

My Family Legal Protection Cover ...

1stCentral.



# **Family Legal Protection Insurance**

## **Contact Information**

	Telephone	In writing	Email
Legal Advice and Claims	0333 043 2076	RAC Legal Services Great Park Road Bradley Stoke Bristol BS32 4QN	legaladvisory@rac.co.uk

Call charges apply. Please check with **your** telephone provider. 03 numbers are charged at national call rates and usually included in inclusive minute plans. **We** do not cover the cost of making or receiving telephone calls. **Our** calls are monitored and/or recorded.

If **you** have hearing difficulties and have a Textphone, just prefix the number **you** wish to call with 18001 to access Typetalk.

# How your cover works

For advice and/or to report a **claim** please call **our** legal helpline on 0333 043 2076. When **you** tell us about **your** legal problem, **we** will need to determine whether the matter is capable of being covered by **your policy**. **We** will ask **you** to provide further information in order for **us** to assess whether **your claim** is within the terms of **your policy** and the incident giving rise to the **claim** is within **your policy period**. If **your** claim is not covered then **our** telephone legal helpline may still be able to provide **you** with some advice.

Any claim you make must have reasonable prospects of success and be proportionate to pursue. The legal representative will assess this and will continually review the prospects of success of your case during the life of your claim. In some cases, you may need to provide expert evidence to support your claim at your own expense to enable the assessment to be completed. We do not cover any legal fees, costs or expenses that you have incurred before we have accepted your claim.

In the event of a dispute about whether **your** case has **reasonable prospects of success** or is **proportionate** to pursue, **you** will be asked to provide a legal opinion at **your** own expense confirming that **your claim** does have **reasonable prospects of success** and/or whether **your claim** is **proportionate**. If **we** are unable to reach agreement, then **we** will arrange to get a final opinion from an independent barrister.

We will usually ask a solicitor from our panel to handle your case. However, if it becomes necessary to issue legal proceedings then you are entitled to choose your own solicitor at this point. Your solicitor would need to agree to our Standard Terms of Appointment.

Please read your full Family Legal Protection policy terms below for full details.

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# **Your Family Legal Protection Cover**

Family Legal Protection is provided by RAC Motoring Services (310208) and RAC Insurance Ltd (202737). Registered in England and Wales; Registered Offices: RAC House, Brockhurst Crescent, Walsall WS5 4AW. RAC Motoring Services is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority. RAC Insurance Ltd is authorised by the Prudential Regulation Authority and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority and the Prudential Regulation Authority. You can check the above details on the Financial Services Register by visiting the FCA website www.fca.org.uk or by contacting the FCA on 0800 111 6768.

## **Definitions**

Any words in bold in this document have a specific meaning, which we explain below.

#### Claim

Means an incident which **we** accept as falling within the terms and **policy period** of this Family Legal Protection **policy** and which, in **our** reasonable opinion, is the incident or first in a series of incidents that could lead to a **claim** being made.

#### Home

Means the private residence shown in your Policy Schedule including garage/s and outbuildings.

## Legal costs

Means:

- The reasonable, proportionate and properly incurred fees, expenses, costs and disbursements or accountancy fees incurred by you and agreed by us in pursuing or defending a claim; and/or
- The reasonable costs of a third party for which you are ordered to pay by the court or are agreed by us and which are incurred in connection with legal proceedings.

## Legal proceedings

Means:

- 1. The pursuit or defence of civil legal cases for damages and/or injunctions or specific performance; or
- 2. The defence of criminal prosecutions.

## Legal representative

Means us; or the solicitors or other qualified experts appointed by us to act for you provided that they agree:

- 1. To try to recover all **legal costs** from the other party;
- 2. Not to submit any claim for legal costs until the end of the case; and
- 3. To keep **us** informed, in writing, of the progress of **legal proceedings**.

## **Policy**

Means this Family Legal Protection insurance policy that is subject to the terms and conditions in this booklet, along with **your** Policy Schedule.

## Policy period

Means the length of time this **policy** is in force, from the **start date** as shown on **your** schedule.

## **Proportionate**

Means the value of the claim must be greater than the costs of pursuing the claim.



#### RAC/we/us/our

Means RAC Insurance Limited and any person employed or engaged to provide certain services on its behalf or on behalf of the RAC Group.

## Reasonable prospects of success

Means a 51% or above chance of recovering damages, obtaining any other legal remedy which **we** have agreed to or being successful in defending a **claim** or being successful in an appeal or defence of an appeal.

## Standard terms of appointment

Means the terms and conditions which **we** will require the **legal representative** to accept in order for **us** to cover **your legal costs**. This contract sets out the amounts **we** will pay the **legal representative** under **your policy** and their responsibilities to report to **us** at various stages of the **claim**. A copy of these terms can be requested by contacting **us**.

#### Start date

Means the date that this policy begins, or renews, as shown on your Policy Schedule.

## You/your

Means the person(s) named as insured on your Policy Schedule and any members of your family permanently residing at your **home**.



# **Your Policy Cover**

We will provide you with cover for your legal costs associated with pursuing or defending a claim that falls within the policy terms of sections A-E below up to a limit of £100,000 provided that:

- The incident occurs within the **policy period**;
- The incident occurs within Great Britain and;
- Your claim has reasonable prospects of success.

We will also provide you with a Telephone Legal Helpline service that falls within the policy terms of section F.

## How to Make a Claim

Please let **us** know as soon as possible if **you** think **you** may need to **claim**. If **you** do not, this may prejudice **your claim** and may mean **we** are unable to cover **you**. To make a **claim**, just call **our** Telephone Legal Helpline for help and advice on 0333 043 2076.

## **Important**

Please do not appoint **your** own representative before **we** have accepted **your** claim. If **you** do so, **we** will not be liable for any costs incurred even if **we** subsequently accept **your** claim.

## **Section A - Consumer Issues**

## What is covered

- **Legal costs** for the pursuit or defence of a **claim** relating to a contract for the sale, purchase, servicing, repair or hire of personal goods or services.
- Legal costs to pursue a claim relating to physical damage to your personal property at your home.

## What is not covered

- A dispute involving any government body, local or public authority;
- A contract involving a financial service provider;
- A contract relating to a vehicle owned by you or which you are legally responsible for;
- A lease, tenancy or licence to use land;
- Any claim relating to a contract involving the construction or alteration of a building for your own use.
- Any claim arising from the purchase or sale of your home.

# **Section B - Personal Injury and Clinical Negligence**

## What is covered

Legal costs to pursue a claim against a third party if you suffer injury or death due to an accident or as a
result of clinical negligence.

## What is not covered

- An accident involving a motor vehicle where **you** were driving or were being carried as a passenger;
- Any claim for personal injury which was not caused by a specific or sudden incident, or which develops gradually; or
- A claim for stress, psychological or emotional injury unless you have also suffered a physical injury.



# Section C - Employment Disputes and Employee Defence

### What is covered

- Legal costs if you are an employee, or ex-employee, and experience a breach of your rights under your
  contract of employment; and/or employment laws and you wish to pursue a claim in an Employment
  Tribunal (or equivalent outside of England and Wales); or
- Legal costs if one of the following situations arises from your work as an employee;
  - i. **You** are dealing with the police or Health and Safety Executive or other prosecuting agency, prior to being charged with an offence;
  - ii. You are being prosecuted in a criminal court;
  - iii. **You** have a **claim** brought against **you** under Article 82 of the General Data Protection Regulation;
  - iv. You have a claim brought against you for unlawful discrimination or;
  - v. **You** are facing a formal investigation or disciplinary hearing brought by a trade association or professional or regulatory body.

## What is not covered

- Any claim which relates only to the legal costs of any disciplinary or investigatory procedure;
- Any claim which solely relates to the legal costs of a settlement agreement; or
- Fines, damages or other penalties a court or other authority orders **you** to pay.

# Section D - Property Issues

## What is covered

• Legal costs for a claim if you suffer nuisance, trespass or physical damage to your home.

## What is not covered

- Any incident relating to works undertaken or due to be undertaken by or under the order of any government
  or public or local authority unless the claim relates to accidental physical damage;
- Any incident relating to, directly or indirectly, planning law;
- Any incident relating to subsidence, heave, landslip, mining or quarrying of land underneath your home;
- Any claim relating to a contract involving the construction or alteration of a building for your own use; or
- Any **claim** arising from the purchase or sale of **your home**.

# Section E - Tax Disputes

#### What is covered

- **Legal costs** for a **claim** to respond to a formal aspect or full enquiry into **your** personal Income Tax position from HM Revenue and Customs.
  - You must have kept complete, truthful and up to date records and have provided HM Revenue and Customs with all information reasonably required in a timely manner.



## What is not covered

- Any enquiry which involves allegations of fraud, deliberate misstatement or omissions, including under declaring your income; or
- Any enquiry related to your business, trade or profession.

# **Section F – Telephone Legal Helpline**

## ✓ What is covered

**We** will provide a telephone legal helpline service, open 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. Just call **us** on 0333 043 2076.

**We** will give **you** initial legal advice on any private legal matter within Great Britain. **We** will tell **you** what **your** legal rights are, which options are available to **you** and how best to implement them. **We** will let **you** know if **you** need a lawyer.

## What is not covered

- Advice on business / commercial matters (including advice as a landlord), immigration or judicial review;
- Advice where in **our** reasonable opinion **we** have already given **you** the options available.



## **General conditions**

The following conditions apply to all sections of this **policy**. If **you** do not comply, **we** can refuse cover and/ or cancel **your policy**.

- 1. Claims can be complex and technical. You must follow our advice or that of the legal representative to continue to receive funding from us. If you do not (for example, you go against our advice, fail to co-operate with our reasonable requests, delay the claim, do not submit legal costs to us straight away or take any other action that may harm your case) we may withdraw cover.
- 2. We will not cover legal costs that have not been agreed by us or were incurred prior to us accepting the claim.
- We will not cover legal costs where you ought reasonably to have known that an incident leading to a claim was possible prior to the purchase of the policy.
- 4. We may withdraw cover if at any point your claim does not have reasonable prospects of success.
- 5. You must always keep any losses you incur to a minimum. Ensure you take steps to prevent any loss in the first place and don't do anything that could unnecessarily increase your losses or prejudice your claim. If you do not, we may not cover you and it may affect your ability to claim. Please speak to us if in doubt.
- 6. You must notify us of all offers to settle your claim. We may withdraw cover if we have not provided written authorisation to accept or reject an offer to settle your claim.
- 7. **We** will need to be able to speak directly to any **legal representative** appointed, or agreed by **us**, even if this is one **you** have chosen.
- 8. Whilst we must appoint the legal representative, you may choose your own if it becomes necessary to start court proceedings, or if there is a conflict of interest. If you wish to do this, please tell us their name and address so we can consider your request. Your suggested legal representative must agree to our standard terms of appointment. A copy of which is available upon request. You will be responsible for any legal costs which are in excess of the hourly rate that we would normally pay to our preferred legal representative. This amount is £120 per hour. This amount may vary from time to time as notified to you by us.
- 9. If for any reason **we** cannot agree to **your** suggested **legal representative**, **we** will ask the Law Society of England and Wales (or similar body) to name one.
- 10. If **you** have a dispute with **us** or complaint about the service provided by **us** or a **legal representative we** appoint, please let **us** know using **our** complaints procedure. Please note however, this **policy** will not cover any advice or **your legal costs** in connection with this or any **claim** against **us**.
- 11. **We** will not provide cover for class actions or test cases.
- 12. **We** will not provide cover for disputes between **you** and someone who **you** currently or have previously lived with;
- 13. **We** may decide not to issue **legal proceedings**, but instead pay **you** directly for **your claim**, for example, where the **legal costs** of **your claim** are greater than the value of **your claim**.
- 14. If **you** have legal expenses cover with a provider other than **RAC** or if **you** are a member of a trade union and the cover or membership benefits provide cover for **your claim**, **we** will not provide cover.
- 15. During extreme weather, riots, war, civil unrest, industrial disputes, **our** services can be interrupted. **We** will resume **our** service to **you** as soon as **we** can in these circumstances.



## Cancellation

You can cancel your policy within the cooling off period, being 14 days from the later of:

- (1) the start date; or
- (2) the date you receive your policy documents.

If **you** do this, **we** will cancel the policy with immediate effect from the day **you** request it and **we** will refund **your** premium in full unless **you** have made a **claim** within this cooling off period.

If you cancel after the cooling off period, no refund of your premium will be payable.

Cancelling a direct debit will not always cancel **your** policy, If you wish to cancel the policy then contact 1<sup>ST</sup> Central on 0333 043 2001.

## Misuse of your policy

You must not:

- 1) Behave inappropriately towards **us**, including acting in a threatening or abusive manner, whether verbally or physically;
- 2) Persuade or attempt to persuade **us** into a dishonest or illegal act;
- 3) Omit to tell **us** important facts about a **claim** in order to obtain a service;
- 4) Provide false information in order to obtain a service;
- 5) Knowingly allow someone that is not covered by **your policy** to try and obtain a service under it;

If these conditions are not complied with, we may:

- 1) Restrict the cover available to **you** at the next renewal;
- 2) Refuse to provide any services to **you** under this **policy** with immediate effect;

**We** may also take any of the additional steps as set out above if any **claim** is found to be fraudulent in any way, and the **policy** will be cancelled with effect from the date of the fraudulent act, and the fraudulent **claim** forfeited. **We** will not refund any premium. **We** will notify **you** in writing if **we** decide to take any of the above steps.





**We** are committed to providing excellent service. However, **we** realise that there are occasions when **you** feel **you** did not receive the service **you** expected.

If **you** are unhappy with how **your policy** is arranged and administered, for example, the way it was sold to **you**, please contact customer services on the number shown on **your** main **policy** documents

If **you** are unhappy with **our** services please contact **us** as follows:

Telephone	In writing
0330 159 0610	Legal Customer Care RAC Insurance Limited Great Park Road Bradley Stoke Bristol BS32 4QN
	legalcustomercare@rac.co.uk

## **Financial Ombudsman Service**

In the event that **we** cannot resolve **your** complaint to **your** satisfaction under the complaints process set out above, **you** may in certain circumstances be entitled to refer **your** complaint to the Financial Ombudsman Service at the following address:

The Financial Ombudsman Service, Exchange Tower Harbour Exchange Square London E14 9SR



0800 023 4567



complaint.info@financial-ombudsman.org.uk

Website: www.financial-ombudsman.org.uk

The Financial Ombudsman Service will only consider **your** complaint once **you** have tried to resolve it with **us**. Using this complaints procedure will not affect **your** legal rights.

# **Financial Services Compensation Scheme**

RAC Insurance Limited is covered by the Financial Services Compensation Scheme (FSCS). If it is unable to meet its obligations under the relevant sections of cover, **you** may be entitled to compensation from the FSCS. Further information about FSCS arrangements is available from the FSCS website www.fscs.org.uk

## **Your Data**

When providing **you** with services under **your** Family Legal Protection cover, RAC Motoring Services and RAC Insurance Limited are the data controllers of **your** personal data. They mainly collect data directly from **you** and use **your** personal data in order to provide their services, including the establishment, exercise or defence of a **claim**. The data they use may include information about **your** health, ethnicity or racial origin, sexual orientation, or religion (depending on the nature of the service you require).

RAC Motoring Services and RAC Insurance Limited may share **your** personal data with its service providers and may monitor and record any communications with **you** for quality and compliance reasons. For further information regarding how they will process **your** personal data and **your** rights under the Data Protection law, please visit rac.co.uk/privacy-policy or contact the Data Protection Officer by emailing dpo@rac.co.uk or by writing to Data Protection Officer, RAC, Great Park Road, Bradley Stoke, Bristol, BS32 4QN.

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