



# PROFESSIONAL INDEMNITY INSURANCE FOR ACCOUNTANTS

Policy



## Additional Benefits

Choosing an RSA Policy means that you also benefit from a number of additional services that we provide free of charge. Our advice-lines will put you in touch with highly qualified experts who can offer information and assistance on a number of issues. Better still you can use any of these advice-lines completely free and there is no limit to the number of times you can call.

### A. Legal Assistance

A 24 hour service that gives you access to a team of legal experts offering confidential advice on business matters such as defence of prosecutions, employment, customer and supplier disputes.

### B. Health & Safety

Help is available 24 hours a day on health and safety legislation, including its interpretation, and advice on civil and criminal liability for accidents at work.

### C. Tax Advice

A confidential telephone advisory service offering assistance on all taxation issues such as PAYE, VAT and income tax. This service is available Monday to Friday, 9am to 5pm.

### D. Stress Counselling

Stress affects most principals or business owners at some point in their working lives. Our stress counselling service will help you deal with stress at work by addressing minor problems before they become major crises. Confidentiality is of the utmost importance, and our counsellors are qualified and experienced in assessing problems quickly so they can provide immediate therapy. This service is restricted to Insured firms with up to 10 principals, Partners, Directors or Members.

**The advice-line number is 0345 078 3863**

**Please quote reference: 72741**

Advice lines are intended for business use only and are a service provided to sole practitioners, Directors, Partners and Members of the Insured. Employees do not qualify to use this service.

This page should be read in conjunction with the rest of your Policy documents.

# Guidance when making a claim

## Claim Notification

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

Directions for claim notification are included under Claims Conditions. Please be aware that claims and circumstances that might reasonably be expected to produce a claim against you must be notified to us as soon as possible. Further guidance is contained in this policy wording.

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

- Your name, address, and your telephone number
- Policy number
- The date when you became aware of the claim or circumstances
- The cause of the claim
- Details of the claim together with the claim value, if known
- Names and addresses of any other parties involved or responsible for the claim.

This information will enable us to make an initial evaluation of the claim. We may, however, need to request additional information.

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

Initially a notification of any claim, or any circumstances which might reasonably be expected to produce a claim, should be sent to:

**Email: [profin.claims@uk.rsagroup.com](mailto:profin.claims@uk.rsagroup.com)**

**Tel: 01403 232 308**

For your protection, telephone calls may be recorded or monitored.



This Policy is a contract between the Insured and the Insurer

This Policy the Schedule (including any issued in substitution) and any Endorsements should be read as if they are one document

The Insurer's acceptance of this risk is based on the information presented to the Insurer being a fair presentation of the Insured's business including any unusual or special circumstances which increase the risk and any particular concerns which have led the Insured to seek insurance

Any reference to the singular will include the plural or vice versa

Any reference to any statute or statutory instrument will include any modifications or re-enactment thereto

Any heading in this Policy is for ease of reference only and does not affect its interpretation

The Insurer will provide the insurance described in this Policy (subject to the terms set out herein) for the Period of Insurance shown in the Schedule and any subsequent period for which the Insured shall pay and the Insurer shall agree to accept the premium

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# Professional Indemnity Insurance

## Terms and Conditions

**NOTICE: THIS POLICY COVERS CLAIMS FIRST MADE AGAINST THE INSURED (AND, IN RELATION TO INSURANCE CLAUSE 4, LOSS OR DAMAGE OCCURRING) AND NOTIFIED TO THE INSURER DURING THE PERIOD OF INSURANCE. PLEASE READ THE POLICY WORDING CAREFULLY.**

## Definitions

For the purposes of Professional Indemnity Insurance

**1 Acting in Collusion** means all circumstances where

- A) two or more Employees or
- B) an Employee or Employees and any other person or persons are concerned or implicated together or materially assist each other in committing a Fraudulent Act

**2 Agency Worker** means

any person supplied as defined under the Agency Workers Regulations 2010 and The Agency Workers (Amendment) Regulations 2019

**3 Alternate** means

any individual practitioner partnership limited liability partnership or company who is acting in connection with the arrangements to cover the incapacity or death of a sole practitioner

**4 Authorised Work** shall have the meaning

given by the Probate Regulations of the Relevant Institute in force at the date of the inception of this Policy

**5 Bodily Injury** means

death disease illness or bodily or mental injury

**6 Claim** means

- A) service of a Claim Form Counterclaim Other Additional Claim Application Notice Notice of Appeal Witness Summons or similar legal document including an application for any related injunction or
- B) a reference to or notification of intention to commence or the commencement of proceedings of any kind including arbitration proceedings or complaint to an ombudsman or
- C) a communication including electronic communications (whether or not containing a demand for compensation or damages) asserting a legal liability on the part of the Insured or
- D) any communication in whatsoever form invoking any Pre-Action Protocols contained in the Civil Procedure Rules

**7 Defence Costs** means

all costs and expenses which are incurred by the Insurer or by the Insured with the Insurer's written consent in connection with the defence investigation or settlement of any Claim made against the Insured and notified under this Policy and in connection with any circumstances which might give rise to a Claim

The Insurer shall not unreasonably withhold its consent to the incurring of Defence Costs

**8 Director** shall have the meaning

given by sections 250 and 251 of the Companies Act 2006 section 2 of the Companies Act 1963 of the Republic of Ireland or section 27 of the Companies Act 1990 of the Republic of Ireland as appropriate

**9 Documents** means

all

- A) documents (excluding bearer bonds coupons bank or currency notes or other negotiable instruments)
- B) computer systems records the property of the Insured or for which the Insured is responsible

**10 Employee** means

- A) any person including any trainee or consultant under a contract of service with the Insured or the Predecessors
- B) any Agency Worker

at the time of any conduct giving rise to a Claim against the Insured or at the time of any other occurrence which may be the subject of indemnity under this Policy

**11 Endorsement** means

an amendment to the Policy Terms and Conditions including amendments described as Memoranda in the Schedule

**12 Extended Period of Insurance** means

the period starting from the day immediately following the expiration of the original Period of Insurance and ending with the earliest to occur of

- A) the date that the Insured obtains a replacement insurance policy that complies with the provisions of the Professional Indemnity Insurance Regulations of the Relevant Institute or
- B) thirty days from receipt by the Relevant Institute and the Insured of written notice from the Insurer of the commencement of the Extended Period of Insurance

**13 Fraudulent Act** means

any act of fraud or dishonesty committed by any Employee acting alone or Acting in Collusion committed with the principal intent of obtaining an improper personal financial gain for themselves or for any other person or organisation intended by such Employee to receive such gain

"Improper personal financial gain" shall not include salary commissions fees bonuses promotions awards profit sharing pensions or benefits earned in the normal course of employment

**14 Handbook** means

the Designated Professional Body Handbook of the Relevant Institute in force at the date of inception of this Policy

**15 Insurance Distribution Work** shall have the meaning

given by the Designated Professional Body (Investment Business) Handbook of the Relevant Institute in force at the date of inception of this Policy

**16 The Insured** means

the Insured as named in the Schedule Each of the following parties will in addition be deemed the Insured in respect of Claims arising out of the conduct of the Professional Business carried on by or on behalf of the Insured as named in the

Schedule provided that each shall be subject to the terms of this Policy to the extent such terms can apply

- A) any current partner director or Member or former partner director or Member of the Insured any person who may subsequently become a partner director or Member of the Insured during the Period of Insurance
- B) any former partner director or Member of the Predecessors
- C) any retired partner director or Member of the Insured remaining as a consultant to the Insured
- D) any Employee or former Employee
- E) those persons named in the Proposal by the Insured as consultants or former consultants or as current or former self-employed sub-contractors and whose names have been accepted by the Insurer
- F) any person who is acting on behalf of the firm as an Alternate
- G) any estate heirs executors and legal representatives of any of those included in A) to E) above in the event of their death incapacity insolvency or bankruptcy

**17 Insured's Contribution** means

the amount for which the Insured is responsible under Insurance Clauses 1 (Civil Liability) and 3 (Fidelity) of this Policy in respect of any one Claim or loss

Provided that where the Insured is a member of the Relevant Institute the Insured shall not be responsible during any Period of Insurance for an amount in the aggregate exceeding that permitted in the relevant provisions of the Professional Indemnity Insurance Regulations applicable at the start of the Period of Insurance

The Insured's Contribution shall not apply to Insurance Clause 2 (Defence Costs)

All Claims attributable to the same act error or omission or series of acts errors or omissions consequent upon or attributable to the same original cause or source will be regarded as one Claim

**18 Insurer** means

Royal & Sun Alliance Insurance plc (No 93792) St Mark's Court Chart Way Horsham West Sussex RH12 1XL

**19 Investigation Expenses** means

expenses incurred solely to substantiate the amount of a loss but does not mean expenses paid by the Insured to its own staff for salaries wages or similar expenses

**20 Member** means

a member of a limited liability partnership as defined under the Limited Liability Partnership Act 2000

**21 Microchip** means

a unit of packaged computer circuitry manufactured in small-scale and made for program logic or computer memory purposes and expressly including integrated circuits and microcontrollers

**22 Money** means

currency coins and bullion or monetary balances held at a financial institution to the credit of the Insured

**23 North America** means

the United States of America and Canada and in each case its territories and possessions and any state or political sub-division thereof

**24 North American Claim** means

each and every Claim brought against the Insured in North America or which is instituted or pursued before an arbitrator or tribunal or in courts in North America (whether for enforcement of judgment or otherwise) or in which it is contended that the laws of any country state or political sub-division in North America should apply

**25 Policy** means

collectively the Terms and Conditions of this policy wording the Schedule (including any issued in substitution) and any Endorsements attaching thereto

**26 Predecessors** means

any person practice or other firm to which the Insured has succeeded

**27 Probate Regulations** means

the Probate Regulations of the Relevant Institute in force at the date of inception of this Policy

**28 Professional Business** means

advice given or services performed or other business activities provided for or on behalf of others at any time anywhere in the world by or on behalf of the Insured or the Predecessors or any person for whom the Insured is or is alleged to be liable irrespective of whether or not a fee is charged but provided that if a fee is charged then that fee is taken into account in ascertaining the income of the Insured

Professional Business extends to

- A) any Insured whilst holding any individual personal appointment (including any appointment as a trustee or personal representative) made or accepted in the course of the Insured's Business but whilst holding an appointment as company secretary or registrar or Director of a company which is not the Insured named in the Schedule only in relation to the performance of Services
- B) the provision sale licence lease amendment or adaptation by the Insured of any computer software hardware solution package or publication

**29 Professional Indemnity Insurance Regulations** means

the Professional Indemnity Insurance Regulations of the Relevant Institute in force at the date of inception of this Policy

**30 Proposal** means

the proposal form or Statement of Fact and any declaration completed in respect of this Policy including any renewal declaration and any information supplied by or on behalf of the Insured in addition to or in substitution for these documents

**31 Qualifying Insurance** shall have the meaning

given by the Professional Indemnity Insurance Regulations

**32 Relevant Institute** shall mean

the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Scotland or the Institute of Chartered Accountants in Ireland as applicable

**33 Securities** means

negotiable and non-negotiable instruments representing either Money or property but not including Money or property

**34 Services** means

in so far as concerns paragraph two of the Definition of Professional Business all services performed or advice given by the Insured in connection with tax matters secretarial work share registration financial advice to management book-keeping management accounting financial investigation and reports the negotiation and settlement of financial claims company formations investment advice insurance and pension scheme advice and computer consultancy

**35 Statement of Fact** means

the document setting out information provided by the Insured and their representative as being relevant to the cover that has been applied for

It also includes assumptions the Insurer has made about factual circumstances relevant to the cover and which are confirmed by the Insured as true and correct

**36 System** includes

computers other computing and electronic equipment linked to computer hardware electronic data processing equipment Microchips and anything which relies on a Microchip for any part of its operation and includes for the avoidance of doubt any computer installation

**37 Terrorism** means

an act of any person acting on behalf of or in connection with any individual or organisation which carries out activities directed towards the overthrowing or influencing by force or violence of Her Majesty's government in the United Kingdom or any government whether legally established or not

**38 Virus** means

programming code or series of instructions designed to achieve an unexpected unauthorised or undesirable effect or operation when loaded onto a System transmitted between Systems by transfer between computer systems via networks extranets internet or electronic mail or attachments thereto or via floppy diskettes or CD-ROMs or otherwise and whether involving self replication or not

**39 War Risks** means

war invasion act of foreign enemy hostilities (whether war be declared or not) civil war rebellion revolution insurrection or military or usurped power

- A) for claimant's costs and expenses
- B) as a result of any decision by an adjudicator appointed to resolve a dispute in accordance with an adjudication clause or rules contained in a contract
- C) as a result of any award by an arbitrator or tribunal of arbitrators
- D) as a result of any decision or award by an ombudsman under any ombudsman scheme in which the Insured participates

**2 Defence Costs**

The Insurer will in addition pay Defence Costs incurred by the Insurer or by the Insured with the Insurer's written consent in connection with any Claim under Insurance Clause 1 (Civil Liability)

Provided that the Insurer's liability for Defence Costs in relation to any Claim disposed of for an amount which exceeds the available Limit of Indemnity shall be limited to the proportion that the available Limit of Indemnity bears to the amount payable to dispose of such Claim

**3 Fidelity**

The Insurer will indemnify the Insured named in the Schedule

- A) up to the amount shown in the Schedule as the Limit of Indemnity in the aggregate during the Period of Insurance against loss of Money Securities or property owned or leased by the Insured directly resulting from a Fraudulent Act first discovered and notified to the Insurer during the Period of Insurance in connection with Professional Business Provided that no indemnity shall be given to any person committing or condoning such act and the sum payable shall be only the amount of liability in excess of the amount (if any) recovered from such person and
- B) up to £25,000 in respect of Investigation Expenses necessarily incurred with the Insurer's written consent to substantiate the amount of such loss as defined in 3A) above provided that the Insured has established a valid claim under this Policy and the loss sustained exceeds the Insured's Contribution

Provided that the Insured had in place the minimum standards of control specified in General Condition 1 (Minimum Standards of Control)

**4 Loss of or Damage to Documents**

The Insurer will in the event of loss of or damage to Documents occurring in the conduct of Professional Business and advised to the Insurer during the Period of Insurance indemnify the Insured in respect of all costs and expenses reasonably incurred by the Insured in replacing or restoring Documents up to a maximum of £250,000 during the Period of Insurance

Provided that

- A) such loss or damage is sustained while the Documents are either in transit or in the custody of the Insured or of any person to whom the Insured has entrusted them
- B) where the Documents are in electronic format the Insured can demonstrate to the reasonable satisfaction of the Insurer that the Insured had in place sufficient and proper procedures for the security and the daily back-up of Documents

**Insurance Clauses**

**1 Civil Liability**

The Insurer will indemnify the Insured up to the Limit of Indemnity specified in the Schedule in respect of Claims first made against the Insured during the Period of Insurance and notified to the Insurer in accordance with the Claims Conditions in respect of civil liability incurred in connection with the conduct of Professional Business including liability incurred



- C) the Insurer shall not be liable for loss of or damage to Documents arising directly or indirectly from
  - 1) the transmission or impact of any Virus
  - 2) unauthorised access to a System

- B) adjudication arising from an adjudication clause in a contract which contains timetable provisions for adjudication which are more onerous to the Insured than those contained in the Scheme for Construction Contracts referred to in the Housing Grants Construction and Regeneration Act 1996
- C) arbitration award made in respect of any Claim or counterclaim where the seat of the arbitration was located outside England Wales Scotland or Northern Ireland unless that seat was agreed to by the Insurer

## 5 Compensation for Court Attendance

In the event of

- A) the legal advisers acting on behalf of the Insured with the consent of the Insurer requiring any principal partner Member director or Employee of the Insured to attend any court tribunal arbitration adjudication mediation or other hearing as a witness or
- B) the Insurer requesting the attendance of any principal partner Member director or Employee as an interested party at any mediation

in connection with a Claim made against the Insured and notified under this Policy the Insurer will provide compensation to the Insured at the following rates for each day on which attendance is required

- A) Any principal partner Member or director of the Insured £500
- B) Any Employee £250

## 2 Bodily Injury to Employees

any liability arising out of Bodily Injury to an Employee arising out of and in the course of their employment for or on behalf of the Insured

## 3 Bodily Injury to other persons

any liability arising out of Bodily Injury to any person unless arising from any actual or alleged breach of duty in the performance of (or failure to perform) Professional Business

## 4 Damage to Property

any Claim for loss of or damage to property except

- A) as provided for in Insurance Clauses 3 (Fidelity) or 4 (Loss of or Damage to Documents)
- B) in connection with any civil liability incurred in respect of loss of or damage to Documents
- C) where arising from any actual or alleged breach of duty in the performance of (or failure to perform) Professional Business

## 5 Dishonesty

any dishonest or fraudulent act or omission committed by any person after there is reasonable cause for suspicion of fraud or dishonesty in relation to such person

Furthermore no indemnity shall be given to any person committing condoning or knowingly participating in any way in any act or omission of a fraudulent or dishonest nature

## 6 Employment

any Claim arising from any liability to any Employee former employee or prospective employee in respect of employment related libel slander humiliation or defamation wrongful dismissal repudiation or breach of any employment contract or arrangement termination of a training contract or contract of apprenticeship harassment discrimination or like conduct

## 7 Financial Return

any Claims arising out of the giving of any express or implied warranty or guarantee relating to the financial return of any investment or portfolio of investments

## 8 Fines Penalties and Punitive Damages etc

any fines penalties punitive exemplary or aggravated damages where such damages have been identified separately within any award of a court or the multiple portion of any multiplied damage award

## Limits of Indemnity

- 1 a) The liability of the Insurer arising from Authorised Work shall be the minimum level of professional indemnity insurance cover required under the Probate Regulations of the Relevant Institute or the amount specified in the Schedule
- b) The liability of the Insurer arising from Insurance Distribution Work shall be the minimum level of professional indemnity insurance cover required under the Designated Professional Body Handbook or the amount specified in the Schedule
- c) The liability of the Insurer shall not exceed the Limit of Indemnity specified in the Schedule in relation to all other Claims
- 2 Where the Insurer is liable to indemnify more than one person firm company or body the total amount of indemnity payable under this Policy shall not exceed the Limit of Indemnity
- 3 All Claims attributable to the same act error or omission or series of acts errors or omissions consequent upon or attributable to the same original cause or source will be regarded as one Claim

## Exclusions

The Insurer shall not be liable in respect of

### 1 Adjudication and Arbitration

any Claim arising out of or related to any

- A) decision made against the Insured by an adjudicator who was not independent of the parties to the dispute

Provided that this Exclusion

- A) shall not apply to any actual or alleged defamation arising out of the conduct of Professional Business carried on by or on behalf of the Insured
- B) shall not operate to exclude or limit any indemnity provided by Insurance Clause 1D)

## 9 Insured's Contribution

the Insured's Contribution

## 10 Insured versus Insured

any Claim by one Insured against another Insured

However this Exclusion shall not apply for the purposes of effecting recovery under clause B) of Claims Condition 8 (Dishonesty and Fraud) or the Insurer exercising rights of recovery against any person who has committed or condoned a dishonest or fraudulent act or omission

## 11 North American Jurisdiction and Operations

- A) damages or other monetary awards judgments or negotiated settlements claimant's costs and expenses and Defence Costs connected with or arising out of any North American Claim
- B) the enforcement upholding or registration against the Insured by any arbitrator tribunal or court outside North America of any damages or other monetary awards judgments or negotiated settlements claimant's costs and expenses and Defence Costs connected with or arising out of any North American Claim
- C) the operations of the Insured or any principal partner Member director Employee agent branch subsidiary or parent company of the Insured in North America

## 12 Nuclear

loss or destruction of or damage to any property whatsoever or any loss or expense of whatsoever nature resulting or arising therefrom or any legal liability of whatsoever nature directly or indirectly caused by or contributed to by or arising from

- A) ionising radiations or contamination by radioactivity from any nuclear fuel or from any nuclear waste from the combustion of nuclear fuel
- B) the radioactive toxic explosive or other hazardous properties of any explosive nuclear assembly or nuclear component thereof

## 13 Pollution

any Claim or Claims based upon or arising out of or relating directly or indirectly to or in consequence of or in any way involving seepage pollution or contamination of any kind This Exclusion shall not apply where such Claim arises from any actual or alleged breach of duty in the performance of (or failure to perform) Professional Business

## 14 Previous Claims or Circumstances

- A) the consequence of any circumstance
  - 1) notified under any insurance which was in force prior to the inception of this Policy
  - 2) known to the Insured or which should have been known to the Insured at the inception of this Policy which might reasonably be expected to produce a Claim
- B) any Claim made against the Insured prior to the Period of Insurance

## 15 Retroactive Date

any claim or loss otherwise eligible for indemnity under this Policy where the cause of such Claim or loss occurred or was alleged to have occurred prior to any Retroactive Date specified in the Schedule

## 16 Supply of Goods

any Claim for defect in lack of fitness of or failure to conform with the description of goods sold or supplied by the Insured or by any person acting for or on behalf of the Insured Provided that this Exclusion shall not include software apply in connection with activities covered under Definition 28B) Professional Business

## 17 Trading Losses

any Claim arising out of or in connection with any trading losses or liabilities incurred by the Insured or any business managed by or carried on by the Insured provided that this Exclusion shall not apply to any Claim made against the Insured for negligence in the normal course of their conduct of any receivership or procedures under (as applicable) the Insolvency Act 1986 the Bankruptcy & Diligence (Scotland) Act 2007 the Insolvency (Northern Ireland) Order 1989 or in the Republic of Ireland any receivership or insolvency procedures under the Companies Acts 2014 or the Bankruptcy Act 1988 or any amendment or re-enactment thereof

## 18 Transportation or Property

the ownership use occupation or leasing of mobile or immobile goods or property by or on behalf of the Insured

## 19 War and Terrorism

any Claim arising directly or indirectly out of

- A) War Risks or
- B) Terrorism

However in respect of Terrorism this Exclusion does not exclude or limit any liability of the Insurer to indemnify any Insured against civil liability or related Defence Costs arising from any actual or alleged breach of duty in the performance of (or failure to perform) Professional Business

## 20 Warranty or Guarantee

any Claim arising from any liability assumed by the Insured under any express warranty or guarantee unless such liability would have attached to the Insured notwithstanding such express warranty or guarantee

# General Conditions

## 1 Minimum Standards of Control

In order for Claims to be accepted under Insurance Clause 3 (Fidelity)

- A) all cheques fund transfers instructions for disbursements of assets or fund investments for more than £10,000 shall require two independent signatories or authorisers
- B) no cheque fund transfer instruction for disbursement of assets or fund investment shall be authorised until at least one signatory or authoriser with appropriate authority and independent of the individual requisitioning such transfer disbursement or investment has examined and approved the supporting documentation
- C) any electronically initiated transactions must be controlled by unique passwords held by each individual related to the user authorisation and the appropriate authorities integrated into any computer program or system used for such transaction
- D) cash and cheques received shall be remitted to the bank in full on the day of receipt or next banking day
- E) bank statements cash cheques stock and securities held shall require a physical check against supporting documents by someone other than those persons responsible at least quarterly
- F) all requests to create and alter third party bank details (including those of any supplier or client) must be received in writing and independently verified by telephone with a known contact at the organisation making the request before any transaction takes place

Failure to comply with this Condition will result in the claim being rejected

## 2 Members of the Institute of Chartered Accountants – Arbitration and Approved Wording

Where the Insured is a member of the Relevant Institute

- A) 1) any dispute or disagreement between the Insured and the Insurer arising out of or in connection with this Policy except as provided in Claims Condition 6 (Queen's Counsel Clause) or
- 2) any dispute between the Insurer and any other insurers concerning this Insurance

shall be referred to arbitration before a sole arbitrator (to be mutually agreed upon by the Insured and the Insurer or failing agreement to be appointed by the President of the Relevant Institute) whose decision shall be final and binding on both parties

- B) In the event of any dispute concerning liability to indemnify the Insured (including without limitation a dispute as to the policy year under which any Claim or circumstance might fall to be dealt with between (a) the Insurer and (b) any insurer(s) subscribing to the policy corresponding to this Policy in respect of a previous period of insurance the Insurer will advance Defence Costs and indemnify the Insured in

accordance with Insurance Clause 1 (Civil Liability) and 2 (Defence Costs) pending resolution of any such dispute

- C) in the event that the provisions of Claims Condition 6 (Queen's Counsel Clause) are invoked and the Insured and the Insurer fail to agree upon a Queen's Counsel or in the Republic of Ireland a Senior Counsel the Queen's Counsel or Senior Counsel shall be appointed by the President of the Relevant Institute
- D) in any dispute in connection with the terms Conditions Exclusions or limitations of this Policy the terms conditions exclusions and limitations of the Relevant Institutes minimum approved policy wording applicable at the start of the Period of Insurance shall take precedence over any terms Conditions Exclusions or limitations contained herein which are less favourable to the Insured
- E) the Period of Insurance shall be extended by the Extended Period of Insurance where the Insured has not prior to the expiration of the Period of Insurance obtained Qualifying Insurance incepting on and with effect from the day immediately following the expiration of the Period of Insurance
- F) in the event the Insured ceases practice during or on expiration of the Period of Insurance or if applicable during the Extended Period of Insurance the Period of Insurance shall be extended to expire two years from the date of such cessation

Provided that

- i) in respect of any Period of Insurance immediately following the expiration of the original Period of Insurance
  - a) Insurance Clauses 3 (Fidelity) and 4 (Loss of or Damage to Documents) shall be deleted
  - b) where the Limit of Indemnity applicable exceeds the minimum amount required under the Probate Regulations the Designated Professional Body Handbook or the Professional Indemnity Insurance Regulations it shall be reduced to such minimum amount
- ii) any such extension shall be conditional on payment within 30 days of expiry of the Period of Insurance or if applicable Extended Period of Insurance of an additional premium to be determined by the Insurer
- iii) in the event of non-payment of any additional premium resulting in the Period of Insurance not being extended Insurers shall give notice to the Relevant Institute of Chartered Accountants within 7 days of such failure and the Insured shall be deemed to consent to such notification being made

## 3 Choice of Law

Under the laws of the United Kingdom (England Scotland Wales and Northern Ireland) both parties may choose the law which applies to this contract to the extent permitted by those laws Unless the parties agree otherwise in writing the Insurer has agreed with the Insured that the law which applies to this contract is the law which applies to the part of the United Kingdom in which the Insured is based or if the Insured is based in the Channel Islands or the Isle of Man the law of whichever of those two places in which the Insured is based

The parties have agreed that any legal proceedings between them in connection with this contract will only take place in the courts of the part of the United Kingdom in which the Insured is based or if the Insured is based in either the Channel Islands or the Isle of Man the courts of whichever of those two places in which the Insured is based

#### 4 Rights of Third Parties

A person who is not a party to this Policy has no right under the Contracts (Rights of Third Parties) Act 1999 to enforce any term of this Policy but this does not affect any right or remedy of a third party which exists or is available apart from that Act

#### 5 Cancellation of the Insured's Fixed Sum Loan Agreement

Where the Insurer has agreed to the Insured paying their premium by monthly instalments then in the event that there is a default in the instalments due under the payment schedule the Insurer reserves the right to terminate the Policy and the Insured will no longer be insured by the Insurer The Insurer may also take further action to pursue any outstanding debt

If the Insured's monthly premium payment has a Fixed Sum Loan Agreement regulated by The Consumer Credit Act 2006 then this shall be deemed to be a linked loan agreement In the event that there is a default in the instalments due under the payment schedule the Insurer reserve the right to also terminate that linked loan agreement

#### 6 Financial or Trade Sanctions

The Insurer shall not provide coverage or be liable to provide any indemnity or payment or other benefit under this Policy if and to the extent that doing so would breach any Prohibition

If any Prohibition takes effect during the Policy period the Insured or the Insurer may cancel that part of this Policy which is prohibited or restricted with immediate effect by giving written notice to the other at their last known address

If the whole or any part of the Policy is cancelled the Insurer shall if and to the extent that it does not breach any Prohibition return a proportionate amount of the premium for the unexpired period subject to minimum premium requirements and provided no claims have been paid or are outstanding

For the purposes of this clause a Prohibition shall mean any prohibition or restriction imposed by law or regulation

#### 7 Insurance Act 2015

In respect of any

- A) duty of disclosure
- B) effect of warranties
- C) effect of acts of fraud

The rights and obligations applying to the Insured and the Insurer shall be interpreted in accordance with the provisions of the Insurance Act 2015

## Claims Conditions

### 1 Claims Notification

If during the Period of Insurance the Insured

- A) receives any Claim
- B) discovers reasonable cause for suspicion of dishonesty or fraud on the part of any former or present partner Director Member Employee consultant sub-contractor or Alternate of the Insured whether giving rise to a claim under this Policy or not

the Insured shall give written notice of such Claim or discovery to the Insurer as soon as reasonably possible All Claims or discoveries must be notified to the Insurer not later than ten days after the end of the Period of Insurance

If during the Period of Insurance the Insured becomes aware of any circumstance which might reasonably be expected to produce a Claim against the Insured the Insured shall give written notice of such circumstance to the Insurer as soon as reasonably possible irrespective of either the Insured's views as to whether such Claim will succeed or as to whether the amount of the Claim will exceed the Insured's Contribution All circumstances must be notified to the Insurer prior to the expiry of the Period of Insurance Any Claim arising from any circumstance notified to the Insurer in accordance with this Condition shall be deemed to have been made in the Period of Insurance

### 2 Notifications of Adjudications

In order for Claims to be accepted under this Policy in respect of any adjudication for which indemnity is available under Insurance Clause 1 (Civil Liability) the Insured must comply with the following

- A) notify the Insurer within 2 working days of receipt of any notice of intention to adjudicate notice of adjudication referral notice or any adjudication notice pursuant to contract and
- B) not serve any of the notices referred to in Claims Condition 2A) without the prior written consent of the Insurer unless in the Insured's reasonable opinion service of those notices will not give rise to a Claim against the Insured

Failure to comply with this Condition will result in the claim being rejected

### 3 Notification of Reviews by an Ombudsman

In order for Claims to be accepted under Insurance Clause 1D) of this Policy the Insured must give notice to the Insurer in writing within ten working days of it becoming aware that any ombudsman is or will be reviewing a case directly affecting the Insured

Failure to comply with this Condition will result in the claim being rejected

## 4 Supporting Documentation and Admissions

All documents supporting any Claim shall be forwarded to the Insurer immediately on receipt

No admission offer promise payment or indemnity shall be made or given by or on behalf of the Insured without the written consent of the Insurer

## 5 Conduct of Claims and Rights of Recovery

The Insured shall give all such assistance as the Insurer may require. The Insurer shall be entitled to take over and conduct in the name of the Insured the defence or settlement of any Claim or to prosecute or bring proceedings in the name of the Insured for its own benefit any Claim and shall have full discretion in the conduct of any proceedings and in the settlement of any Claim

However the Insurer shall not exercise any right of recovery in the name of the Insured against any other party deemed the Insured except

- A) against a person described within clause E) of the Definition of Insured and the Insured has not notified such person to the Insurer or previous insurers except where the Insured is a member of the Relevant Institute
- B) against any person who has committed or condoned any dishonest or fraudulent act or omission

Where evidenced by the Insured compliance by the Insured with any rules requirements directions or guidance of any ombudsmen regulator law enforcement agency or other official body having authority in respect of the Insured or generally any rule or requirement of law will not constitute a breach of any Condition of this Policy

## 6 Queen's Counsel Clause

The Insured shall not be required to contest any legal proceedings unless a Queen's Counsel or in the Republic of Ireland a Senior Counsel (or by mutual agreement between the Insured and the Insurer a similar authority) shall advise that such proceedings could be contested with the probability of success

## 7 Disposal of Claims

In connection with any Claim against the Insured the Insurer may at any time pay to the Insured the Limit of Indemnity (after deduction of any sums already paid or which the Insurer is liable to pay in relation to such Claim as damages or claimant's costs and expenses) or any less amount for which such Claim can be settled and thereupon the Insurer shall relinquish the control of such Claim and be under no further liability in connection therewith except for Defence Costs for which the Insurer may be responsible under this Policy in respect of matters prior to the date of such payment

## 8 Dishonesty and Fraud

In respect of any claim made in accordance with this Policy arising out of any dishonest or fraudulent act or omission

- A) the Insured must immediately take all reasonable steps to prevent further loss
- B) if the Insurer so requests the Insured shall take all reasonable steps at the Insurer's expense to effect recovery from the person committing or condoning or knowingly participating in such dishonest or fraudulent act or omission or from the personal representatives of such person

- C) any monies recovered following action as described in 8B) above will be deducted from any amount payable under this Policy

## 9 Advancement of Defence Costs

The Insurer will indemnify the Insured for Defence Costs as and when they are incurred including Defence Costs incurred on behalf of an Insured who is alleged to have committed or condoned a dishonest or fraudulent act or omission provided that the Insurer is not liable for Defence Costs incurred on behalf of such Insured after the earlier of:

- A) the Insured admitting to the Insurer the commission or condoning of such dishonest or fraudulent act or omission or
- B) a court or other judicial body finding that the Insured was in fact guilty of such dishonest or fraudulent act or omission

# Special Benefits

## 1 Non Avoidance and Prejudice

- A) The Insurer will not avoid this Policy or claim to be discharged from any or all liability to provide any indemnity (in whole or in part) under this Policy on the grounds of a breach of the duty of fair presentation of the risk to the Insurer provided that such breach was free of any fraudulent conduct or intent to deceive. It shall be for the Insurer to establish that such breach resulted from fraudulent conduct or intent to deceive
- B) In the event that any circumstance which might reasonably be expected to produce a Claim is notified to the Insurer and the Insured had knowledge prior to the Period of Insurance of such circumstance and the Insured should have notified it under any previous policy (whether with other insurers or not) the Insurer shall not seek to exclude any Claim arising out of such circumstance but the indemnity under this Policy shall be limited to the indemnity which would have been available under the earliest such previous policy if such circumstance had been properly notified

## 2 Non-Compliance

Where the Insured's breach of or non-compliance with any Condition of this Policy has resulted in prejudice to the Insurer

- A) in the handling or settlement of any Claim against the Insured or
- B) in the obtaining of reimbursement from any dishonest or fraudulent person as referred to in Claims Condition 8 (Dishonesty and Fraud)

the indemnity afforded under this Policy (including liability for Claimants' costs and expenses) shall be reduced to such sum as would have been payable in the absence of such prejudice

## Renewal and cancellation

Shortly before each Policy anniversary the Insurer will tell the Insured the premium and terms and conditions that will apply for the following year or the Insurer may request the Insured to complete a renewal declaration form. If the Insured want to change or cancel the cover they must tell the Insurer before the renewal date.

The renewal premium (and if applicable any adjustment of premium for the past year) will be calculated on the information provided by the Insured.

Renewal will not be invited unless a satisfactory declaration is received by the Insurer when requested prior to expiry of the Period of Insurance. Failure to submit a renewal declaration form prior to expiry of the Period of Insurance will cause the Policy to be lapsed from the expiry date.

If the Insured pays by direct debit and the Insurer does not request a renewal declaration form the Insurer will renew the policy and continue to collect payments unless told before the renewal date that the Policy is to be cancelled. If the Insured pays by any other method they must submit a further payment if they wish to renew the Policy.

# Complaints Procedure

## Our Commitment to Customer Service

**At RSA we are committed to going the extra mile for our customers. If you believe that we have not delivered the service you expected, we want to hear from you so that we can try to put things right.**

## Our promise to you

We will:

- Acknowledge all complaints promptly
- Investigate quickly and thoroughly
- Keep you informed of progress
- Do everything possible to resolve your complaint
- Ensure you are clear on how to escalate your complaint, if necessary.

## Step 1.

If your complaint relates to your policy then please contact the sales and service team in the office which issued the Policy or your Broker. If your complaint relates to a claim then please call the claims number on the Claim Notification page of this policy wording.

We aim to resolve your concerns on an informal basis, within three business days. Where we have been able to, we will send you a letter confirming this. We'll also explain how you may be able to refer the matter to the Financial Ombudsman Service if you subsequently decide you are unhappy with the outcome.

## Step 2.

In the unlikely event that we are unable to resolve your concerns through our informal complaints process, our Customer Relations Team will then review the matter on behalf of our Chief Executive. Once our Customer Relations Team have reviewed your complaint they will send you a final decision in writing within 8 weeks of the date we received your complaint.

Our Customer Relations Team's contact details are as follows:

**Post:**  
**RSA Customer Relations Team**  
**P O Box 255**  
**Wymondham**  
**NR18 8DP**

**Email:** [crt.halifax@uk.rsagroup.com](mailto:crt.halifax@uk.rsagroup.com)

## If you are still not happy

If you are still unhappy after our Customer Relations Team's review, or you have not received a written offer of resolution within 8 weeks of the date we received your complaint, you may be eligible to refer your case to the Financial Ombudsman Service. The Financial Ombudsman Service is an independent body that arbitrates on complaints. They can be contacted at:

**Post:**  
**Financial Ombudsman Service**  
**Exchange Tower**  
**London**  
**E14 9SR**

**Telephone:**  
**0800 0234567 (free from mobile phones and landlines)**  
**0300 1239123 (costs no more than calls to 01 or 02 numbers)**

**Email:** [complaint.info@financial-ombudsman.org.uk](mailto:complaint.info@financial-ombudsman.org.uk)  
**Website:** [www.financial-ombudsman.org.uk](http://www.financial-ombudsman.org.uk)

**You have six months from the date of our final response to refer your complaints to the Financial Ombudsman Service. This does not affect your right to take legal action, however, the Financial Ombudsman Service will not adjudicate on any case where litigation has commenced.**



## Fair Processing Notice

At Royal & Sun Alliance Insurance plc we provide commercial insurance policies directly or in partnership with other organisations.

Where individuals are covered under the terms of these insurance policies we may need to process their personal information.

Information including the purpose and basis for the processing, how long data will be retained for and about the individual rights under the data protection regulation can be found at:  
[www.rsagroup.com/support/legal-information/privacy-policy/](http://www.rsagroup.com/support/legal-information/privacy-policy/)

If you have any questions or comments about this Privacy Notice please contact:

The Data Protection Officer  
RSA  
Bowling Mill  
Dean Clough Industrial Park  
Halifax  
HX3 5WA

You may also email us at [crt.halifax@uk.rsagroup.com](mailto:crt.halifax@uk.rsagroup.com).