot or insurrection, war or any act incidental to war (whether declared or not) or being on active naval, military or air force duty, service or any type of associated or similar operations;
- v. being under the influence of, or being affected by, alcohol or drugs unless prescribed by a **doctor** (other than prescribed for the treatment of drug addiction or alcohol dependency);
- vi. any surgical procedure taken at **your** own request, which is not medically necessary to sustain **your** quality of life, or cosmetic surgery unless directly attributable to physical injury, disease or **sickness**; or
- vii.ionising radiation or radioactive contamination from nuclear fuel, waste or equipment.

UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS: WHAT IS COVERED

This level of cover only applies if it is specified

in your certificate of cover.

 Your certificate of cover will show the type of cover you have selected and the qualification period that applies to you.

OPTION 1 - 30 DAY QUALIFICATION PERIOD - BACK TO DAY 1 COVER

If after the **start date** and before the **end date you** are **unemployed** for 30 consecutive days or more, **we** will pay:

- a. the **monthly benefit** for the first 30 days **you** are **unemployed**; and
- b. thereafter, 1/30th of the **monthly benefit** for each continuous day **you** remain **unemployed**.

OPTION 2 - 30 DAY QUALIFICATION PERIOD - EXCESS COVER

If after the **start date** and before the **end date you** are **unemployed** for 30 consecutive days or more, **we** will pay from the 31st day onwards, 1/30th of the **monthly benefit** for each continuous day **you** remain **unemployed**.

OPTION 3 - 60 DAY QUALIFICATION PERIOD - EXCESS COVER

If after the **start date** and before the **end date you** are **unemployed** for 60 consecutive days or more, **we** will pay from the 61st day onwards, 1/30th of the **monthly benefit** for each continuous day **you** remain **unemployed**.

OPTION 4 - 90 DAY QUALIFICATION PERIOD - EXCESS COVER

If after the **start date** and before the **end date you** are **unemployed** for 90 consecutive days or more, **we** will pay from the 91st day onwards, 1/30th of the **monthly benefit** for each continuous day **you** remain **unemployed**.

OPTION 5 - 180 DAY QUALIFICATION PERIOD -EXCESS COVER

If after the **start date** and before the **end date you** are **unemployed** for 180 consecutive days or more, **we** will pay from the 181st day onwards, 1/30th of the **monthly benefit** for each continuous day **you** remain **unemployed**.

The **monthly benefit** will be paid monthly in arrears provided **you** meet the terms and conditions of this **policy**.

- ii. To receive the **monthly benefit you** must:
 - a. have been in full-time employment, self -employed for at least 9 continuous consecutive months (6 if you are a new borrower), or working on a fixed term contract for at least 24 continuous consecutive months, immediately prior to the start date;
 - b. satisfy the definition of unemployed set out in the "Definitions" Section (and if you were self-employed, you must have ceased trading);
 - c. not be receiving the **monthly benefit** for **accident** or **sickness** for the same period; and
 - provide us with any evidence we ask for (as listed in Section "Making a claim" (iii)) in order to prove your claim is valid and continues to be so.
- iii. When paying your claim, we will consider your first day of unemployment to be the day you are first registered as unemployed with the Department for Work and Pensions Jobcentre Plus or equivalent government department in Northern Ireland or a European Union member state. You will not be considered to be unemployed for days for which you receive payment in lieu of notice.
- iv. We will continue to pay the **monthly benefit** until:
 - we have paid the maximum number of monthly benefit payments in respect of a single unemployment claim as shown on your certificate of cover;
 - b. you return to full-time employment or self-employment;
 - c. you fail to satisfy the definition of unemployment set out in the "Definitions" Section;
 - you fail to provide us with any evidence we ask for in order to prove your claim is valid and continues to be so.
 - e. the end date;

whichever happens first.

CARER COVER

a. if **you** are **unemployed** as a result of **you** becoming a **carer**, **we** will consider an

unemployment claim if **you** can provide evidence that **you** are:

- i. required to care for a member of **your immediate family**; and
- ii. in receipt of Carer's Allowance from the Department for Work and Pensions Jobcentre Plus or such government office which replaces it; and
- b. **we** will not pay benefits under this **policy** for a **carer** cover claim if at the **start date**:
 - i. **your immediate family** member was in receipt of any accident or sickness benefit for his/her condition as described by the Department of Work and Pensions Jobcentre Plus; or
 - ii. you were in receipt of Carer's Allowance as described by the Department of Work and Pensions Jobcentre Plus.
- v. Future claims

You may make a further **unemployment** claim if **you** have returned to **full-time employment** or **self-employment** for at least 3 consecutive months following the previous **unemployment** claim.

However, if two periods of **unemployment** are separated by less than 3 consecutive months of **full-time employment** or self**employment**, **we** will treat them as one continuous period of **unemployment** for the purposes of calculating the maximum **monthly benefits** payable, but no benefit will be payable for the time in between.

Statutory maternity or paternity leave can form part or all of the 3 month period above.

- vi. Fixed-term Contract Workers If you work on a fixed-term contract and your contract is not renewed you will only be entitled to claim for **unemployment** cover if you meet one of the following criteria:
 - you have been on a contract with the same employer for at least 12 months and had the contract renewed at least once;
 - b. you have worked continuously under contract with the same employer for at least 24 months;
 - c. you were originally employed on a

permanent basis but were transferred to a **fixed-term contract** by the same employer without a break in **employment**; or

- d. **you** have been with the same employer and are under a contract which is not regularly renewable but is individually negotiated, and which has:
- i. been in force for at least 6 months;
- ii. been renewed at least twice; and
- iii. terminated before it was due to naturally expire.

iv. Temporary Work During a Claim

- An unemployment claim may be suspended for a period of temporary work, provided:
- i. **you** notify **us** before **your** temporary **work** starts; and
- ii. your temporary work lasts for at least one week and no longer than 12 months, whether as one contract or a series of contracts.

Once **your** temporary **work** has ended, **we** will continue to pay **your** claim as a continuation of **your** earlier claim up to a maximum of 12 **monthly benefit** payments in total, subject to the terms and conditions of this **policy**.

- b. If you are in temporary work with the same employer for 12 months or more and you are made unemployed, we will pay unemployment benefit as set out under the "Unemployment Benefits - what is covered (i)" subject to terms and conditions of this policy.
- c. If you have an unemployment claim but you do not submit your claim because you take temporary work, you may submit your claim once the temporary work has ended. We will then assess your claim, subject to the terms and conditions of this policy, as if you had submitted it following your initial unemployment.

viii. Multiple Employment

If you are in full-time employment with more than one employer and you are made unemployed from one or more of your jobs, you will be able to claim for unemployment benefit if you are no longer working 16 hours a week or more in total and **you** meet criteria (ii) and (iii) of the definition of **unemployed**, subject to the terms and conditions of this **policy**.

ix.The maximum **monthly benefit** payable under this **policy** is £2,000 or 65% of **your gross monthly income**, whichever is less.

UNEMPLOYMENT EXCLUSIONS: WHAT IS NOT COVERED

We will not pay any unemployment benefit if:

- i. unemployment follows any announcement or action by your employer prior to the start date in relation to the department or division of the business in which you work, and which relates to any redundancies, employee consultations, restructures, mergers or reorganisations that have led or could lead to compulsory job losses, mandatory reduced working hours or mandatory reduction in salary;
- ii. you are made unemployed, or are told (verbally or in writing), that you will be made unemployed within 120 days (60 days if you are a new borrower) of the start date. Your certificate of cover will confirm what initial exclusion period applies to your policy;
- iii. your work was seasonal, casual or temporary (other than as set out under the "Unemployment Benefits - what is covered (viii)" Section above or unemployment is a regular feature of your work;
- iv. you finish the job you were specifically employed to do, or you come to the expected end of a fixed-term contract unless you satisfy one of the conditions set out in the "Unemployment Benefits - what is covered" Section;
- v. you resign or you accept voluntary unemployment;
- vi.**you** lose **your** job because of misconduct, poor performance, fraud, dishonesty or as a result of any act **you** carried out;

vii.**you** do not actively seek re-employment; or

viii.the **unemployment** results from any condition excluded under the "Accident and Sickness Exclusions - what is not covered" Section.

MAKING A CLAIM

CLAIM REQUIREMENTS

Before **we** can pay out a claim **we** must receive from **you** the necessary evidence and proof to validate **your** claim. **We** will only ask for information and proof that is reasonably required for the purpose of assessing **your** claim.

ACCIDENT & SICKNESS

COVER CLAIMS

When **you** make a new claim for **accident** and **sickness**, the information **we** may require depends upon whether **you** were, at that time, **employed** or **self-employed**.

Where **you** are **employed we** will require:

- medical certificates covering the period for which you are making your claim (we will accept you self-certifying a period of up to 7 days before you obtain the first such medical certificate at the start of your claim);
- your doctor's name and address;
- **your** employer's name and address.

Where **you** are **self-employed we** will require:

- medical certificates covering the period for which you are making your claim (we will accept you self-certifying a period of up to 7 days before you obtain the first such medical certificate at the start of your claim);
- your doctor's name and address;

 bank statements for your business, or evidence of your payment of class 2 national insurance contributions, covering the period immediately before the date from which your claim starts.

Throughout any period during which **you** continue to make a claim for inability to **work** cover **you** may be asked to provide, at **your** expense, such reasonable proof that **you** continue to be certified as unfit to **work** by **your doctor** and by completing continuing claim statements confirming such information as **we** may reasonably require.



UNEMPLOYMENT CLAIMS

When **you** make a new claim for **unemployment cover**, the information **we** may require depends upon whether **you** were, at that time, **employed** or **self-employed**:

Where **you** were **employed we** will require:

- the written communication from your employer terminating your employment;
- **your** employer's name and address;
- evidence of your receipt of jobseeker's allowance or that you are making active attempts to find full time-employment, such as copies of letters to/from prospective employers and copies of job applications;
- if you are claiming after 3 months of being unemployed, a copy of your awards letter from the Department for Work and Pensions (or equivalent in Northern Ireland).

Where **you** were **self**-**employed we** will require:

 evidence of your payment of the appropriate class 2 national insurance contributions, covering the period immediately before the date from which your claim starts, or evidence of the income from **your** business covering the sixmonth period before the date from which **your selfemployment** ended;

- evidence that **your** business has ceased or suspended trading because **you** could not find enough work to meet all **your** reasonable business and living expenses. We may require evidence such as that **vou** have declared this to HM Revenue And Customs, bank statements, accounts, or a letter from your accountant with evidence that **vour** business was no longer viable, that **your** business has ceased or suspended trading and that you are not receiving an income from the business:
- evidence of your receipt of jobseeker's allowance or that you are making active attempts to find employment, such as copies of letters to/from prospective employers and copies of job applications;
- if you are claiming after 3 months of being unemployed, a copy of your awards letter from the Department for Work and Pensions.

Throughout any period during which **you** continue to make a claim for **unemployment**

benefit **you** may be asked to provide reasonable proof and evidence that **you** are actively looking for **work**. This may include monthly bank statements showing the payment of jobseeker's allowance or replacement benefit (after the first 3 months of a claim) and/or monthly documentary evidence that you are actively seeking work, such as copies of letters to/ from prospective employers and copies of job applications except:

- if you are self-employed, and are ineligible for jobseeker's allowance (or replacement benefit), we will waive any requirement to provide evidence that you are in receipt of this, but we will require evidence that you are receiving national insurance credits; or
- such other ongoing alternative evidence that is reasonably acceptable to us that you are unemployed and actively seeking work.

If **you** are made **unemployed** whilst on maternity/paternity leave, **you** will be entitled to receive a monthly **unemployment** benefit whilst **you** can evidence that **you** are in receipt of statutory maternity/paternity pay.



CARER CLAIMS

When **you** make a new claim under **carer** cover, the information **we** may require depends on **your work** status at the time of the event giving rise to the claim:

Where **you** permanently leave **work** to become a **carer we** will require:

- **your** employer's name and address;
- such evidence as we reasonably require to confirm that carer's allowance (or any benefit which replaces carer's allowance) has been awarded.
- Where you take a period of unpaid leave of absence from work we will require:
- **your** employer's name and address;
- such evidence as we reasonably require to confirm that your employer has granted you temporary unpaid leave in order to become a carer;
- a letter from the doctor of your close relative confirming the nature of the condition suffered and when it was first diagnosed.

Where **you** were/are **self-employed we** will require:

 evidence of your payment of Class ii of national insurance contributions, covering the period immediately before the date from which **your** claim starts, or evidence of the income from **your** business covering the six-month period before the date from which **your**

self-employment ended; or

- evidence that **your** business has ceased or suspended trading because **you** have become a **carer** and that **vou** are not receiving an income from the business. We may require evidence such as that you have declared this to HM Revenue And Customs, bank statements, accounts, or a letter from your accountant with evidence that your business has ceased or suspended trading and that you are not receiving an income from the business: or
- such evidence as we reasonably require to confirm that carer's allowance (or any benefit which replaces carer's allowance) has been awarded.

Throughout any period during which **you** continue to make a claim for **carer** benefit, **you** may be asked to provide reasonable proof and evidence that **you** remain a **carer**. This may include monthly bank statements showing the payment of carer's allowance (or replacement benefit)

WHAT IF YOU ARE NOT ELIGIBLE FOR JOBSEEKER'S ALLOWANCE?

If **you** are ineligible for Jobseeker's Allowance, **you** must provide ongoing alternative evidence to **us** that **you** are **unemployed** and actively seeking **work**. This could include copies of job applications, invitations to interviews, application responses and registration with employment agencies.

WHAT IF YOU WANT TO SEEK WORK IN THE

EUROPEAN UNION (EU)?

If **you** wish to seek **work** in an EU country, **you** must make arrangements with the Department for Work and Pensions Jobcentre Plus to have them register **you** as **unemployed** in the country **you** are going to seek **work** in and applying to the International Pension Centre for **your** Jobseeker's Allowance to be exported to that country.

If the application is successful, **you** should receive confirmation from the Department for Work and Pensions Jobcentre Plus that **your** Jobseeker's Allowance will be paid at the UK rate whilst searching for **work** in the EU. Upon receipt of a copy of this confirmation from **you**, **we** will continue to pay **your unemployment** claim for a period of up to 3 months from the date **you** leave the United Kingdom.

If, during the 3 month period referred to above, **you** find **work** and/or **you** relocate to a European Union member state outside the United Kingdom, **you** should notify **us** as soon as possible as **you** may no longer be eligible for benefits or cover under this **policy**.

WHAT IF YOU'RE RECEIVING STATE BENEFITS?

If you or your partner are receiving any state benefits, you should advise the appropriate authority if you are also claiming under this policy. In some circumstances, the amount of monthly benefit you receive under this policy may affect your entitlement to state benefits. Your local benefits agency will be able to provide you with further information.

DO YOU NEED TO CONTINUE PAYING YOUR MONTHLY PREMIUM WHEN MAKING A CLAIM?

As described in Section "When Does Your Policy End", **you** must continue to pay **your** monthly premium while you are making a claim under this policy to ensure that cover can continue after your claim has ended. If, during a claim, you cancel your policy or fail to pay the **monthly premium** when due, we will continue to pay the **monthly benefit** provided that the claim was made prior to the date on which you cancelled or first failed to pay the **monthly** premium when due. You will not, however, be covered for any new claim made on or after that date.

FRAUD AND MISLEADING INFORMATION

We have a regulatory obligation to prevent fraud. In the event of a claim, any information **you** have supplied relevant to this insurance and on the claim form, together with other information relating to the claim may be shared with other insurers in order to prevent fraudulent claims

SWITCHING CLAIMS

(Only applicable if **your certificate of cover** confirms **you** have selected **accident**, **sickness** and **unemployment** cover.)

You can switch between an accident or sickness claim and an unemployment

claim (or vice versa) without interruption (i.e. no additional **qualification period** will be applied), subject to a maximum of 12 **monthly benefits** being paid in total. All other terms of this **policy** will still apply and both claims must be valid.

BACK TO WORK

We offer a free Back To Work service if **you** are unable to **work** due to **unemployment**. **You** will be contacted by **our** Back to Work service specialist. This service is free, confidential and designed to provide advice and assistance to help **you** make a speedy return to **work. Our** Back to Work service provides:

- Self-help guide
- Access to a specialist website
- Telephone advice providing access to employment counsellors and specialists.
- Confidential advice and ongoing support throughout **your** search on:
 - seeking **work**, career changes, state benefits
 - managing your time effectively while searching for employment
 - tips on preparing your CV
 - help with preparing for interviews

PREMIUMS

- i. Each monthly premium covers you for one month. The first monthly premium payment to be collected may be for a larger amount than your subsequent monthly premium. This is to ensure that your first monthly premium payment is sufficient to cover you for the relevant period from the start of your cover to the date when it is intended that your regular monthly premium payments are to be made.
- ii. This **policy** has reviewable premiums, which means that **your monthly premium** may change subject to **us** giving **you** 30 days' notice. When reviewing **your** premiums, **we** will only consider any future impact of one or more of the following:
 - a. changes due to new information arising from **our** own experience suggesting that **our** future claims experience is likely to be better or worse than previously assumed. This information includes changes to the number of claims **we** expect to pay, changes to the average expected duration of **our** claims payments or changes to the average expected amount paid per claim;
 - b. changes due to new information arising from external sources such as general industry, population or reinsurer experience suggesting that **our** future claims experience is likely to be better or worse than previously assumed. This includes industry or general population unemployment experience;
 - c. relevant changes to **our** previous assumptions in relation to:
 - i. expenses related to providing the insurance;
 - ii. **policy** lapse rates which means the average time policies are held;
 - iii. interest rates;
 - iv. tax rates;
 - v. the cost of any legal or regulatory requirements.
- vi. Any changes to **your** premium **we** make will not:
 - a. be made as a result of any

reason other than changes in the assumptions mentioned above;

- b. be based on whether **you** have made a claim; or
- c. be made to recover any previous losses.
- v. We will review your premium at least annually and you will be given at least 30 days' written notice, at your last known address, of any alteration to the premium rates under this policy unless the change is due to legislative, tax or regulatory requirements. If your premium is changed due to legislative, tax or regulatory requirements which are outside our control, then we may not be able to give you 30 days' notice.
- vi. We may review your premium more frequently than annually if it becomes necessary due to significant changes in any of the assumptions referred to above. Except where your premium is changed due to legislative, tax or regulatory requirements, the minimum period between consecutive premium changes will be 6 months.
- vii. As a result of the premium review, **your monthly premium** may go up, stay the same or go down, and there is no limit to the amount of any change.
- viii. If we change your monthly premium and you do not wish to continue your cover you should contact Paymentshield to discuss your options. Depending on your circumstances, you may be able to change your monthly benefit or change your type of cover. Alternatively you can cancel as set out in the "Changing Your Mind - Your Cancellation Rights" Section.
- ix. You must continue to pay your monthly premium when you are making a claim under this policy to ensure that cover can continue after your claim has ended. If, during a claim, you cancel your policy or fail to pay the monthly premium when due, we will continue to pay the monthly benefit provided that the claim was made prior to the date on which you cancelled or first failed to pay the monthly premium when due. You will not, however, be covered for any new claim made on or after that date.

WHEN DOES YOUR POLICY END

- i. All cover under this **policy** and all benefits shall automatically end on the earliest to occur of the following:
 - a. the date you reach 65 years of age. However, if you are claiming a monthly benefit from this policy and you reach 65, the claim will continue until the end of your claim period but premiums will cease at age 65. Following the end of the claim, the policy will end;
 - b. the date you permanently retire;
 - c. the date **you** die;
 - d the date **you** do not pay the **monthly premium** when due;
 - e. There is any dishonest or intentionally exaggerated or fraudulent behaviour by you or anyone acting for you in relation to a claim under this policy. In such cases, you may have to return any benefits paid in relation to the claim, and will have no cover from the date of termination.
 - f. the date **you**, **we** or **Paymentshield** cancel **your** insurance as set out under the terms of this **policy**.
- ii. If you are already receiving benefits for a valid claim, we will continue to pay the monthly benefit provided that:
 - a. the event leading to your claim occurred prior to the date you cancelled your policy or the date the monthly premium was not paid when due; and
 - b. cancellation was not due to dishonesty or exaggerated behaviour, misrepresentation or when asked, failure to disclose a material fact by you (or by someone acting on your behalf).

You will not be covered for any new claim arising after the **policy** ends.

When this **policy** ends it will not have any cash or surrender value, other than any premium refund that may arise under "Changing Your Mind - Your Cancellation Rights" Section.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

- i. We may vary or waive the terms and conditions of this **policy** to reflect changes in the assumptions set out in the "Premiums" Section (iii) (c) above which we use to design and price **your** cover. Such changes may have the effect of increasing or reducing the cover previously provided under this **policy**.
- When changing your terms and conditions we will only consider any future impact of changes in one or more assumptions due to the reasons set out in the "Premiums" Section (iii) (c) above.
- iii. In addition, we may also vary or waive your terms and conditions to:
 - a. improve your cover;
 - b. comply with any applicable laws or regulations;
 - c. reflect any changes to taxation;
 - d. correct any typographical or formatting errors that may occur.
- iv. You will be given at least 30 days' written notice to your last known address of any alteration to the terms and conditions of cover under this **policy** unless the change is due to legislative, tax or regulatory requirements. If your cover is changed due to legislative, tax or regulatory changes which are outside our control, then we may not be able to give you 30 days' notice.
- v. Except where the terms and conditions of cover under this **policy** are changed due to legislative, tax or regulatory changes, the minimum period between consecutive changes will be 6 months.
- vi. Any changes to **your** terms and conditions **we** make will not:
 - a. be made as a result of any reason other than changes in the assumptions mentioned in the "Premiums" Section (iii) (c) above or for the reasons set out in "Terms and Conditions" Section (iii) above;
 - b. be based on whether **you** have made a claim; or

c. be made to recover any previous losses.

vii.lf we vary or waive your terms and conditions and you do not wish to continue your cover you should contact Paymentshield to discuss your options. Depending on your circumstances, you may be able to change your monthly benefit or change your type of cover. Alternatively you can cancel as set out in the "Changing Your Mind - Your Cancellation Rights" Section.

INVALID MONTHLY BENEFIT PAYMENTS

If **we** make any payments as a result of dishonesty or exaggerated behaviour by **you** (or by someone acting on **your** behalf), **you** will no longer be entitled to any benefits under this **policy** and **we** may demand that any payments already made by **us** are paid back. **We** may take legal action against **you** for the return of such monies and **we** may demand that **you** reimburse **us** for any costs incurred.

ADMINISTRATION

Your policy will be administered by Paymentshield on our behalf and they will be responsible for the day to day running of your policy.

GENERAL INFORMATION

- i. **Your policy** is underwritten by Covea Insurance plc. Covea Insurance plc is authorised by the Prudential Regulation Authority (PRA) and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority (FCA) and the Prudential Regulation Authority.
- ii. Any premium or premium refunds held by **Paymentshield** will be held on **our** behalf
- iii. Paymentshield reserves the right to change

its chosen insurer. Any such change may take place at any time by **Paymentshield** cancelling this **policy** and transferring the insurance cover to a new insurer. Pavmentshield will contact you not less than 30 days before making such a change with details of the new proposed insurers and terms on which cover may be provided by the new insurer. Accordingly, in order to ensure continuity of your insurance you authorise Paymentshield to cancel your existing insurance and transfer **your** data to any new proposed insurer to provide you with the replacement cover. When contacting **vou** with details of the new insurer and its offer of insurance for **your** consideration **Paymentshield** will explain how **you** may revoke this authority and provide details of how you may cancel this policy, if you do not wish to continue your policy with the new insurer.

- iv. The **monthly benefit** cannot be paid to anyone else or in any way other than as described in this **policy**.
- v. When **your** cover under this **policy** ends it will not have any cash or surrender value.
- vi. The rights given under this **policy** cannot be transferred to anyone else.
- vii. A person who is not a party to the contract of insurance set out in this **policy** shall have no rights under the Contracts (Rights of Third Parties) Act 1999 (the "Act") to enforce any term of this **policy** provided that this shall not affect any right or remedy of any person which exists or is available otherwise than pursuant to the Act.
- viii.We and Paymentshield will use the English language in all documents and communications relating to this policy
- ix. To improve the quality of service, **we** and **Paymentshield** will be monitoring and recording telephone calls.
- x. You must respond honestly to any request for information we make when you take out cover under this policy, or apply to vary your cover under this policy. In the event that any statement of fact you make is untrue or misleading, this may affect the validity of your policy, and whether you can make a claim.

- xi. Failure to comply with any condition of this **policy** may result in the suspension or the stopping of **monthly benefit**;
- xii. The Law

This **policy** is governed by English law. Any legal proceedings will be held in the courts of England and Wales unless **you** live in Scotland or Northern Ireland in which case **you** will be entitled to commence legal proceedings in **your** local courts.

xiii.Financial Services Compensation Scheme

We are covered by the Financial Services Compensation Scheme (FSCS). If we are unable to meet **our** liabilities to **you**, **you** may be entitled to compensation from the FSCS. Further information is available from their website: www.fscs.org.uk

PROMISE OF SERVICE

Our and Paymentshield's goal is to give excellent service to all customers, whilst recognising that things do go wrong occasionally. All complaints received are taken seriously and resolved promptly, wherever possible. To ensure we and Paymentshield provide the kind of service you expect your feedback is welcome. Your comments will be recorded and analysed to make sure the service we and Paymentshield offer continually improves. Most customers' concerns can be resolved quickly but occasionally more detailed enquiries are needed. If this is likely, you will be contacted and provided with an expected date of response.

COMPLAINTS PROCEDURE

- i. Step 1
 - a. Sales Complaints if you are unhappy with any aspect of the sale of your policy or have cause for complaint, you should initially contact the person who arranged the cover for you.

b. If **you** are unhappy with the administration of **your** insurance please contact the **Paymentshield** Customer Services Team by telephone or in writing by email or letter to:



Paymentshield Customer Services Team

Paymentshield Limited, PO Box 229, Southport PR9 9WU



Paymentshield Customer Helpline: 0345 6011 050



enquiries@paymentshield.co.uk

If **you** are not satisfied with the service **we** have provided in relation to **your** claim, please tell **us** so that we can do our best to resolve the problem. **You** can contact **us** in the following ways:



By phone on 0333 130 4550

By email at fspcomplaintsmailbox@ coveainsurance.co.uk

Or you can write to us at:



Protection Dept, Covéa Insurance plc, 50 Kings Hill Avenue, Kings Hill, West Malling, Kent ME19 4JX

ii. Step 2

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 the Financial Ombudsman Service (FOS). 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. The contact details for the Ombudsman can be found below:



The Financial Ombudsman Service Exchange Tower London E14 9SR

Financial Ombudsman Service is open from Monday - Friday, 8am - 8pm, Saturday, 9am - 1pm



0800 0 234 567

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



0300 123 9 123

(calls to this number cost no more than calls to 01 and 02 numbers).

complaint.info@financialombudsman.org.uk



www.financial-ombudsman.org.uk

This procedure will not prejudice **your** right to take legal proceedings. However, please note that there are some instances when the FOS cannot consider complaints. A leaflet detailing **our** full complaints/appeals process is available from **us** on request.

FAIR PROCESSING NOTICE

This section describes how the administrator, **Paymentshield**, will capture, process and store **your** data. Details on how the insurer of your **policy** uses your personal data can be found on their website: www.coveainsurance.co.uk/ privacy-policy/

Full details of **Paymentshield**'s Fair Processing Notice 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/

DEFINITIONS

The following words and phrases will have the following meanings where they appear in bold type.

Accident	means a bodily injury which prevents your from doing your normal occupation (or any job which you are reasonably able to do, given you experience, education or training) and for which you are receiving treatment from a doctor . If you are self-employed , you must not be receiving any form of payment or be helping, managing or carrying on any part of the running of the business whilst you are claiming;		
Carer	means you being entirely without work as a result of you resigning or taking a temporary unpaid leave of absence from work or, if you are self employed , you suspend trading or permanently cease to trade solely due to the need to care for a close relative on a full-time basis and being registered with the Department for Work and Pensions as a carer ;		
Ceased trading	means where you have involuntarily ceased trading as a result of your business having insufficient assets to meet its debts and liabilities and:		
	i. ii iii.	final closing accounts for your business have been prepared and submitted to HM Revenue & Customs (HMRC); your business has been put in the hands of an insolvency practitioner; or your business is a partnership which has been or is being dissolved and final closing accounts have been prepared or are being prepared and submitted to HMRC.	
Certificate of cover	means the document that confirms the current details of your cover and the level of cover selected by you . If you have been issued with more than one document, the most recent will apply;		
Close relative		ne of the following members of your immediate family ; t ner , parent, sibling, child, stepchild or adopted child.	
Doctor	means a fully qualified medical practitioner registered with the General Medical Council and working in the United Kingdom. The doctor who confirms your accident or sickness when you are making a claim, cannot be you , your spouse, civil partner, a relative someone that lives with you ;		
End date	means the date your cover ends as set out in the "When Does Your Policy End" Section;		
Fixed-term contract	means working for at least 16 hours a week under a permanent contract of employment , for a fixed duration or for a specific task, directly with an employer. You must be receiving a salary or wages and be paying the appropriate National Insurance contributions;		
Full-time employment, employed	means working for at least 16 hours a week under a permanent contract of employment that does not have a fixed or implied end		

date. You must be receiving a salary or wages and paying Class 1 National Insurance contributions. Gross monthly income means i. if you are in full-time employment - your average monthly salary before tax (including any commission and/or bonus payments **vou** receive) for the 12 months immediately prior to the start date or the date you request a change in monthly benefit; or if you are **self-employed** - the monthly average of your ii. income for the 12 months immediately prior to the start date or the date you request a change in monthly benefit as declared on **vour** self assessment return for the previous tax year as confirmed by HM Revenue & Customs; **Immediate family** means your spouse, civil partner, partner of the same or opposite sex whom you currently live with and have lived with for a continuous period of at least 1 year, parent, child or step child whom you currently live with and have lived with for at least 1 year, or from birth if they are aged below one; **Initial exclusion period** means the period immediately following the **start date**, or the date you request a change in cover, as specified in your certificate of cover, during which any sickness occurs or unemployment begins, that **you** will not be eligible for any benefit, or increase in benefit, under the terms of this **policy**. The **initial exclusion period** for sickness is 60 days. The initial exclusion period for unemployment is 120 days (or 60 days if **you** are a **new borrower**); this includes **you** being advised (verbally or in writing) of impending unemployment during this period. Your certificate of cover will confirm the length of the **initial exclusion period** that applies to **your policy**; Monthly benefit means the amount chosen by **you** and notified to **us** at the time **you** apply for cover under this **policy**. The **monthly benefit** will be paid in arrears and will only be paid if **you** meet the terms and conditions of this **policy**. The maximum **monthly benefit** allowable shall not exceed £2.000 or 65% of your gross monthly income, whichever is less; Monthly premium means the monthly sum payable by **you** each month for insurance cover under this **policy**; New borrower means **you** apply for this insurance: i. when taking out a new credit agreement ; or within 60 days of **your new credit agreement start date**; ii. New credit agreement means a new secured or unsecured credit agreement including further advance for a first charge mortgage. This excludes a **new** credit agreement for a credit card or store card, an overdraft facility or a tenancy agreement;

Normal pregnancy	means symptoms which normally accompany pregnancy which are of a minor and/or temporary nature (such as morning sickness and dizzy spells) and which do not represent a significant medical hazard to mother or baby;	
Partner	means the person to whom you are married, your civil partner or the person with whom you are permanently cohabiting in a marriage-like relationship;	
Paymentshield	means Paymentshield Limited. Paymentshield are responsible for the general administration of your policy ;	
Permanently retire	means retirement where you have told us , or we have evidence that you have no intention of returning to work ;	
Policy	means the terms and conditions set out in this document;	
Pre-existing medical condition	means any condition, injury, illness, disease, sickness or related condition and/or associated symptoms, whether specifically diagnosed or not:	
	 which medical evidence shows you knew about or were experiencing symptoms that you would have been aware of at the start date; or for which you sought or received advice, treatment or counselling from any doctor during the 12 months immediately before the start date; 	
Qualification period	means the number of days at the beginning of a claim which you must wait before you are eligible for any benefit. The qualification period for each benefit is shown in your certificate of cover ;	
Self-employed/ self-employment	 means you are working for an income for at least 16 hours a week, paying Class II National Insurance contributions (where appropriate). i. helping with, managing or carrying on a business and liable to pay tax charged under Section 5 of the Income Tax (Trading and Other Income) Act 2005 in the United Kingdom; or ii. a partner in a partnership; or iii. a person who exercises direct or indirect control over a company; 	
Sickness	means an illness or sickness which prevents you from doing your normal occupation (or any job which you are reasonably able to do, given your experience, education or training) and for which you are receiving treatment from a doctor . If you are self-employed , you must not be receiving any form of payment or be helping, managing or carrying on any part of the running of the business whilst you are claiming;	
Start date	means the date Paymentshield confirm we have accepted you for cover under this policy as shown in your certificate of cover ;	

Unemployed/ unemployment	means: i. ii.	being entirely without paid work or temporary work (which includes the assisting, managing and or the carrying on of any part of the day to day running of a business); and for the duration of the claim, being available for, and actively seeking work , being able to provide the documentation listed in Section "Making a claim" and registered with:
	a. b. c .	the Department for Work and Pensions Jobcentre Plus; or the Department for Social Development in Northern Ireland; or the States Insurance Authorities in the European Union member state.
	iii.	You must have signed a Jobseeker's agreement within the United Kingdom, or equivalent agreement in Northern Ireland or a European Union member state.
We, ours, us	means Covea Insurance plc, the underwriter of this policy which is authorised by the Prudential Regulation Authority (PRA) and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority (FCA) and Prudential Regulation Authority and whose registered office address is: Norman Place, Reading, RG1 8DA.	
Work, worked, working	means being in full-time employment , self employment or working under a fixed-term contract ;	
You, your	means the person who has been accepted for insurance cover under this policy .	

The singular shall include the plural and vice versa. Within this **policy**, headings are only included to help **you** and do not form part of the insurance contract.

EMPLOYMENT LEGAL PROTECTION INCLUDING HEALTH ASSISTANCE

The **Policy** for Employment Legal Protection is arranged by Motorplus Limited t/a Coplus and underwritten by UK General Insurance Limited on behalf of Great Lakes Insurance SE. Great Lakes Insurance SE is a German insurance company with its headquarters at Königinstrasse 107, 80802 Munich. UK Branch office: Plantation Place, 30 Fenchurch Street, London, EC3M 3AJ.

Motorplus Limited t/a Coplus and UK General Insurance Limited are authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority.

Great Lakes Insurance SE, UK Branch, is authorised by Bundesanstalt für Finanzdienstleistungsaufsicht and subject to limited regulation by the Financial Conduct Authority and Prudential Regulation Authority. Details about the extent of their regulation by the Financial Conduct Authority and Prudential Regulation Authority are available from https://register.fca.org.uk/ShPo_ FirmDetailsPage?id=001b000003ejWCjAAM

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

This is a contract of insurance between **you** and Great Lakes Insurance (UK) SE. The insurance provided covers **legal costs** subject to the terms, limits of indemnity, exclusions and conditions contained herein, in respect of an insured event which occurs within the **Territorial limits** and during the **Period of Insurance** for which **You** have paid or agreed to pay the premium.

Unless expressly stated nothing in this **Policy** will create rights pursuant to the Contract (Rights of Third Parties) Act 1999. This contract of insurance is personal to **you** the policyholder and **us**.

We will not be bound by any agreement between you and your appointed representative, or you and any other person or organization. You may not assign any of the rights under this policy without our express prior written consent.

DEFINITIONS

The words and phrases listed below will have the following meanings:

Appointed representative	The solicitor, solicitors' firm, barrister or other suitably qualified person appointed by us to act for you .	
Civil proceedings	Civil court, civil tribunal or civil arbitration proceedings, which are subject to the jurisdiction of the courts of the United Kingdom.	
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.	
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	
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.	
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. 	
Period of insurance	The period of time during which cover under this policy is in force. Cover shall commence on the start date shown on the policy schedule and continue until the date on which you cease to pay the monthly premium , or cancel this policy , whichever occurs first.	
Policy	This policy document that sets out the terms and conditions of your Employment Legal Protection and Health Assistance insurance.	
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	a. In respect of Section 1 Personal Claims: Worldwide. b. In respect of Section 2 Employment: The United Kingdom.	

Terrorism	Any direct or indirect consequence of terrorism as defined by the Terrorism Act 2000 and any amending or substituting legislation.
	An act of terrorism includes any act, or preparation in respect of action, or threat of action designed to influence the government de jure or de facto of any nation or any political division thereof, or in pursuit of political, religious, ideological, or similar purposes to intimidate the public or a section of the public of any nation by any person or group(s) of persons whether acting alone or on behalf of or in connection with any organisation(s) or government(s) de jure or defacto, and which: • involves violence against one or more persons; or • involves damage to property; or
	 endangers life other than that of the person committing the action; or creates a risk to health or safety of the public or a section of the public; or is designed to interfere with or to disrupt an electronic system.
	This policy also excludes loss, damage, cost, or expense directly or indirectly caused by, contributed to by, resulting from, or arising out of or in connection with any action in controlling, preventing, suppressing, retaliating against, or responding to any act of terrorism.
We/our/us	Motorplus Limited t/a Coplus
You/your	The person named on the policy schedule, being the individual for whom this insurance provides legal expenses cover. This cover extends to also include the following, who permanently reside with you at the property :

- a. your spouse or partner;
 b. your parents or parents-in-law;
 c. your children.

TABLE OF COVER

THE FOLLOWING ARE INSURED	RESTRICTIONS	EXCLUSIONS
The insurer will pay Legal Costs for the following Sections 1 and 2, in order to pursue civil proceedings directly arising from one or more of the following events or causes:	 We agree to provide the cover in this Policy subject to the terms, conditions, exclusions and limitations, provided that: the legal action or criminal prosecution occurs within the territorial limits; the date of event is within the period of insurance; the premium has been paid; and We deem that there are reasonable prospects of success. The most we will pay for any one claim is £50,000 (fifty thousand pounds). legal costs incurred in any appeal proceedings will be covered provided that: We agree to cover the original claim; the matter has reasonable prospects; and 	 The exclusions noted apply to both sections of cover. 1. Coroners' Inquests and Fatal Accident Enquiries; 2. Alleged failure to correctly diagnose any medical condition; 3. Any illness or bodily injury or psychological injury that occurs gradually or is not caused by a sudden, specific event; 4. 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 injury. Any claim: for which the date of event is before the date of inception of this Policy.

- We are notified of the decision to appeal at least 7 days before the deadline to appeal.
- We reserve the right to withdraw cover at any time where upon review of reasonable prospects.

All claims must be reported to **us** within a reasonable time frame after the **Date of Event**.

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 **we** will pay in respect of legal costs is the value of the likely award of damages.

Can be dealt with by a court of competent jurisdiction within the **territorial limits**.

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**.

Legal Costs incurred before **our** written acceptance of a claim.

Any insured incident which occurs as a result of a deliberate action by **you**.

War, invasion, foreign enemy hostilities (whether war is declared or not), civil war, **terrorism**, rebellion, revolution, military force or coup.

Radiation or radioactive contamination.

Any direct or indirect consequence of:

- Irradiation, or contamination by nuclear material; or
- The radioactive, toxic, explosive or other hazardous or contaminating properties of any radioactive matter; or

Any device or weapon which employs atomic or nuclear fission or fusion or other comparable reaction or radioactive force or matter.

Any claim or expense of any kind caused directly or indirectly by pollution or contamination which:

- a) was the result of an intentional act;
- b) was not sudden and unforeseen

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**.

Judicial Review.

Fines or penalties or any damages which **you** are ordered to pay by a c**our**t, tribunal or other authority.

Any remark or comment, whether permanently recorded or not, which may damage **your** reputation.

Any claim relating to violence or dishonesty on **your** part.

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**.

- 1
- Personal claims
- an event that subsequently causes your death;
- a bodily injury to you.

Clinical negligence claims.

Any **injury** which is gradual or progressive or is not caused by a specific or sudden **accident**.

Any motor vehicle owned by **you** or anyone associated with **you**, or any incidents relating to road traffic **accident**s, except under Section 1 of the Cover section of this **policy** where **you** are injured as a pedestrian or cyclist;

Any claim relating to wills, probate or inheritance.

The insurer will not cover legal costs and expenses in defending **your** legal rights, but will cover legal costs and expenses in **you** defending a counter claim.

Proceedings before, or reference to the European Court of Justice or the European Court of Human Rights.

Divorce, separation or other matrimonial disputes; cohabitation disputes or any legal action brought about between members of **your** family or household.

Your employer's internal disciplinary hearings and internal grievance procedures.

Claims relating solely to personal **injury**.

Your business, trade or profession, any shareholding, directorship or partnership or any other commercial interest (other than **your** contract as an employee).

Where **your employment** status is not that of an employee.

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 claims relating to a settlement agreement whilst **you** are still employed.

2

Employment The insurer will provide cover for 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.

GENERAL CONDITIONS

This is a legally binding contract of insurance between **You** and the insurer.

The following conditions apply to all sections of this **policy**. **You** must comply with them where applicable in order for **your** insurance to remain in full force and effect.

1. CLAIMS

What is not covered:

- Any claim that is not notified to us as soon as is reasonably possible after the date of event when the claim may be prejudiced by a late notification
- 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)

If at the time a claim is made by **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.

a. **You** will give notice to **us** as soon as reasonably possible of an insured event.

In the event of a claim for personal bodily **injury**, **we** have the right to have a medical examination carried out of any injured person at **our** expense.

- b. **You** will take all necessary precautions to reduce the risk of a claim and to prevent or minimise legal costs wherever possible
- c. All professional fees, expenses, disbursements and any other costs may only be incurred with our prior consent
- d. Legal costs will not be paid on an interim basis throughout a claim
- e. Authorisation will need to be requested in writing in respect of all **disbursements** before they are incurred

- f. All legal costs are subject to an independent assessment to ensure that they have been incurred reasonably
- g. **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
- h. You will not enter or offer to enter into any negotiation to settle the claim without our prior written approval to do so
- You will not unreasonably withhold consent for your appointed representative to make an offer to settle the legal action
- j. 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
- k. 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
- m. The insurer reserve the right to:
 - Take over any claim or civil proceedings at any time and conduct them in your name
 - i. Negotiate or settle any claim or **civil proceedings** on **your** behalf
 - iii. Contact **you** directly at any point concerning **your** claim
- n. **Your property** must be insured for standard buildings and/or contents risks throughout the period of insurance.

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 - Arbitration, which can be found on page 34 of this policy. Until the complaint has been resolved, or until such time as an arbitrator has reached a decision, we shall be entitled to appoint an appointed representative from our panel in order to protect your interests in any legal proceedings.
- 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 f125 + 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 which can be found on page 36. 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.

MAKING A CLAIM 24/7

In the event of a claim please do not appoint **your** own solicitor as this will invalidate the cover provided by this **Policy**.

Please note that **you** must report any claim to **us** within a reasonable time frame.



0345 601 1060

Please quote Employment Legal Protection in all communications.

REMEMBER The claims line is open 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.

Telephone Legal Advice Helpline 0345 643 7279

Available 24 hours a day throughout the year to provide **you** with confidential telephone advice about any personal legal problem in the UK.

EUROPEAN LEGAL ADVICE SERVICE

We will give **you** confidential legal advice over the phone on any personal legal problem, under the laws of the EU, Switzerland and Norway.

HEALTH & MEDICAL INFORMATION SERVICE

We can provide non-diagnostic information about health and fitness, and details of self-help groups and family health service associations. This includes information relating to allergies, drugs and their side effects, patient rights, social security and social service matters, and hospital waiting lists.

COUNSELLING SERVICE

We provide confidential telephone counselling including reference to professional or voluntary services. To contact all the above helpline services, phone: 01603 420033, quoting the reference Employment Legal Protection.

To help **us** monitor **our** service standards, telephone calls (except those to the Counselling Service) 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.

We do not provide diagnostic advice or information.

COMPLAINTS PROCEDURE

We hope that you are completely happy with this **policy** and the service that you receive, however if you do have any reason to make a complaint, please contact us.

If **your** complaint relates to the sale of this **policy**, please contact **your** insurance broker.

If **your** complaint relates to a claim, please contact **us** at:



Quality Assurance Manager Coplus Floor 2 Norfolk Tower 48-52 Surrey Street Norwich NR1 3PA



0333 241 9560

It will assist **us** in handling **your** complaint quickly if **you** can please have **your** claims reference available when **you** contact **us**.

If for any reason it is not possible for **us** to reach an agreement, **you** have the right to make an appeal to the Financial Ombudsman Service. This applies if **you** are an individual, or in a business capacity if **your** annual turnover is up to EUR 2,000,000 (or equivalent in sterling) and **you** have fewer than 10 members of staff. **You** can contact the Financial Ombudsman Service at:



The Financial Ombudsman Service Exchange Tower London E14 9SR



0800 023 4567

complaint.info@financial-ombudsman org.uk

www.financial-ombudsman.org.uk

FINANCIAL SERVICES COMPENSATION SCHEME

Great Lakes Insurance SE is covered by the Financial Services Compensation Scheme. **You** may be entitled to compensation from the scheme in the unlikely event that Great Lakes Insurance SE cannot meet their financial responsibilities. **You** can obtain further information about compensation scheme arrangements from the FSCS at www.fscs.org. uk, or by phoning 020 7741 4100 (Monday – Friday, 8.30am – 5.30pm)

DATA PROTECTION ACT 2018

Please refer to the Fair Processing Notice starting on page 22 for information on how **we** handle **your** data.

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 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 or frequency of your Direct Debit
 Paymentshield Limited will notify you 10
 working days in advance of your account being debited or as otherwise agreed. If you request Paymentshield Limited to collect a 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 Limited 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 Limited 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 IncomeShield product is arranged by **Paymentshield** Limited who are authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority (FCA) under registration number 312708.

The insurance for IncomeShield is underwritten by Covea Insurance plc who are registered in England and Wales No. 613259 Registered Office: Norman Place, Reading, RG1 8DA. Authorised by the Prudential Regulation Authority (PRA) and regulated by the FCA and PRA. Under registration number 202277.

The insurance for Employment Legal Protection including Health Assistance is supplied by Motorplus Limited t/a Coplus and is underwritten by UK General Insurance Limited on behalf of Great Lakes Insurance SE, which is authorised by the Prudential Regulation Authority and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority and Prudential Regulation Authority under registration number 309657.

Great Lakes Insurance SE is registered in England No. SE000083. Registered Office: Plantation Place, 30 Fenchurch Street, London, EC3M 3AJ.

Details of the above companies can be checked on the Financial Services Register by visiting the FCA's website or by contacting the FCA on 0800 111 6768 or 0300 500 8082.

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Revision Date: 29.05.19. Asset Code: PP00639.

Make a note ...

Make a note ...

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. 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. © Paymentshield Limited, 2019. Asset: PP00639 05/19