

Insurance Linx Limited

Becketts Barn, Plum Park Estate, Watling Street, Towcester, Northamptonshire, NN12 6LQ

Telephone: 01327 810 570

Terms of Business

Accepting our Terms of Business

By asking us to quote for, arrange or handle your insurances, you are providing your informed agreement to these Terms of Business. We draw your particular attention to the section headed 'Use of personal data' and specifically the paragraph explaining how 'sensitive personal data' will be used;

For your own benefit and protection, you should read these terms carefully. If you are unsure about any aspect of our Terms of Business or have any questions regarding our relationship with you, please contact us at the above address.

The Financial Conduct Authority

Insurance Linx Limited is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority (FCA). Our Financial Services Register number is 477442.

Our permitted business is introducing, advising, arranging, dealing as agent and assisting in the administration and performance of general insurance contracts and credit broking in relation to insurance instalment facilities.

You may check this on the Financial Services Register by visiting the FCA's website <https://register.fca.org.uk/>, or by contacting the FCA on 0800 111 6768.

Our service

Helping you to decide

Our role is to advise you and, after we have assessed your needs, to provide you with a personal recommendation explaining why the insurance product recommended best meets your requirement. Where we can offer the availability of an instalment facility in order to pay the insurance premium by regular payments, we do not offer advice or make personal recommendations in relation to this but we may ask some questions to narrow down the selection of options available; you will then need to make your own choice about how to proceed.

The capacity in which we act for you

We act as an insurance intermediary, not an insurer.

- Sourcing a suitable policy – We act as your agent
- Placing the insurance – We act as your agent
- In the event of a claim – We will act as your agent

Our product range and the range of insurers used

We provide a personal recommendation and select personal and commercial insurances from a fair and personal analysis of the market, but certain products, we only select products from a limited number of insurers or only offer products from a single insurer. We are not under a contractual obligation but we only select from a single or limited number of providers for the following products:

- Family Legal Protection – Royal & Sun Alliance
- Commercial Legal Expenses – Royal & Sun Alliance
- Loss Recovery – Underwriters at Lloyds

If we propose using another intermediary to help place your insurance, we will confirm this to you in good time before any arrangements are made.

We will not in any circumstance guarantee the solvency of any insurer.

We may be able to offer finance for insurance instalments through the insurer or Metropolitan Premium Finance Limited. We will give you further information about this before we finalise your instalment arrangements.

Complaints and compensation

We aim to provide you with a high level of customer service at all times but, if you are not satisfied, please contact us:

in writing... Write to The Managing Director at the address shown above.
by phone... Telephone (01327) 810 570
by email... david.green@insurancelinx.co.uk

When dealing with your complaint, we will follow our complaint handling procedures; a summary of these procedures is available on request. If you are still not satisfied, you may be entitled to refer the matter to the Financial Ombudsman Service (FOS). For further information, you can visit FOS website www.financial-ombudsman.org.uk.

Access to the FOS is available for complainants coming within one of the following categories at the time we receive their complaint:

- Consumers (private individuals acting for purposes which are wholly or mainly outside that individual's trade, business, craft or profession)
- Micro-enterprises (businesses employing fewer than 10 persons and with a turnover or annual balance sheet total not exceeding €2 million)
- Other small businesses (with an annual turnover of below £6.5m, and less than 50 employees or with an annual balance sheet total of below £5 million)
- Charities with an annual income of under £6.5 million
- Trustees of a trust with a net asset value of under £5 million

We are covered by the Financial Services Compensation Scheme (FSCS) for our insurance mediation activities. You may be entitled to compensation from the scheme if we cannot meet our obligations. This depends on the type of business and the circumstances of the claim. If you are eligible to claim from the FSCS, compensation is available in relation to insurance advising and arranging as follows:

- 90% of the claim, without any upper limit;
- 100% of the claim without any upper limit for
 - compulsory classes of insurance (such as Third Party Motor or Employers Liability); and
 - 'pure protection' contracts, professional indemnity insurance, and general insurance claims arising from the death or incapacity of the policyholder owing to injury, sickness or infirmity, all where there an insurance intermediary has failed to pay money to an insurer, pay away money it has received from an insurer, or has failed to take steps to allow the insurer to effect the contract of insurance.

Further information about compensation scheme arrangements is available from the FSCS on 0800 678 1100 or 020 7741 4100 or www.fscs.org.uk.

Payment for our services

We normally receive commission from insurers or product providers.

- Any commission we receive will be paid by the insurer or product provider from the insurance premium.

We also charge you for handling your insurances as follows:

If you are a Retail Customer (as defined by FCA)

- New Business/Renewal – This is detailed separately in our Renewal Invitation/New Business correspondence
- Changes made to your Policy after Renewal/Inception - £25
- Cancellation of your Policy - £50
- Issuing duplicate documentation - £10

If you are a Commercial Customer (as defined by FCA)

- New Business/Renewal – This is detailed separately in our Renewal Invitation/New Business correspondence
- Changes made to your Policy after Renewal/Inception - £15
- Cancellation of your Policy within six months of Renewal/Inception - 20% of the premium paid subject to a minimum charge of £50
- Cancellation of your Policy after six months of Renewal/Inception - 10% of the premium paid subject to a minimum charge of £50
- Issuing duplicate documentation - £nil

You will receive a quotation that will tell you the total price to be paid, and which identifies any fees, taxes and charges separately from the premium, before your insurance arrangements are concluded.

If you are a Commercial Customer (as defined by FCA), in good time before the conclusion of each insurance contract, or upon renewal, we will remind you of your right to be informed of the level of commission which we receive from underwriters. You are entitled, at any time, to request information regarding any commission that we may have received as a result of placing your insurance business.

If you are a Retail Customer (as defined by FCA), on request, we will be pleased to provide information about any commission received by us in the handling of your insurances.

If the type of policy we sell with Ageas or Covea reaches specific profit targets, the insurer also pays us an additional bonus.

We also draw your attention to the sections headed 'Cancellation of insurances' and 'Ending your relationship with us'.

Handling money

Our financial arrangements with most insurance companies are on a 'Risk Transfer' basis. This means that we act as agents of the insurer in collecting premiums and handling refunds due to clients. In these circumstances, such monies are deemed to be held by the insurer(s) with which your insurance is arranged. However, if Risk Transfer does not apply, we will hold such monies in a Statutory Trust account set up in accordance with FCA rules. We will retain interest earned on monies held in such a Statutory Trust account. For the purpose of some transactions, client money may pass through other authorised intermediaries before being paid to the insurer.

Cancellation of insurances

You should make any request for the cancellation of a policy in writing and any relevant certificate of insurance must be returned to us or to the insurer concerned.

In the event of cancellation, charges for our services will apply in accordance with the 'Payment for our services' section above.

The terms of your policy may allow insurers to retain the premium in full or to charge short-period premiums in the event of cancellation before the policy expires.

Ending your relationship with us

Subject to your immediate settlement of any outstanding premiums and fees, you may instruct us to stop acting for you and we will not impose a penalty.

Your instructions must be given in writing and will take effect from the date of receipt.

In circumstances where we feel we cannot continue providing services to you, we will give you a minimum of 7 days notice where there is a valid reason for doing so. We will advise you of the reason for cancellation. Valid reasons may include but are not limited to:

- Non-payment of premium or fees
- Failure to provide requested documentation or information
- Deliberate failure to comply with terms set out within the Terms of Business or insurer's documentation
- Deliberate misrepresentation or non-disclosure or attempted fraud;
- Use of threatening or abusive behaviour or language, or intimidation or bullying of our staff or suppliers.

Unless otherwise agreed in writing, if our relationship ends, any transactions previously initiated will be completed according to these Terms of Business. You will be liable to pay for any transactions concluded prior to the end of our relationship and we will be entitled to retain commission received for conducting these transactions, together with all fees charged by us for services provided.

Your responsibilities

If you are a consumer, you are responsible for answering any questions in relation to any proposal for insurance cover honestly and to the best of your knowledge, providing complete and accurate information that insurers will require. This also applies to your responses in relation to any assumptions you may agree to in the process of applying for insurance cover. This is particularly important before taking out a policy but also at renewal or if you make a mid-term amendment to your policy.

If you fail to disclose information, or misrepresent any fact which may influence the insurer's decision to accept the risk or the terms offered, this could invalidate the policy and mean that claims may not be paid.

If you are a commercial customer, you have a duty to give a fair presentation of risk to the insurer. This means that you should disclose every material circumstance relevant to the risk being insured following a reasonable search within your business to identify and verify such information. This should include information which you and where applicable your senior management, persons responsible for arranging your insurance or other relevant third parties know or ought to know and should include all information that would influence the judgement of the insurer or that would put the insurer on notice that it needs to make further enquiries.

Examples of material circumstances are:

- Special or unusual circumstances relating to the risk;
- Any particular concerns which led you to seek insurance cover for the risk; and
- Anything that those concerned with the class of insurance and field of activity in question would generally understand as being something that would be dealt with in a fair presentation of risks for this type of insurance.

The information must be presented in a way that would be reasonably clear and accessible to a prudent insurer. If you are unsure whether to disclose any information, you should speak to us. You need to take into account the size & complexity of your business, and allow yourself sufficient time before your renewal date to consider and / or assess your insurance requirements.

Failure to provide a 'fair representation' may result in a number of remedies by the insurer. If the breach was deliberate or reckless, the insurer can void the contract and keep the premium. If the breach was not deliberate or reckless, the insurer can void the contract, proportionately reduce a claim settlement or amend the insurance policy terms and conditions then review the merits of a claim on this basis.

You should therefore always provide complete and accurate information to us when we ask you about the insurance risks your business faces before taking out a policy, at renewal and throughout the life of the policy. This also applies to your responses in relation to any assumptions you may agree to in the process of applying for insurance cover.

You must check all details on any proposal form or Statement of Facts and pay particular attention to any declaration you may be asked to sign. It is important that you read all insurance documents issued to you and ensure that you are aware of the cover, limits and other terms that apply. Particular attention must be paid to any warranties and conditions as failure to comply with them could invalidate your policy or mean that claims may not be paid.

You must inform us immediately of any changes in circumstances that may affect the services provided by us or the cover provided by your policy.

If you are unsure about any matter, please contact us for guidance.

The processing of your personal data

In your dealings with us, you may provide us with information that may include data that is known as personal data. Where we process personal data, we comply with statutory data processing requirements as set out by the Data Protection Act 2018. The personal data we will collect will include information relating to your name, address, date of birth, contact details and 'health' or 'criminal offences'.

We will process your personal data to allow us to provide you with our services as your insurance broker in quoting for, arranging and administering your insurances and in arranging insurance premium finance where applicable. Your personal data will also be used to manage future communications between ourselves. Where you have agreed, or in circumstances where to do so will be in our mutual interests, your personal data will be used to provide you with further information about our wider products and services. You can opt out from receiving such communications by e-mailing david.green@insurancelinx.co.uk

In processing personal data for insurance purposes about health or criminal offences, we will only do so to enable us to provide our service to you and based on it being in the public interest.

We will only use your data for the purpose for which it was collected. We will only grant access to or share your data within our firm or other firms associated with us, with other authorised third parties and product and service providers such as insurers and premium finance providers where we are entitled to do so by law under lawful data processing.

We may monitor calls, emails and any other communication we have with you. When you contact us, we may keep a record of correspondence and any information provided to us during that or any subsequent communication.

The Data Protection Act 2018 provides you with Access Rights that allow you to gain an understanding on the data being processed, who we share it with, for what purpose, why we need to retain it and retention periods, to object to the processing and to place restrictions on the processing, to request copies of your data and to request the deletion of your data.

If you require further information on how we process your data or you wish to exercise your rights, please contact our data privacy representative by emailing david.green@insurance.linx.co.uk or by writing Becketts Barn, Plum Park Estate, Watling Street, Towcester. NN12 6LQ or by telephoning (01327) 810 570. How we process your personal data is detailed further within our Privacy Notice www.insurancelinx.co.uk/privacy-cookie-policy.

Credit checks

We, and other firms involved in arranging your insurance (insurers, other intermediaries or premium finance companies) may use public and personal data from a variety of sources including credit reference agencies and other organisations. The information is used to help tailor a price, to ascertain the most appropriate payment options for you and to help prevent fraud. Any credit reference search will appear on your credit report whether or not your application proceeds. If you have any questions about this or any other matter, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Conflict of interests

Occasions can arise where we, or one of our associated companies, clients or product providers, may have a potential conflict of interest with business being transacted for you. If this happens, and we become aware that a potential conflict exists, we will write to you and obtain your consent before we carry out your instructions and we will detail the steps we will take to ensure fair treatment.

Claims handling arrangements

You should take note of the required procedures in the event of a claim, which will be explained in the policy documentation. Generally, insurers require immediate notification of a claim or circumstances that might lead to a claim. We will employ due care and skill if we act on your behalf in respect of a claim.