

# Complaints Procedure

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The Company is committed to providing good quality services. The Company recognises however that clients may not be satisfied with the service provided. To deal with this the Company has a complaints procedure. For the sake of clarification a complaint is broadly defined as being a written expression of dissatisfaction with services that the Company provides or actions the Company has taken that require a response. The Company distinguishes complaints from queries. Queries are challenges to specific decisions in specific circumstances.

## **The Company will deal with your complaint**

The Company does not look at complaints as unwanted. In fact, they may help the Company to see where its services or procedures may be improved. It is in the parties' interest for the Insured to let the Company know when the Insured feels that the Company has made a mistake or done something which the Insured finds unsatisfactory. Even if the Insured does not think that the particular concern amounts to a complaint the Company would still like to know about it. The Insured will help the Company improve its service further.

## **How to complain**

### Step 1 – Contacting the Company

The first step is to talk to a member of the Company's personnel or of the intermediary if the Policy was arranged through one. This can be done informally either directly or by telephone.

Usually the best person to talk to will be the person who dealt with the matter the Insured is concerned about as they will be in the best position to help the Insured promptly and to put things right. If they are not available or the Insured would prefer to approach someone else then address the matter to the manager or senior person responsible. The Company will seek to resolve the problem immediately. If the Company cannot do this then the Company will take a record of the concern and arrange the best way and time for getting back to the Insured. This will normally be within two working days.

### Step 2 – Taking the complaint further

If the Insured is still unhappy the next step is to put the complaint in writing, addressing it to the Complaints Officer, setting out the details, explaining what the Insured thinks went wrong and what the Insured feels would put things right. If the Insured is not happy about writing a letter, the Insured can always ask a member of the Company to take notes of the complaint which the Insured will be then asked to sign. The Insured will be provided with a copy for their own reference. This record will be passed promptly to the Complaints Officer to deal with.

Once the Complaints Officer receives a written complaint, s/he will arrange for it to be fully investigated. The complaint will be acknowledged in writing within five working days of receiving it and the letter will state when the Insured can expect a full response. This should normally be within fifteen working days unless the matter is very complicated such as where other organisations need to be contacted. Where this is the case the Company will still let the Insured know what action is being taken and will inform the Insured when the Company expects to provide a full response.

### Taking the complaint elsewhere

If the Insured is still not satisfied with the Complaints Officer's response, the Insured can always seek advice elsewhere. The Insured may contact the Customer Complaints Manager at the Malta Financial Services Authority on 8007 4924 or 2144 1155.

Following these procedures will not affect the Insured's right to take legal action.