

Important Information & Privacy Statement



IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR CLIENT

For your protection under legislation, we are required to inform you of your duty of disclosure and draw your attention to the following important information.

YOUR DUTY OF DISCLOSURE

Before you enter into a contract of general insurance, you have a duty, under the Insurance Contracts Act 1984, to disclose every matter that you know or could be reasonably expected to know, is relevant to the underwriters' decision whether to accept the risk of insurance and if so, on what terms. You have the same duty to disclose those matters before you renew, extend, vary or reinstate a contract of general insurance.

Your duty, however, does not require disclosure of a matter

- that diminishes the risk to be undertaken;
- that is of common knowledge;
- that the underwriters know or, in the ordinary course of business, ought to know;
- as to which compliance with your duty is waived by the underwriters.

NON-DISCLOSURE

If you fail to comply with your duty of disclosure, the underwriters may be entitled to reduce their liability under the contract in respect of a claim or may cancel the contract. If your non-disclosure was fraudulent, the underwriters may also have the option of avoiding the contract from its beginning.

RETAIL CLIENTS

Under the Corporations Act 2001 and associated Regulations Retail Clients are provided with additional levels of protection from other insurance purchasers. The Act defines Retail Clients as:

Individuals or a small manufacturing business employing less than 100 people or any other business employing less than 20 people.

And that are being provided a financial service or product that relates to the following insurance covers:

Motor Vehicle (under 2 tonne), Home building, contents, personal and domestic, Sickness and Accident or Travel, Consumer Credit and other classes as prescribed by regulations.

WHAT ADVICE IS BEING PROVIDED (RETAIL CLIENTS ONLY)

If you are a RETAIL CLIENT (refer above) and a Statement of Advice has not been provided to you with this invoice then the advice that we are giving you related to this transaction is General Advice.

General Advice is advice that has been prepared without considering your current objective's, financial situation or needs. Therefore, before acting on this advice, you should consider the appropriateness of the advice having regard to your current objective's, financial situation or needs.

If the advice provided relates to the acquisition or possible acquisition of a new insurance policy and the insurer has prepared a Product Disclosure Statement (PDS) we will have attached the PDS for your review. You should consider the PDS prior to making the decision to purchase this product. Further information regarding the income we have been paid by the insurer for this transaction is available upon request.

DISPUTES

Clients not satisfied with our services should contact our Complaints Officer. We are members of the Financial Ombudsman Service (FOS), a free consumer service. Further information is available from our office, or contact FOS directly on 1300 780 808 or visit www.fos.org.au. We also follow the Insurance Brokers Code of Practice.

ALTERATIONS

No alterations to the risk whatsoever will be admitted until you have notified us in writing and will not take effect until acceptance is confirmed by the insurance underwriters.

AVERAGE / CO-INSURANCE

It is most important that the Sum Insured you select is adequate to represent the value of the insured property and is calculated in accordance with the cover being arranged. Otherwise, you will be under-insured and in terms of the Average / Co-insurance provisions of your policy, you may be responsible for paying part of the loss you actually suffer.

CANCELLATION WARNING (RETENTION OF BROKERAGE AND FEES)

If a cover is cancelled before expiry of the period of insurance, we reserve the right to refund to you only the net return premium we received from the insurer, and not refund any part of the brokerage or fees we receive for arranging the cover. A broker service fee may be charged to process the cancellation.

CLAIMS MADE POLICY

This policy provides cover on a "claims made" basis which means that claims first advised to you (or made against you) during the period of insurance are covered irrespective of when the incident causing the claim occurred. To protect your entitlement to indemnity under this policy you must report to insurers without delay and prior to expiry of the policy period all incidents that may give rise to a claim against you.

COOLING OFF

All Retail Products are subject to a 14-day "cooling off period". This means that if you are not happy with a Retail Product, you have 14 days to withdraw from the new contract at no cost to you other than our broker's fee, which is not refundable.

DISCLAIMER

This notice is a summary only (errors and omissions excepted) and does not purport to be a copy of the insurance underwriters' policy or other documents. In case of any discrepancy, the underwriters' documents will prevail.

NEW POLICIES

Notwithstanding the above, you will not be insured if you do not submit the relevant Proposal within 30 days from commencement of the risk unless an extension of time has been agreed with us in writing.

PRIVACY ACT

The Privacy Amendment (Private Sector) Act 2000 requires us to inform you that we collect, use and disclose your personal information. A copy of our Privacy Policy is available on request from our office.

PREMIUM FUNDING WARNING

Premium funding allows you to spread out the cash flow associated with paying your insurance premiums over the next twelve months. We receive a commission from the funder for arranging the funding contract, full details are available on request.

Please note that should the insurance policy be cancelled before the expiry date for whatever reason, the Premium Funder will charge you the full interest applicable to the contract, as detailed in the Loan Application Form. Typically there will be no refund of our commission on the refund premium and no refund of any fee we may have charged you for arranging the cover. We also reserve the right to charge you a policy cancellation handling fee. In some cases insurers also apply minimum premiums to policies, which may further reduce the refund that you might otherwise receive.

The impact of the above on you is that any refund you receive for the midterm cancellation of your policy will usually be significantly less than a pro rata calculation would produce and in extreme cases may involve you having to make an additional final payment even though the policy has been cancelled. Therefore prior to cancelling a policy and replacing it with another cover we strongly recommend that you discuss your situation with us so that we can advise the exact extent and impact of the early cancellation provisions mentioned above.

RIGHTS OF RECOVERY AGAINST OTHERS

It is a condition of a Contract of Insurance that you may not forego any right of recovery that may exist against another party without prior approval in writing being given by your insurer.

SUBROGATION

You are warned that should you become a party to any agreement that has the effect of excluding or limiting your insurer's ability to recover from a third party, your insurers may have the right to refuse to indemnify you for such loss where it is shown that your insurer's rights of recovery have been prejudiced by your action.

TERMS OF TRADE

Payment of this account constitutes your acknowledgement and acceptance of these conditions and authorises us to act as your insurance brokers for the risks outlined on the face hereof and no others unless specifically agreed by us in writing.

THIRD PARTY INTERESTS

Insurance policies will only provide cover for your interest in the property insured and does not cover the interest of any third parties unless you have informed us of them in writing and they are noted on the policy.

UNDERWRITING AGENTS AND WHOLESALE BROKERS

In some cases we access insurance products via Underwriting Agents and Wholesale brokers rather than directly with the insurer. In such cases should you wish to access the Financial Services Guide of the Underwriting Agency or Wholesale Broker please contact us and we will arrange to have a copy sent to you.

UTMOST GOOD FAITH

Every contract of insurance is subject to the doctrine of utmost good faith which requires that the parties to the contract should act toward each other with the utmost good faith. Failure to do so on your part may prejudice any claim or the continuation of cover provided by Insurers.



PRIVACY POLICY

At Assured Insurance Brokers Pty Ltd, we are committed to protecting your privacy in accordance with the Privacy Act 1998 (Cth) and the Australian Privacy Principles. This Privacy Policy describes our current policies and practices in relation to the collection, handling, use and disclosure of personal information. It also deals with how you can complain about a breach of the privacy laws and how you can access the personal information we hold and how to have that information corrected.

What information do we collect and how do we use it?

When we arrange insurance on your behalf, we ask you for the information we need to advise you about your insurance needs and management of your risks. This can include a broad range of information ranging from your name, address, contact details, age and other information about your personal affairs including your assets, personal belongings, financial situation, health and wellbeing. We provide any information that the insurers or intermediaries who we ask to quote for your insurances and premium funding require to enable them to decide whether to insure you and on what terms or to fund your premium and on what terms.

Insurers may in turn pass on this information to their reinsurers. Some of these companies are located outside Australia. For example, if we seek insurance terms from an overseas insurer (e.g. Lloyd's of London), your personal information may be disclosed to the insurer. If this is likely to happen, we inform you of where the insurer is located, if it is possible to do so.

When you make a claim under your policy, we assist you by collecting information about your claim. Sometimes we also need to collect information about you from others. We provide this information to your insurer (or anyone your insurer has appointed to assist it to consider your claim, eg loss adjusters, medical brokers etc) to enable it to consider your claim. Again this information may be passed on to reinsurers.

From time to time, we will use your contact details to send you direct marketing communications including offers, updates and newsletters that are relevant to the services we provide. We always give you the option of electing not to receive these communications in the future. You can unsubscribe by notifying us and we will no longer send this information to you.

What if you don't provide some information to us?

We can only fully advise you and assist in arranging your insurance or with a claim, if we have all relevant information. The insurance laws also require you to provide your insurers with the information they need in order to be able to decide whether to insure you and on what terms. You have a duty to disclose the information which relevant to the insurer's decision to insure you.

When do we disclose your information overseas?

If you ask us to seek insurance terms and we recommend an overseas insurer, we may be required to disclose the information to the insurer located outside Australia. For example, if we recommend a policy provided by Lloyd's of London, your information may be given to the Lloyd's broker and underwriters at Lloyd's of London to make a decision about whether to insure you.

We will tell you at time of advising on your insurance if they are overseas and in which country the insurer is located. If the insurer is not regulated by laws which protects your information in a way that is similar to the Privacy Act, we will seek your consent before disclosing your information to that insurer.

Australian and overseas insurers acquire reinsurance from reinsurance companies that are located throughout the world so in some cases your information may be disclosed to them for assessment of risks and in order to provide reinsurance to your insurer. We do not make this disclosure, this made by the insurer (if necessary) for the placement for their reinsurance program.

How do we hold and protect your information?

We strive to maintain the reliability, accuracy, completeness and currency of the personal information we hold and to protect its privacy and security. We keep personal information only for as long as is reasonably necessary for the purpose for which it was collected or to comply with any applicable legal or ethical reporting or document retention requirements.

We hold the information we collect from you initially in a working file, which when completed is electronically imaged and stored, after which any paper is destroyed in our onsite shredder. In some cases, your file is archived and sent to an external data storage provider for a period of time. We only use storage providers located in Australia who are also regulated by the Privacy Act.

We ensure that your information is safe by protecting it from unauthorised access, modification and disclosure. We maintain physical security over our paper and electronic data and premises, by using locks and security systems. We also maintain computer and network security; for example, we use firewalls (security measures for the Internet) and other security systems such as user identifiers and passwords to control access to computer systems where your information is stored.

Will we disclose the information we collect to anyone?

We do not sell, trade, or rent your personal information to others.

We may need to provide your information to contractors who supply services to us, e.g. to handle mailings on our behalf, external data storage providers or to other companies in the event of a corporate sale, merger, re-organisation, dissolution or similar event. However, we will take reasonable measures to ensure that they protect your information as required under the Privacy Act.

We may provide your information to others if we are required to do so by law, you consent to the disclosure or under some unusual other circumstances which the Privacy Act permits.

How can you check, update or change the information we are holding?

Upon receipt of your written request and enough information to allow us to identify the information, we will disclose to you the personal information we hold about you. We will also correct, amend or delete any personal information that we agree is inaccurate, irrelevant, out of date or incomplete.

If you wish to access or correct your personal information please write to our Privacy Officer at Assured Insurance Brokers Pty Ltd Level 8, 63 Exhibition Street, Melbourne VIC 3000.

We do not charge for receiving a request for access to personal information or for complying with a correction request. Where the information requested is not a straightforward issue and will involve a considerable amount of time then a charge will need to be confirmed for responding to the request for the information.

In some limited cases, we may need to refuse access to your information or refuse a request for correction. We will advise you as soon as possible after your request if this is the case and the reasons for our refusal.

What happens if you want to complain?

If you have concerns about whether we have complied with the Privacy Act or this privacy Policy when collecting or handling your personal information, please write to our Privacy Officer at Assured Insurance Brokers Pty Ltd Level 8, 63 Exhibition Street, Melbourne VIC 3000.

Your complaint will be considered by us through our internal complaints resolution process and we will try to respond with a decision within 45 days of you making the complaint.

Your consent

By asking us to assist with your insurance needs, you consent to the collection and use of the information you have provided to us for the purposes described above.

Website information and content.

The information provided on this website does not cover all aspects of the law on the relevant subject matter. Professional advice should be sought before any action is taken based upon the matters described and discussed on this site.

To the extent permitted by law, we make no representations about the suitability of the content of this site for any purpose. All content is provided without any warranty of any kind. We disclaim all warranties and conditions with regard to the content, including but not limited to all implied warranties and conditions of fitness for a particular purpose, title and non-infringement.

We will not be liable for any damages or injury caused by, including but not limited to, any failure of performance, error, omission, interruption, defect, delay in operation of transmission, computer virus, or line failure. To the extent permitted by law we will not be liable for any damages or injury, including but not limited to, special or consequential damages that result from the use of, or the inability to use, the materials in this site.

We believe the content of this site to be accurate, complete and current, however there are no warranties as to the accuracy, completeness or currency of the content. It is your responsibility to verify any information before relying on it. The content of this site may include technical inaccuracies or typographical errors.

We reserve the right to modify the content of this site from time to time.

Anonymous data – We use technology to collect anonymous information about the use of our website, for example when you browse our website our service provider logs your server address, the date and time of your visit, the pages and links accessed and the type of browser used. It does not identify you personally and we only use this information for statistical purposes and to improve the content and functionality of our website, to better understand our clients and markets and to improve our services.

Cookies – In order to collect this anonymous data we may use “cookies”. Cookies are small pieces of information which are sent to your browser and stored on your computer’s hard drive. Sometimes they identify users where the website requires information to be retained from one page to the next. This is purely to increase the functionality of the site. Cookies by themselves cannot be used to discover the identity of the user. Cookies do not damage your computer and you can set your browser to notify you when you receive a cookie so that you can decide if you want to accept it. Once you leave the site, the cookie is destroyed and no personal or other information about you is stored.

Forms - Our Website allows visitors to submit information via Self-Service forms (Claim Forms, Employment and Contact request). The information submitted via the Forms is **not** encrypted – an option is available for claim forms to be downloaded in PDF format for faxing. Should you be concerned about confidentiality of the claim information, this would be the recommended method.

Information collected via on-line forms is sent to our offices via EMAIL (not encrypted) and is also stored on a database which is accessible by Assured Insurance Brokers Pty Ltd staff only. The database is password protected.

We also use your information to send you requested product information and promotional material and to enable us to manage your ongoing requirements, e.g. renewals, and our relationship with you, e.g. invoicing, client surveys etc.

We may occasionally notify you by direct marketing about new services and special offers, events or articles we think will be of interest to you. We may send you regular updates by email or by post on insurance matters. If you would rather not receive this information or do not wish to receive it electronically, email or write to us.

We may use your information internally to help us improve our services and help resolve any problems.

Tell us what you think

We welcome your questions and comments about privacy. If you have any concerns or complaints, please contact our Privacy Officer Ron Thomson on telephone number +61 3 9665 2750 or by email privacy@assuredib.com.au.

