



# Welcome

## **Assistance Helpline Services**

**You** can contact one of **our** helplines to obtain legal advice and guidance. **We** will not accept responsibility if any of the helpline services fail for reasons beyond **our** control.

## Landlord Legal Advice Helpline - 0300 303 5899

**Our** legal advice line operates 24 hour a day 7 days a week all year round for general legal advice. Use of the legal advice line does not constitute acceptance of a **claim**.

## Tax Advice Helpline – 0300 303 5885

**Our** landlord tax advice line operates 5 days a week Monday to Friday 9am till 5pm. This helpline is only available for property owners.

## Making a Claim

If you wish to make a claim, it's important to let us know as soon as possible and during the period of insurance. You can obtain and submit a claim form to us by using one of the contact methods below.

Online: Visit www.alanboswell.com/claims/rgi-claim to

submit your claim online.

**Post:** Alan Boswell Insurance Brokers, Prospect House,

Rouen Road, Norwich, Norfolk, NR1 1RE

Call us: 0300 303 5885 Mon to Fri 9am to 5pm

## Terms of Cover

This policy is written on a 'claims occurring' basis, it is important to let us know about any potential claims within 90 days. Any claims notified after 60 days will have one month's rent payment deducted from any claim.

Please see the Policy Conditions section of this document, which sets out how **we** will assess **your claim**, **your** obligations to **us** under the policy and how **we** will handle **your claim**.

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# **Important Policy Information**

## Who does it cover?

This policy covers the individual, company, partnership, management agent, association, letting agent providing a full management service for the property, or any other entity which owns or is responsible for the **property** shown on the **policy schedule**.

Please note no cover will be provided under section 2d Tax Protection when the policyholder is acting as a letting agent or management agent or is a limited company.

## **Key Requirements**

- All claims must be reported no later than 90 days after the date of event
- Contact must be made with the tenant and any guarantor within seven days if any rent is overdue to establish the reason for the arrears;
- Where appropriate all statutory and contractual notices must have been served upon the tenant;
- The **property** must only be used for residential purposes;
- A satisfactory tenant reference must have been carried out on each tenant and/or guarantor before the start of the tenancy agreement for the rent protection cover (if selected)
- A tenancy agreement must be in place for the duration of this policy;
- The tenant must be aged 18 years or over.
- At renewal you must ensure the tenant(s) and guarantor if applicable continue to meet the policy requirements.

## Your Responsibility

## The Contract of Insurance

The contract of insurance between **you** and **us** consists of the following elements, which must be read together:

- your policy wording;
- The information contained on the Statement of Fact document issued by us;
- the policy schedule;
- any notice issued by us at renewal;
- any endorsement to your policy; and
- the information under the heading "Important Information" which we give you when you take out or renew your policy.

In return for **you** having paid or agreed to pay the premium, **we** will provide the cover set out in this policy, to the extent of and subject to the terms and conditions contained in or endorsed on this policy.

## **Important**

This policy is a legal contract. **you** must tell **us** about any material circumstances which affect **your** insurance and which have occurred either since the policy started or since the last renewal date.

A circumstance is material if it would influence **our** judgement in determining whether to provide the cover and, if so, on what Terms. If **you** are not sure whether a circumstance is material ask **your** insurance adviser. If **you** fail to tell **us** it could affect the extent of cover provided under the policy.

**You** should keep a written record (including copies of letters) of any information **you** give **us** or **your** insurance adviser when **you** renew this policy.

### **Breach of Term**

**We** agree that where there has been a breach of any term (express or implied) which would otherwise result in **us** automatically being discharged from any liability, then such a breach shall result in any liability **we** might have under this policy being suspended. Such a suspension will apply only from the date and time at which the breach occurred and up until the date and time at which the breach is remedied. This means that **we** will have no liability in respect of any loss occurring, or attributable to something happening, during the period of suspension.

#### Terms not relevant to the actual loss

Where there has been non-compliance with any term (express or implied) of this policy, other than a term that defines the risk as a whole, and compliance with such term would tend to reduce the risk of:

- loss of a particular kind, and/or
- loss at a particular location, and/or
- loss at a particular time,

then **we** agree that **we** may not rely on the non-compliance to exclude, limit or discharge **our** liability under this policy if **you** show that non-compliance with the term could not have increased the risk of the loss which actually occurred in the circumstances in which it occurred

#### Legal Advice Helpline

Available 24 hours a day throughout the year to provide **you** with confidential telephone advice about any personal legal problem in the United Kingdom, Isle of Man or Channel Islands. A scheduled call back to **you** may be required during normal working hours subject to the complexity of the matter and/or the country in which **you** are resident.

To contact the helpline, phone: 0300 303 5899 quoting the reference 'Alan Boswell'.

## How to make a Claim

In the event of a claim, please contact us within 90 days from the date of event, giving us as much information as you can about what has happened to bring about the claim.

**Online:** Visit <u>www.alanboswell.com/claims/rgi-claim</u> to submit **your claim** online.

**Post:** Alan Boswell Insurance Brokers, Prospect House, Rouen Road, Norwich, Norfolk, NR1 1RE

Call us: 0300 303 5885

Our claims line is open Monday to Friday 9am till 5pm

In order for **us** to help **you** more efficiently, please quote 'Landlord Legal' in all communications. **We** will only be able to review **your claim** once **we** are in receipt of the full documentation and information.

In order to progress **your claim**, **we** will require documentation to prove **your** landlord requirements have been met and enable eviction of **your tenant**. This may include, but is not limited to:

- A copy of the tenancy agreement;
- A copy of the **tenant reference**(s);
- An up to date rent schedule;
- A copy of the guarantor referencing and agreements (where applicable);
- Copies of any notices and correspondence which has been exchanged between you and the tenant (and guarantor where applicable), for example, but not limited to, eviction notices, requests for payment of rent, etc;
- Confirmation that any deposit taken has been properly protected in accordance with the relevant legislation or a deposit replacement scheme has been utilised;
- Copies of bank statements showing rental payments received from the tenant;
- Copies of the Gas Safety Certificate and confirmation this was provided to the **tenant** at the start of the tenancy (where applicable);
- Copies of the Energy Performance Certificate and confirmation this was provided to the **tenant** at the start of the tenancy;
- Evidence that the How to Rent Guide has been issued to the tenant prior to the tenancy agreement (where applicable).
- Additional documentation that may include but is not limited to a copy of the check-in and check-out inventories of contents and condition of the property

## **Important**

Please do not appoint **your** own **appointed representative**, **we** will not be liable for any costs incurred.

## Administrator

This insurance is administered by Alan Boswell Insurance Brokers Ltd.

Alan Boswell Insurance Brokers Ltd is authorised by the Financial Conduct Authority Firm Reference Number 02591252

#### Insurer

This insurance is underwritten by Aviva Insurance Limited. Registered in Scotland, No. 2116.

Registered Office: Pitheavlis, Perth, PH2 0NH.

Authorised by the Prudential Regulation Authority and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority and the Prudential Regulation Authority. Firm Reference Number (FRN) 202153

## **Privacy Statement**

#### **Aviva - Data Protection - Privacy Notice**

Aviva Insurance Limited is the main company responsible for **you**r Personal Information (known as the controller).

We collect and use Personal Information about you in relation to our products and services. Personal Information means any information relating to you or another living individual who is identifiable by us. The type of Personal Information we collect and use will depend on our relationship with you and may include more general information (e.g. your name, date of birth, contact details) or more sensitive information (e.g. details of your health or criminal convictions).

Some of the Personal Information **we** use may be provided to **us** by a third party. This may include information already held about **you** within the Aviva group, information **we** obtain from publicly available records, third parties and from industry databases, including fraud prevention agencies and databases.

This notice explains the most important aspects of how we use your Personal Information, but you can get more information by viewing our full privacy policy at <a href="aviva.co.uk/privacypolicy">aviva.co.uk/privacypolicy</a> or requesting a copy by writing to us at: The Data Protection Team, Aviva, PO Box 7684, Pitheavlis, Perth PH2 1JR. If you are providing Personal Information about another person you should show them this notice.

**We** use **you**r Personal Information for a number of purposes including providing our products and services and for fraud prevention.

**We** also use profiling and other data analysis to understand **our** customers better, e.g. what kind of content or products would be of most interest, and to predict the likelihood of certain events arising, e.g. to assess insurance risk or the likelihood of fraud.

We may carry out automated decision making to decide on what terms we can provide products and services, deal with claims and carry out fraud checks. More information about this, including your right to request that certain automated decisions we make have human involvement, can be found in the "Automated Decision Making" section of our full privacy policy.

**We** may process information from a credit reference agency, including a quotation search where **you** are offered an Aviva credit payment facility. More information about this can be found in the "Credit Reference Agencies" section of **our** full privacy policy.

We may use Personal Information we hold about you across the Aviva group for marketing purposes, including sending marketing communications in accordance with your preferences. If you wish to amend your marketing preferences please contact us at: <a href="mailto:contactus@aviva.com">contactus@aviva.com</a> or by writing to us at: Aviva, Freepost, Mailing Exclusion Team, Unit 5, Wanlip Road Ind Est, Syston, Leicester, LE7 1PD. More information about this can be found

in the "Marketing" section of **our** full privacy policy. **Your** Personal Information may be shared with other Aviva group companies and third parties (including **our** suppliers such

group companies and third parties (including **our** suppliers such as those who provide **claim**s services and regulatory and law enforcement bodies). **We** may transfer **your** Personal

Information to countries outside of the UK but will always ensure appropriate safeguards are in place when doing so.

You have certain data rights in relation to your Personal Information, including a right to access Personal Information, a right to correct inaccurate Personal Information and a right to erase or suspend our use of your Personal Information. These rights may also include a right to transfer your Personal Information to another organisation, a right to object to our use of your Personal Information, a right to withdraw consent and a right to complain to the data protection regulator. These rights may only apply in certain circumstances and are subject to certain exemptions. You can find out more about these rights in the "Data Rights" section of our full privacy policy or by contacting us at dataprt@aviva.com

## Fraud prevention and detection

In order to prevent and detect fraud we may at any time:

- Share information about you with other organisations and public bodies including the Police;
- Undertake credit searches and additional fraud searches;
- Check and/or file your details with fraud prevention agencies and databases, and if you give us false or inaccurate information and we suspect fraud, we will record this to prevent fraud and money laundering.

We and other organisations may also search these agencies and databases to:

- Help make decisions about the provision and administration of insurance, credit and related services for you and members of your household
- Trace debtors or beneficiaries, recover debt, prevent fraud and to manage your accounts or insurance policies;
- Check Your identity to prevent money laundering, unless you provide us with other satisfactory proof of identity;
- Check details of job applicants and employees.

**You** should show these notices to anyone who has an interest in the insurance under the policy.

## **Alan Boswell Insurance Brokers Privacy Notice**

Alan Boswell Insurance Brokers Ltd (ABIB) needs to collect and store personal data about its clients and insurance claims, to allow it to maintain its core operations and meet its customers' requirements effectively. The provision of this personal data is necessary for ABIB to administer **your** insurance policy and meet **our** contractual requirements under the policy.

It is important to ABIB that **you** are clear on what information **we** collect and why **we** collect it. **You** can withdraw **your** consent at any point by notifying ABIB, however if **you** have an on-going claim this may affect continued cover under **your** policy. Should **your** data need updating, this can also be done at any point by contacting ABIB.

To view **our** full privacy notice, **you** can go to www.alanboswell.com/privacy

## **Complaints Procedure**

## What to do if you are unhappy

If **you** have a complaint about this insurance please contact **your** insurance adviser. Contact details can be found on **your** insurance documents.

# What will happen if Aviva is handling your complaint If your complaint is not resolved quickly:

- Your complaint will be acknowledged promptly.
- A dedicated complaint expert will be assigned to review your complaint.
- A thorough and impartial investigation will be carried out.
- You will be kept updated of the progress.
- Everything will be done to resolve things as quickly as possible.
- A written response will be sent to you within eight weeks
  of receiving your complaint, this will inform you of the
  results of the investigation or explain why this isn't
  possible.

Where **your** concerns are unable to be resolved or have not been resolved within eight weeks, **you** may be able to ask the Financial Ombudsman Service (FOS) to carry out an independent review. Whilst firms are bound by their decision **you** are not. Contacting them will not affect **your** legal rights.

**You** can contact the FOS by telephone on 0800 023 4567. Or visit their website at www.financial-ombudsman.org.uk, where **you** will find further information.

## **Financial Services Compensation Scheme**

Depending on the circumstances of **your claim you** may be entitled to compensation from the Financial Services Compensation Scheme (FSCS) if **we** cannot meet **our** obligations. See fscs.org.uk.

## **Definitions**

The words and phrases listed below will have the same meanings wherever they appear in this policy. These words and phrases can be identified in bold throughout the policy.

#### **Any One Claim**

All **claims** or **civil proceedings** consequent upon the same original cause, event or circumstance.

## **Appointed Representative**

The **panel solicitor**, solicitor's firm, barrister, independent mediator or other suitably qualified person appointed by **us** to act on **your** behalf.

## Benefit(s)

Any housing benefits claimed by the **tenant**(s), such as housing benefit or universal credit.

#### **Broker**

The company or third party who arranged this policy on **your** behalf.

### Claim(s)

A **claim** under this policy following a breach of the **tenancy agreement** by the **tenant** or any other event that leads to a **claim** covered under this policy.

## **Civil Proceedings**

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

#### **Date of Event**

The date of the first breach of the **tenancy agreement** by the **tenant** or any other event which leads to a **claim** covered under this policy. Where there is more than one such event, the date of the first of these.

## **Deposit**

The sum of money collected from the **tenant** and held by **you** or **your** agent in accordance with Section 213 of the Housing Act 2004 in respect of a **tenancy agreement** to which it applies to provide an indemnity for losses incurred by **you** arising from the **tenant** failing to perform their obligations set out in the **tenancy agreement**.

#### **Dilapidations**

Any repairs required or damage to the **property**, over and above general wear and tear, for which the **tenant** is liable in accordance with the **tenancy agreement**.

## Fees

Any disbursement costs incurred 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.

#### Guarantor

The individual or organisation that has provided a signed document of financial guarantee of the **tenant**'s performance of their obligations under the **tenancy agreement**. Professional **guarantor** companies are not acceptable. A **guarantor** must meet each of the following criteria.

#### 1. Affordability

- a. Evidence showing monthly employment gross income is at least 3 x the monthly **rent** or;
- b. Evidence showing retirement monthly income is at least 3 x the monthly **rent** or;
- Evidence of immediate access to savings of at least 6 x the monthly **rent** for the 6 months prior to the start of the policy or;
- d. If self-employed either sight of the previous three months' banks statements; or confirmation from an accountant of the guarantor's gross monthly income; or previous year's tax return showing 3 x monthly rent.

#### 2. Identification

a. Two forms of identification of which one is photographic.

#### 3. Credit check

 a. Confirmed credit check from a licensed credit company showing no outstanding or satisfied CCJs in the previous 3 years and no undischarged bankruptcies

Or

Written confirmation from **us** that the guarantor is acceptable.

## **HMRC Investigation(s)**

The investigation into **your** tax affairs by HM Revenue & Customs (HMRC) following a request by an officer of HMRC to examine **your** tax affairs relating to the letting of the **property** and the issue of a formal notice under S9A or 12AC of the Taxes Management Act 1970 or under Paragraph 24 (1) Schedule 18 of the Finance Act 1988.

#### Insurer

Aviva Insurance Limited.

## Inventory

A detailed record of the **property**'s fixtures, fittings and contents and their respective condition.

#### **Legal Costs**

- Any professional legal fees, mediation service fees and expenses that you are bound to pay and which have been reasonably incurred by the appointed representative;
- Any costs incurred by other parties that you become liable for in court, tribunal proceedings or under a settlement made with another party with the consent of the insurer but excluding any costs which you may

be ordered to pay by a court of criminal jurisdiction or in adjudication proceedings other than the cost of the adjudicator.

## Limit(s) of Indemnity

The maximum amount payable under this policy, as specified below:

Section 1a – Rent Protection: The monthly rent shown in the tenancy agreement up to a maximum amount value of £2,500 per month for a maximum of 15 months.

Once vacant possession is gained **we** will pay 75% of the monthly **rent** (up to a maximum amount of £1,875 per month) for a maximum of three months or until the property is re-let; whichever occurs first.

Section 1b – Eviction: Legal costs and fees up to £100,000 per claim.

Section 1c – Rent Recovery: Legal costs and fees up to £100,000 per claim.

#### Section 2 – Property Owners Legal Expenses:

Any one claim: £100,000

 The total of all claims within the periodof insurance: £100,000

Section 3 – Attendance Expenses: Maximum of £100 per day and a maximum of £1,000 for any one claim.

#### **Mediation Service**

The independent mediation service provided by and paid for by **us** and/or any government mediation scheme.

#### **Panel Solicitor**

A solicitor recommended by **us** to **you** in the event of a **claim**, to act on **your** behalf and provide assistance.

## Part 36 Offer

Any offer made to settle a **claim**, whether blame is accepted or not, made by either party to 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 if the offer 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 for which the **insurer** has agreed to provide this insurance, unless otherwise agreed by **us** this will be 12 calendar months from the inception date of this policy.

## **Policy Schedule**

The schedule provided in connection with this policy which outlines the cover provided including reference to the **property**.

## **Property**

Buildings owned by you or that you are responsible for, and

land immediately surrounding them which are used solely for domestic residential purposes within the **territorial limits**, detailed in the **tenancy agreement** and which are declared on the **policy schedule**.

## **Reasonable Prospects of Success**

A greater than 50% chance that **you** will recover losses or damages (or obtain any other legal remedy that **we** have agreed to, including an enforcement of judgment), make a successful defence or make a successful appeal or defence of any appeal in **your** pursuit of **civil proceedings**.

#### Rent

The amount payable by the **tenant** to **you** as set out in the **tenancy agreement**.

## **Tenancy Agreement**

An agreement to use the **property** which amounts to a **property** right between **you** and the **tenant** in relation to the **property** which is:

- a. An Assured Shorthold Tenancy agreement as defined within the Housing Act 1988 (as amended); or
- A Company Residential tenancy (company let) created after 28th February 1997 where the **tenant** is a Private Limited Company (Ltd) or Public Limited Company (Plc) and the **property** is let purely for residential purposes to an employee of the **tenant**; or
- A written common law residential tenancy agreement created after 28th February 1997 between individuals where the rent is in excess of £100,000 per annum;
- d. For tenancies in Scotland, a Short Assured Tenancy or Assured Tenancy as defined in the Housing (Scotland) Act 1987 or a Private Residential tenancy agreement created after the 1st December 2017 as defined within the Private Housing (Tenancies) (Scotland) Act 2016.

#### **Tenant**

The individual who has entered into a **tenancy agreement** with **you**, who is the subject of the **tenant reference** and who occupies the **property**.

Where the **tenant** is a company the property can only be occupied by their employees for domestic purposes only.

#### **Tenant Reference**

Checks carried out on the **tenant** before the commencement of the **tenancy agreement** or this policy. As a minimum requirement, a **tenant reference** check must include:

#### 1. Affordability

- a. Evidence showing monthly employment gross income is at least 2.5 x the monthly **rent** or;
- Evidence showing retirement monthly income is at least 2.5 x the monthly rent or;
- Evidence of immediate access to savings of at least 6 x the monthly rent for the 6 months prior to the start of the policy or;
- d. If self-employed either sight of the previous three months' banks statements; or confirmation from an accountant of the **tenant's** gross monthly income; or previous year's tax return showing 3 x the monthly rent.

#### 2. Identification

- Evidence the tenant has passed the right to rent check; and
- b. Two forms of identification of which one is photographic.

#### 3. Credit check

 a. Confirmed credit check from a licensed credit company showing no outstanding or satisfied CCJs in the previous 3 years and no discharged bankruptcies.

Or

Written confirmation from **us** that the **tenant** is acceptable.

Where the **tenant** has failed to meet the requirements of the **tenant reference** a **guarantor** must be sought who must meet the **guarantor** requirements.

In the event the **tenancy agreement** has been in place for greater than 12 months at the inception date of this policy the above checks will not be required provided there have been no breaches of the **tenancy agreement** and no late payments (more than 31 days late) in the last 12 months and **you** are not aware of any changes in the **tenant**'s financial circumstances. In the event of a **claim we** will require the **rent** schedule and proof of payments for the last 12 months showing confirmation that payments for **rent** have been received in accordance with the **tenancy agreement**.

In the event that the **tenant** has been late (more than 31 days late) in making any **rent** payments in accordance with the **tenancy agreement**, or has otherwise breached their **tenancy agreement**, within the preceding 12 months, or **you** are aware of changes in the **tenant's** financial circumstances before the inception or renewal date of this policy **you** must undertake a new **tenant reference** check on the **tenant**.

#### **Territorial Limits**

The United Kingdom, Channel Islands and the Isle of Man.

## You/Your

The individual, company, firm, partnership, management agent, letting agent providing a full management service for the **property**, association, or any other entity which owns or is responsible for the **property** shown on the **policy schedule**, which may include at **your** request, any of **your** employees including a director or partner.

## We/Our/Us

Alan Boswell Insurance Brokers Ltd and/or Aviva Insurance Limited (as the case may be).

## Cover

## Section 1a - Rent Protection and Dilapidations

#### What is Covered?

The **insurer** will cover **rent** arrears due from the **tenant** under the **tenancy agreement** which **you** have notified to **us** within 90 days of the **date of event** and where **you** are pursuing a **claim** that has been accepted under Section 1b of this policy, subject to the following conditions:

#### **Rent Protection**

- a. **Rent** must be not less than two complete months in arrears
- b. Claims must be notified a maximum of 90 days after the date of event. Claims notified after 60 days of the date of event will result in an amount equivalent to one month's complete rent being deducted from any claims payment.
- c. After the initial payment any further rent protection payments will be made one month in arrears from the day the payment is due in accordance with the tenancy agreement, once confirmation is received that the tenant(s) has not vacated the property and no rent payment has been received;
- d. Where vacant possession is secured between unpaid rent payments due in accordance with the tenancy agreement, rent protection will be calculated on a pro-rata basis;
- e. The **claim** payment amount will take into account any rental payment made to **you** from other sources such as **benefits**.
- f. You do not financially profit from any claim.
- g. A satisfactory tenant reference or guarantor reference must have been obtained in respect of all tenants and/or guarantors.

## **Dilapidations**

- a. You or your representative must inspect the property before the commencement of the tenancy agreement and provide an inventory to the tenant. The inventory must be signed by the tenant within 7 days of the commencement of the tenancy agreement.
- b. You or your representative must inspect the property after vacant possession has been obtained and provide a check in and check-out report in the event of any claim for dilapidations.

#### What is Excluded?

- a. The insurer will not pay claims under this section until the rent has been in arrears for the equivalent of two full monthly payments.
- b. The insurer will not pay any rent payments due under the policy where you fail to correctly issue and serve on the tenant the appropriate statutory and contractual notices within the required legal timeframe.
- c. **Rent** protection cover ceases once vacant possession has been gained.
- d. The amount equivalent to any **deposit** held will be deducted from the last **rent** protection payment unless the **deposit** is subsequently required to meet the cost

- of any dilapidations.
- e. In the event that **you** have received any overpayments of **rent we** reserve the right to recover these costs from **you**.
- f. Claims occurring outside the territorial limits.
- g. Claims not reported within 90 days of the date of event. Claims notified within 60 to 90 days of the date of event will result in an amount the equivalent of one month's complete rent being deducted from the arrears.
- h. **Dilapidations** does not provide cover for general wear and tear and cleaning.

#### Section 1b - Eviction

#### What is Covered?

The **insurer** will provide cover in respect of **legal costs** and **fees** incurred to evict a **tenant** from the **property** for any breach of **tenancy agreement** by the **tenant** within the **territorial limits** subject to:

- a. Contact being made with the tenant and any guarantor within seven days if any rent is overdue to establish the reason for the arrears;
- b. If the tenant or guarantor cannot be contacted, and it is lawful to do so, you must then serve notice of a requirement to undertake an inspection in accordance with your obligations within the tenancy agreement and visit the property. If you are unsure that such an inspection is lawful, you should seek legal advice;
- c. Where required by us or the law, you must attempt in good faith to settle the claim using the mediation service.

We will assist you by issuing the appropriate statutory and contractual notices on the tenant(s) on your behalf. If you choose to issue these notices yourself, without assistance from us, we will not cover any additional loss of rent or any associated costs as a result of your failure in issuing the notices correctly.

## What is Excluded?

- a. The **insurer** will not pay any **claims** where the appropriate statutory and contractual notices have not been correctly served on the **tenant** by **you**.
- b. Claims not reported within 90 days of the date of
- c. Claims occurring outside the territorial limits.

#### Section 1c – Rent Recovery

## What is Covered?

The **insurer** will indemnify **you** in respect of **legal costs** incurred in the recovery of an undisputed debt for **rent** where the dispute and **civil proceedings** or **rent** arrears occur within the **territorial limits** and the **claim** is notified to **us** within 90 days of the **date of event**. Subject

to:

a. All **rent** debt recovery cases must be notified to the **insurer** within 90 days of the due date of the unpaid **rent** 

- payment;
- The amount in dispute must exceed a minimum of £1,000 for the claim to be activated after the claim has been reported;
- c. All reasonable measures to recover the **rent** must have been exhausted;
- d. The **insurer** selecting the most appropriate means of recovery.

#### What is Excluded?

The **insurer** will not pay **claims** arising from or associated with:

- a. More than two separate rent debt recoveries for any one tenant in any one period of insurance;
- b. **Claims** reported to **us** after 90 days of the due date of the unpaid **rent** payment;
- Claims where the total amount of unpaid rent is less than £1,000;
- d. Claims occurring outside the territorial limits;

## Section 2a - Property Legal Disputes

#### What is Covered?

The **insurer** will indemnify **you** against **legal costs** and **fees** incurred in any dispute or **civil proceedings** occurring within the **territorial limits** made by or brought against **you**:

- a. In respect of the physical possession of the property provided that where appropriate all statutory and contractual notices have been correctly served on the tenant. Please refer to general condition 2 - property legal disputes & rent protection claims for details of which notices may be applicable.
- b. In respect of the terms of the **tenancy agreement** relating to the use or maintenance of the **property**.
- In respect of actual or alleged negligence or nuisance originating from the property.
- d. In respect of non-payment of service charges due from a tenant provided the amount in dispute being more than £1,000 and any legal costs and fees being limited to 75% of the amount in dispute.
- e. In respect of actual or alleged **dilapidations** to the **property** subject to the amount in dispute being more than £1,000 and any **legal costs** and **fees** being limited to 75% of the amount in dispute.
- f. Under the Commonhold and Leasehold Reform Act 2002 or as amended; provided that you will suffer financial loss if you fail to pursue or defend the claim or civil proceedings.

## What is Excluded?

The **insurer** will not pay **claims** arising from or associated with:

- a. The pursuit or defence of **claims** relating to the payment or non-payment of any tax and/or mesne profits or any review of **rent** or service charge.
- b. Any dispute relating to rent, tax planning or building regulations or decisions or compulsory purchase orders or any actual, planned or proposed works by or under the order of any government or public or local authority.
- Any dispute arising from the negotiation, review or renewal of a tenancy agreement or the subsequent

- purchase of the **property** whether or not such purchase is completed.
- d. Any actual or alleged harassment of you or a tenant.
- e. A dispute over subsidence, heave or landslip howsoever caused.
- f. A contract dispute other than where the contract is a tenancy agreement.
- g. Any planning application, review or decision.
- h. Claims occurring outside the territorial limits.
- i. Claims not reported within 90 days of the date of event.

## Section 2b - Repair & Renovation Disputes

#### What is Covered?

The **insurer** will indemnify **you** against **legal costs** and **fees** incurred in the pursuit or defence of any dispute or **civil proceedings** made by or brought against **you** in a contractual dispute with a third party over the repair or renovation of the **property**. Subject to the following conditions:

- a. The legal costs and fees incurred in any claim or civil proceedings shall be limited to 75% of the sum in dispute:
- b. The amount in dispute exceeds £1,000 and the contract value is less than £100,000; and
- c. The work has commenced within the **period of insurance**.

#### What is Excluded?

The **insurer** will not pay **claims** arising from or associated with:

- Contracts in relation to credit, insurance, securities or guarantees.
- b. Contracts where **your** liability or right of recovery is incurred through **your** agent or by assignment.
- c. Contracts governed by or alleged to be governed by the Consumer Credit Act 1974.
- d. Contracts of employment.
- e. A **tenancy agreement** or contracts for use of the **property**.
- f. Claims not reported within 90 days of the date of event
- g. Claims occurring outside the territorial limits.

## Section 2c - Health & Safety Prosecutions

## What is Covered?

The **insurer** will indemnify **you** against **legal costs** and **fees** incurred within the **territorial limits** in:

- Defending a prosecution against you relating to the property, brought under the Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974 in a court of criminal jurisdiction.
- b. An appeal by you against the service of an Improvement or Prohibition Notice under the Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974 provided that the breach or alleged breach of the Health and Safety at Work Act or the Improvement or Prohibition Notice relates to the property.

## What is Excluded?

The **insurer** will not pay **claims** arising from or associated with:

- Any prosecution relating to or arising from any HMRC investigation.
- Any prosecution for offences against the person or offences of a sexual nature.
- c. Any prosecution for criminal damage.
- d. Any prosecution alleging dishonesty.
- e. Any **fees** or costs imposed by the Health and Safety Executive or any of its agents, for ongoing monitoring or assessment of **you** or the **property**.
- Claims not reported within 90 days of the date of event.
- g. Claims occurring outside the territorial limits.

#### Section 2d - Tax Protection

#### What is Covered?

The **insurer** will indemnify **you** against professional expenses incurred because of a HM Revenue & Customs Investigation provided that:

- You must maintain proper, complete truthful and up to date records, including making all returns at the time due without having to pay any penalty; and
- You must provide all information reasonably required by HM Revenue and Customs within the statutory time limits

#### What is Excluded?

The **insurer** will not pay **claims** arising from or associated with:

- a. Any **claims** where **you** are acting as a letting agent, management agent or a limited company.
- b. Any alleged tax avoidance scheme undertaken by **you**.
- c. **Claims** occurring when the Special Compliance Office is investigating **your** tax affairs.
- d. The normal reconciliation of annual accounts and VAT returns.
- e. **Claims** where deliberate misstatements or omissions have been made to the authorities.
- f. Any issue of law, practice or procedure not directly connected with a **claim** under this section.
- g. Any criminal prosecution.
- h. **Claims** where **your** tax affairs are being investigated solely because of an earlier investigation.
- i. Any HMRC investigation(s) arising within the first 30 days of the first period of insurance unless it can be evidenced that you previously held comparable legal expenses cover with another insurer immediately prior to the inception date of this policy.
- Taxes, fines, interest or any other duties or penalties imposed upon you by any HMRC authority or court or tribunal.
- Claims not reported within 90 days of the date of event.
- I. Claims occurring outside the territorial limits.

## Section 3 - Attendance Expenses

#### What is Covered?

The **insurer** will pay net salary or wages, less any amount payable by the court, for **you** or any of **your** directors, partners or employees or of **your** letting managing agent, for the time off work to attend any court or tribunal hearing within the **territorial limits** as a:

- Witness for you at the request of the appointed representative; or
- 2. Defendant in **civil proceedings** for which the **insurer** has accepted the **claim**.

We will calculate the amount payable based on the duration of any valid absence from work, based on an eight hour day and calculated to the nearest half day. One day's pay will be calculated as 1/250th of the employee's total annual pay. Where an employee works part-time, the amount payable will be reduced on a pro-rata basis.

#### What is Excluded?

- a. Any amount exceeding £100 per person per day subject to a maximum of £1,000 for any one claim.
- Claims not reported within 90 days of the date of event.
- c. Claims occurring outside the territorial limits.
- d. Where the costs can be recovered from the relevant court or **your** employer.

# **General Conditions**

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

## 1. Tenancy Agreement

- a. The initial tenancy agreement must be for a fixed period of at least 6 months, except in Scotland where the scope of the tenancy agreement falls under the Private Housing (Tenancies) (Scotland) Act 2016;
- b. The **property** must be entirely residential and remain solely for residential use;
- c. The **tenant** must be aged 18 years or over;
- You must not allow the tenant into possession of the property until;
  - The tenancy agreement has been signed by all parties; and
  - ii. A satisfactory tenant reference and/or a satisfactory guarantor reference and signed guarantor agreement (where applicable) has been obtained before the start of the tenancy agreement; and
  - iii. All necessary statutory pre-grant notices to the **tenant** have been issued; and
  - iv. The first month's **rent** has been received in cash or cleared funds: and
- e. During the tenancy agreement you must:
  - i. Keep full and up to date rental records; and
  - Not allow the tenancy agreement to be transferred to any other individual or organisation.

# 2. Issue of statutory and contractual notices on the tenant

We will assist you by issuing the appropriate statutory and contractual notices on the tenant, on your behalf. If you choose to issue these notices yourself, without assistance from us, we will not cover any additional loss of rent or any associated costs as a result of your failure in issuing the notices correctly.

Where **you** choose to issue and serve the appropriate statutory and contractual notices these must be completed within 14 days from the date **you** can legally serve the relevant notice on the **tenant** in accordance with the law of the country that the **property** is located in.

In England and Wales the following notices may be applicable:

- Section 8 Housing Act 1988 Possession Notice
- Section 21 Housing Act 1988 Notice to Quit

If **you** need assistance with this process please call the **claims** helpline on 0300 303 5885

#### 3. Claims

a. You must give notice to us within 90 days of the date of event;

- b. In the event of malicious damage by the tenant, you must give notice to the police as soon as possible after you have become aware of it and obtain a valid crime reference:
- c. You must take all necessary precautions to reduce the risk of a claim and to prevent or minimise legal costs and fees wherever possible. Your duty to take precautions includes (but is not limited to) ensuring that no action that could bring about a dispute is taken by you or any other person associated with you:
- d. In order for any claim to be accepted under this policy, we must deem that there are reasonable prospects of success and that the legal costs in respect of the claim will not be more than amount in dispute.
- e. All **legal costs** and **fees** are subject to an independent assessment to ensure that they have been incurred reasonably;
- f. All **legal costs**, and **fees** and any other costs may only be incurred with **our** prior written consent.
- g. You must take all steps necessary to assist in the recovery of any claims payment, legal costs and fees 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 prior written permission to do so;
- In some circumstances, where we decide it is appropriate, we 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. **You** must cooperate with **us**, providing all necessary information and assistance to **us** as required;
- n. **We** reserve the right to:
  - i. Take over any **claim** or **civil proceedings** at any time and conduct them in **your** name;
  - ii. Negotiate or settle any claim or civil proceedings on your behalf;
  - iii. Contact you directly at any point concerning your claim;
- We may appoint an appointed representative to conduct an independent mediation to reach settlement of the legal action. The appointed representative's cost for mediation will be paid by
- p. If you receive any full or part payment towards the rent from the tenant(s) or on behalf of tenant(s) following notification of a claim, this must be

declared to **us** within 30 days of receiving this payment, as payments may be applied against any outstanding arrears.

## 4. Appointed Representative

- a. When you advise us of a claim, we will recommend an appointed representative from our panel of representatives to assist you and act on your behalf. If for any reason you are unhappy with our choice of representative, we may recommend another;
- The appointed representative will have direct contact with us and must cooperate fully with us always. You must cooperate with your representative, providing all necessary information and assistance to them as required;
- c. You agree to us having access to your appointed representative's 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.

#### 5. Cancellation

- a. You may cancel this policy at any time after the date we have received the premium by providing at least 30 days' written notice to us.
- b. If there is a default under your Aviva credit agreement which finances this policy, we may cancel this policy by providing written notice to you in accordance with the default termination provisions set out in your Alan Boswell Insurance Brokers Ltd credit agreement.

If **your** policy is cancelled under (a) or (b) above, **we** may, at **our** discretion, refund to **you** a proportionate part of the premium paid for the unexpired period. This is provided that, during the current Period of Insurance, there has been no:

- claim made under the policy for which we have made a payment
- ii. **claim** made under the policy which is still under consideration
- iii. incident which **you** are aware of and which is likely to give rise to a **claim**, and which has already been, or is yet to be, reported to **us**.
- c. Where there is no Aviva credit agreement to finance this policy, we will cancel this policy from the inception date if the premium has not been paid and no return premium will be allowed. Such cancellation will be confirmed in writing by us to your last known address.
- d. We may also cancel this policy at any time by providing at least 30 days' written notice to **your** last known address.

**we** will refund a proportionate part of the premium for the unexpired period provided that, during the current Period of Insurance, there has been no:

- claim made under the policy for which we have made a payment
- claim made under the policy which is still under consideration
- iii. incident which **you** are aware of and which is likely to give rise to a **claim**, and which has already been, or is yet to be, reported to **us**.

## 6. Counsel's Opinion

Where reasonable and necessary, the **insurer** 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**.

#### 7. Arbitration Clause

A dispute between **you** and **us** may arise, which may be referred to an arbitrator, who shall be either a solicitor or a barrister who **you** and **we** agree on in writing. If an arbitrator cannot be agreed then an arbitrator will be appointed by the authorised body identified in the current arbitration legislation. The decision of the arbitration shall be final and binding on both parties and he or she will decide who should pay the costs of the arbitration. If costs are awarded against **you**, they are not covered under this policy. This arbitration condition does not affect **your** rights to take separate legal action. If a disputed **claim** is not referred to arbitration within 12 months of **your claim** being turned down, **we** will treat the **claim** as abandoned.

## 8. Statutory Regulations

In all matters relating to the performance of this insurance contract, it is the responsibility of both **you** and **us** that **we** both respectively comply with all Acts of Parliament and with all orders, regulations and byelaws 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.

## 9. 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.

## 10. 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** and **fees** is the value of the likely award of damages.

#### 11. 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.

# 12. Non-Disclosure, Misrepresentation or Misdescription

## a. Before this policy was entered into

If **you** have breached **you**r duty to make a fair presentation of the risk to **us** before this policy was entered into, then:

- where the breach was deliberate or reckless, we may avoid this policy and refuse all claims, and keep all premiums paid;
- where the breach was neither deliberate nor reckless, and but for the breach:
  - we would not have agreed to provide cover under this policy on any terms, we may avoid this policy and refuse all claims, but will return any premiums paid;
  - we would have agreed to provide cover under this policy but on different terms (other than premium terms), we may require that this policy includes such different terms with effect from its commencement and/or
  - o we would have agreed to provide cover under this policy but would have charged a higher premium, our liability for any loss amount payable shall be limited to the proportion that the premium we charged bears to the higher premium we would have charged, as outlined in Schedule 1 to the Insurance Act 2015.

#### b. Before a variation was agreed

If **you** have breached **your** duty to make a fair presentation of the risk to **us** before any variation to this policy was agreed, then:

- where the breach was deliberate or reckless, we may cancel this policy with effect from the date of the variation, and keep all premiums paid
- where the breach was neither deliberate nor reckless, and but for the breach:
  - we would not have agreed to the variation on any terms, we may treat this policy as though the variation was never made, but will return any additional premiums paid
  - we would have agreed to the variation but on different terms (other than premium terms), we may require that the variation includes such different terms with effect from the date it was made, and/or
  - we would have agreed to the variation but would have increased the premium, or would have increased it by more than we did, or would not have reduced it or would have reduced it by less than we did, our liability for any loss amount payable shall be limited on a proportionate basis, as outlined in Schedule 1 to the Insurance Act 2015.

This condition operates in addition to any provisions relating to underinsurance in this policy.

# **General Exclusions**

The **insurer** will not be liable in respect of any of the following:

- 1. Any dispute:
  - a. arising during the first 60 days of the first period of insurance, if the tenancy agreement commenced before the inception date of this policy; or
  - arising during the first 60 days of the first period of insurance, unless it can be evidenced that you previously held comparable legal expenses cover for a minimum of six months with another insurer immediately prior to inception of this policy;
- Any claim not notified to us within 90 days of the date of event;
- Any claim for amounts in excess of the limit(s) of indemnity;
- Any claim where the date of event is outside the period of insurance and which has given rise, or which you knew or ought reasonably to have known may give rise to, a dispute by or against you;
- Any claim where the deposit is not properly protected in accordance with the relevant legislation or deposit replacement scheme;
- Any claim made, brought or commenced outside the territorial limits;
- Any claim under this policy where you have not obtained a satisfactory tenant reference or the guarantor has not met the guarantor criteria (if applicable).
- Any increased claims costs as a result of legal notices being served incorrectly;
- Legal costs and fees incurred whilst you are bankrupt, in administration or in receivership, or if you have entered into a voluntary agreement with creditors;
- 10. The pursuit or defence of the payment or non- payment of any tax;
- Claims relating to subsidence, ground heave, landslip, mining or quarrying;
- 12. Any planning application review or decision;
- 13. The defence in **civil proceedings** against **you** arising from injury or disease;
- 14. Fines or other penalties imposed by a court or tribunal;
- 15. If at the time any claims are 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 their proportion of the claim;
- Any claim arising out of the deliberate, conscious, intentional or negligent disregard by you of the need to take all reasonable steps to avoid and prevent claims, civil proceedings or disputes;
- Any dispute with Government or Local Authority departments concerning the imposition of statutory charges;
- 18. Any dispute between **you** and any parent or subsidiary company or partner;
- 19. Any dispute between you and the insurer, the appointed representative, or your broker;
- Any claim arising out of breach or alleged breach of confidentiality or passing of information whether related to intellectual property or not or the use or alleged use of any intellectual property;

- 21. Any **claim** relating to alleged violence or dishonesty on **vour** part;
- 22. Any **legal costs** and **fees** incurred in any appeal proceedings, unless:
  - a. we agreed to cover the original claim;
  - we deem that the matter has reasonable prospects of success; and
  - c. **we** are notified of the decision to appeal at least 7 days before the deadline to appeal.
- 23. Any **claim** where **you** have not adhered to the Homes (Fitness for Human Habitation) Act 2018
- 24. Judicial review;
- Any claim, loss, legal liability or any loss of, or damage to, property directly or indirectly caused by or contributed to by seepage, pollution or contamination of any kind;
- Any legal costs and fees which you should or would have had to incur irrespective of any dispute;
- 27. Any **claim** arising from or relating to a class action.
- 28. Any **claim** or expense of any kind caused directly or indirectly by:
  - a. ionising radiation or radioactive contamination from any nuclear fuel or waste which results from the burning or nuclear fuel; or
  - b. the radioactive, toxic, explosive or other dangerous properties of nuclear machinery or any part of it.
- 29. Any loss or damage caused by any sort of war, invasion or revolution.
- Any loss or damage caused by pressure waves caused by aircraft or other flying objects moving at or above the speed of sound.
- 31. Any loss, damage, liability, cost or expense of any kind directly or indirectly caused by, resulting from or in connection with any act of terrorism.
- 32. Any dispute between landlord and letting agent and/or managing agent.

# **Additional Information**

## **Customers with Disabilities**

All documentation is also available in large print, audio and braille. If **you** require any of these formats, please contact **your** insurance adviser.

## **Telephone Calls**

Calls to 0800 numbers from UK landlines and mobiles are free. The cost of calls to 03 prefixed numbers are charged at national call rates (charges may vary dependent on **your** network provider) and are usually included in inclusive minute plans from landlines and mobiles. For **our** joint protection telephone calls may be recorded and/or monitored.

#### Renewal Procedure

The **period of insurance** will be stated on **your** schedule. If **you** wish to renew this insurance policy, please contact **your broker** who will be able to discuss **your** requirements.

## Contracts (Rights of Third Parties) Act 1999

The terms of this policy are only enforceable by the named insured. A person who is not a named insured has no rights 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.

## Your Agreement with Others

This contract of insurance is personal to **you** the policyholder, and the **insurer**.

We will not be bound by any agreement between you and your appointed representative, or you and any other person or organisation.

**You** may not assign any of the rights under this policy without the **insurer**'s express prior written consent.

#### Choice of Law

The appropriate law as set out below will apply unless **you** and the insurer agree otherwise.

- 1. The law applying in that part of the United Kingdom, Channel Islands or Isle of Man in which **you**, the policyholder, normally live or (if applicable) the first named policyholder normally lives, **or**
- 2. In the case of a business, the law applying in that part of the United Kingdom, Channel Islands or Isle of Man where it has its principal place of business, or
- Should neither of the above be applicable, the law of England and Wales will apply.

## Use of Language

All communications relating to this contract will be in English.